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School Administrators + School Counselors = School Success

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Riley Hospital Kids Caring & Sharing Impact Report

Impact Report: Improving Outcomes for Children

Donors who support the Riley Cancer Center and its research programs are helping doctors save lives for children in Indiana and across the globe. Currently, Riley is the only children's hospital in the nation testing a new drug, bortezomib, as a tool to help prevent graft vs. host disease in stem cell transplant patients. Dr. David Delgado, Riley Hospital's Clinical Director of Pediatric Stem Cell Transplant, is leading the Phase I clinical trial, which was inspired by a successful trial in adult patients. "The primary goal is to identify the dose that would enable us to move into a bigger, multi-center study," explains Dr. Delgado. "This medication could ultimately become part of standard treatment, which would not only potentially benefit patients here, but also across the country and beyond the U.S."

This is just one example of dozens of research projects being conducted at Riley to help cancer patients. Others include: Dr. Jamie Renbarger's national trial using genetic information to tailor dosage of the chemotherapy drug vincristine; Dr. Karen Pollok's work on treatments for brain tumors; Dr. Mark Kelley's research on a new drug therapy for difficult-to-treat forms of acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL); Dr. Sophie Paczesny's recently-published research about a blood test that can predict a stem cell transplant patient's risk for graft-versus-host disease; and Dr. Chie-Schin Shih's study involving new drugs for neurofibromatosis.

"There's a very strong link between research and state-of-the-art clinical care," says Wade Clapp, M.D., the Indiana University School of Medicine Chairman of Pediatrics. "Investing in research enables us to recruit the best physician-scientists who are working to conduct the basic science that can be translated into life-changing and life-saving care. We are thankful for each and every donor who helps make Riley one of the nation's leading pediatric research hospitals."

KCS fundraising helps support cutting edge research programs and the researchers who work on them. Thank you for your continued support.

School Administrators + School Counselors = School Success

by Dr. Brandie Oliver, Butler University

I want to start this article by thanking Dr. Todd Bess for giving me the opportunity to share information about the school counseling profession this past year. As I reflect on the topics that have been discussed, I thought I would close this academic year sharing about a recent Twitter chat that focused on the collaborative partnerships between a school administrator and a school counselor. Each week, numerous school counselors across the nation join a Twitter chat (#scchat) to share ideas, strategies, tools, and resources. Last month, when I joined the elementary school counselor chat (#esschat) I was able to read and add to the lively discussion about the critical nature of our relationships (administrators + counselors). Here were the key takeaways from the chat:

1. It is imperative that we each clearly understand the roles and responsibilities of our respective profession.
2. Trust and open communication are vital to successful relationships.
3. Many suggested that a routine (weekly or daily) meeting to ensure all parties have the most up-to-date information on all affairs within the school community.
4. A shared vision of student success and concrete action steps to work toward the vision.
5. Finally, the last strategy discussed the importance of advocacy and outreach.

In closing, I hope you have asked your school counselor how s/he can be a true partner in school change/improvement. All school counselors should have the knowledge and skill set to work toward building comprehensive school counseling programs that work to serve all students. As the American School Counselor Association Model outlines, the school counseling program is built on advocacy, collaboration, systemic change, and leadership all driving a data-informed school counseling program. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can assist you and your school counseling program to work to build a comprehensive program to serve your students, families, and teachers. My email: bmoliver@butler.edu

In addition, here are two outstanding professional development trainings for school counselors that take place this summer.

Indiana Youth Institute - Postsecondary Career Institute

Indianapolis, IN - June 23-24

<http://www.iyi.org/conferences/post-secondary-counseling.aspx>

American School Counselor Association Conference

Phoenix, AZ - June 29-July 1

<http://www.schoolcounselor.org/school-counselors-members/professional-development/annual-conference> 7

