# The role of organizational climate and teacher stress in predicting attitudes towards evidence-based practices and implementation outcomes of School-Based Facing Your Fears

Kyle M. Frost<sup>1</sup>, Katherine Pickard<sup>2</sup>, Allison Meyer<sup>1</sup>, Audrey Blakeley-Smith<sup>1</sup>, Richard Boles<sup>1</sup>, Lisa Hayutin<sup>1</sup>, Caitlin Middleton<sup>1</sup>, Nuri Reyes<sup>1</sup>, Aubyn Stahmer<sup>3</sup> & Judy Reaven<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>JFK Partners, University of Colorado School of Medicine; <sup>2</sup>Emory University School of Medicine, Marcus Autism Center; <sup>3</sup>University of California, Davis



# Background

- Autistic youth with anxiety have difficulty accessing evidence-based practices (EBPs) due to long wait lists and lack of trained providers<sup>1</sup>
- Interdisciplinary school providers (ISPs) can be trained to deliver mental health EBPs like Facing Your Fears-School Based (FYF-SB) to autistic students with anxiety<sup>2</sup>

## Objective

Determine the extent to which provider stress and organizational climate impact:

- 1) provider attitudes towards EBPs and
- 2) provider perceptions of acceptability and appropriateness of FYF-SB

#### Method

Seventy-seven ISPs from 27 school teams in 3 school districts were trained to deliver FYF-SB to autistic students, ages 8-14, with anxiety

#### PRE-TRAINING MEASURES

- Teacher Stress Inventory (TSI)<sup>3</sup>
- Organizational Climate Measure (OCM)<sup>4</sup>
- Evidence-Based Practices Attitudes Scale (EBPAS)<sup>5</sup>

#### **POST-TRAINING MEASURES**

• Implementation survey examining perceived appropriateness and acceptability of FYF-SB

#### **ANALYSIS**

- (1) ISP attitudes toward EBPs did not indicate a need for multilevel data structure and were analyzed using hierarchical multiple regression
- (2) Perceived acceptability (ICC = .43) and appropriateness (ICC = .29) were analyzed using multilevel models, with ISPs nested within schools

# Implications

Pre-implementation strategies focused on supporting time management and workplace stressors, as well as student discipline and motivation, may enhance openness to EBPs for decreasing anxiety for autistic youth in schools.

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Author contact: Kyle Frost kyle.frost@cuanschutz.edu @kylemfrost

# **Results Summary**



Pre-training, ISPs with greater concerns related to student discipline and motivation self-reported that EBPs were <u>less</u> appealing (p=.03), but they would use them if required (p=.05)



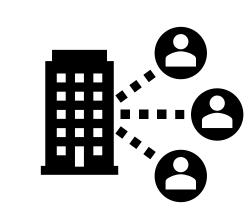
Yet, post-training, ISPs with more concerns regarding student discipline and motivation reported higher levels of FYF-SB acceptability (p<.01)



Stress around time management was associated with lower self-reported adoption if required (p=.03)



Other work-related stressors were associated with lower acceptability (p=.03)



Higher organizational pressure to produce was associated with more positive attitudes toward EBPs (p<.001)

### Disclosures

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