



## A NEW VISION FOR CHILD MENTAL HEALTH IN AMERICA

### Overview

The New York State Center of Excellence at the New York University Child Study Center is an innovative vision for child and adolescent mental health for the state of New York. The new facility—the largest of its kind in the world—will house the leading child psychiatrists currently at NYU and will also create an opportunity to recruit additional internationally-renowned scientists, at junior and senior levels. It will comprise 12 independent laboratories and approximately 500 research faculty, trainees and staff. The Child Study Center will take its proven programs to scale and share its expertise across the entire state, working in a unique partnership with Rockland Children’s Psychiatric Center, with community pediatricians and mental health professionals and, within the school systems, with principals, teachers and guidance counselors.

This new Center of Excellence will enhance and expand the NYU Child Study Center’s work in the areas of Anxiety and Mood Disorders, Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity and Behavior Disorders (ADHD), Prevention Science, Pediatric Neuroscience, Tourette’s and Movement Disorders, Trauma and Stress, and Learning Disabilities. Additionally, the new Center will include a comprehensive clinical and research Eating Disorders Program; a state-of-the-art Autism Center to enhance our capabilities to evaluate and treat patients with autism and other developmental disabilities and to investigate new treatments and prevention; and establish a lab school to model and demonstrate scientifically-sound strategies and new approaches to address violent and behaviorally-disordered students from the public school system.

The New York State Center of Excellence at the NYU Child Study Center will provide revolutionary new approaches to child mental health that will have a transformative impact equivalent to the impact of the Salk and Sabin vaccines on polio. Comparable initiatives of this significance and scope include Sloan Kettering, St. Jude’s and the Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center.

### Center of Excellence Facts

This is a more than \$200 million investment for a new vision of child and adolescent mental health, consisting of:

- \$30 million New York State grant to establish a Center of Excellence in a new 120,000 square foot state-of-the-art facility dedicated to interdisciplinary scientific research and treatment for the advancement of child mental health.
- Facility will be located on property owned by NYU, on the NYU Medical Center campus.
- \$100 million philanthropic campaign comprised of \$50 million for capital expenditures and a \$50 million endowment spearheaded by board members of the NYU Child Study Center.
- \$35 million investment by New York State to build a state-of-the-art Rockland Children’s Psychiatric Center.
- New York State funding for new research faculty positions and new residency training positions
- This extraordinary facility will be completed in three years.

### Why NYU?

The Center of Excellence will change the existing child mental health paradigm by developing more effective and efficient ways to prevent, identify and treat mental illness. The Center will be steeped in free flowing research from laboratory to patient and back again. Using a multidisciplinary approach, the Center will leverage the outstanding resources of the NYU community, specifically, faculty at the NYU School of Medicine, the Courant Institute, the Steinhardt School of Education,

the Center for Neural Science, and the College and Graduate Faculties of Arts and Science, allowing leading child psychiatrists and psychologists, pediatricians, geneticists, mathematicians, physicists and computer scientists, along with educators, policymakers, corporations and private citizens to address the national epidemic in child psychiatric disorders collaboratively.

In partnership with New York City, NYU will also leverage outstanding local resources and create new synergies to collaborate with Bellevue Hospital Center to dramatically increase New York City's capacity to provide mental health services to low-income children and adolescents; disseminate the Child Study Center's successful ParentCorps program to increase parent involvement, prevent behavior problems and promote academic achievement in pre-kindergarten programs throughout the City; expand the Center's treatment for children and adolescents who suffer from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder not only from the events of 9/11, but also from the cumulative stresses of violence, poverty, abuse and crime; and expand the Center's school-based services in all five boroughs.

### **New York State's Commitment**

Governor Pataki recognizes the dearth of child mental health services as a national epidemic impacting the ability of individuals, families and communities to function effectively and productively. This national public health problem can only be addressed by a new approach. The commitment to this singular partnership between New York State and the NYU Child Study Center positions New York as the leader in child mental health. The confluence of advances in medical research, evidence-based mental health care and the potential to rapidly disseminate breakthrough techniques and treatments offers a critical opportunity to transform child mental health in New York State.

Critical to this new vision is the restructuring of the Rockland Children's Psychiatric Center's physical plant as well its clinical, research and training services. The new Rockland Children's Psychiatric Center will transform the image of a state hospital from port of last call to a beacon of hope for children in the greatest despair.

Child psychiatric disorders properly diagnosed and treated help kids stay in school and become healthy, productive, tax-paying citizens, instead of being plagued with substance abuse, academic failure and potential incarceration.

### **Goals of the Center of Excellence**

Specific goals of the Center of Excellence at the NYU Child Study Center are to:

- Accelerate the rate of progress in understanding pediatric psychiatric disorders;
- Improve the availability and utilization of existing therapies;
- Develop novel and more effective therapies and treatments;
- Improve the availability and utilization of existing prevention strategies;
- Develop novel prevention strategies; and
- Establish the premier child mental health facility, nationally and internationally.

### **Statistics**

- 12% of Americans under the age of 18 have psychiatric disorders
- Of this 12%, the overwhelming majority are never diagnosed and never treated: 1 out of 3 are white; 1 out of 5 are African American; 1 out of 7 are Hispanic

### **Center of Excellence Solutions**

- New and better treatments.
- Better access.
- New delivery systems.