The Effectiveness of

School-Based Art Therapy



Almost half of all children living in the U.S. have experienced at least 1 ACE



22.6% of all children living in the U.S. have experienced at least 2 ACEs

Economic impact of ACEs costs the U.S. billions annually Without social buffers, individuals exposed to ACEs have greater likelihood of chronic disease and increased healthcare costs over the lifespan





1 in 4 children in U.S. live with chronic conditions that impair social, emotional, behavioral, and cognitive development

Half of school-aged children with mental health conditions do not receive treatment



New York city agencies serve just 12% of elementary-aged students who need mental health services

"Schools are an ideal place to leverage evidence-based mental health knowledge and make a transformative impact on the mental health landscape of this country" -Child Mind Institute

Mental health services in U.S. schools:



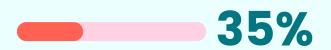


- help reduce disparities in need and use
- are accessible free and ongoing
- are often seen as more socially acceptable by the families of students



Research around the world shows schoolbased art therapy is effective in increasing positive outcomes for students identified with social, emotional, and behavioral challenges

In the United Kingdom, 35% of art therapists are employed in schoolbased settings



Art therapy programming is missing from U.S. public schools due to a lack of awareness, understanding, and/or funding



Further empirical evidence is needed to establish the value of school-based art therapy in the U.S. as an effective resource for students with social, emotional, and behavioral challenges

