

# Media Fact Sheet



*We all need connection.*

We are pleased to provide the information below to answer commonly asked questions about Camber Children's Mental Health and the critical need for these services. Please contact us for more information or interview requests at [mediarequests@cambermh.org](mailto:mediarequests@cambermh.org).

## *Who is Camber Children's Mental Health?*

- Formerly known as KVC Hospitals, Camber Children's Mental Health is a nonprofit organization serving thousands of children and teens who are struggling with depression, anxiety, suicidal thoughts, self-harm, the impacts of trauma, and other mental health disorders.
- We provide inpatient hospitalization and/or residential treatment for children 6 to 18 years of age at locations in Kansas City, Wichita and Hays.
- Camber is the leading provider of children's mental healthcare regionally, nurturing health and wellness for children and families through inclusive, trauma-informed treatment.
- For over 30 years, Camber has provided a healing space for over 37,000 youth admissions with innovative, neuroscience-based treatment approaches that help heal the whole family unit.

## *What types of mental health conditions do you treat?*

- We treat many types of disorders that are common in youth. This most often includes, but is not limited to, ADHD, aggression, anxiety, autism spectrum disorder, bipolar disorder, depression, disruptive behavior disorders, disruptive mood dysregulation, OCD, PTSD, self-harming, substance use and suicidal thoughts.

## *Why is access to children's mental health treatment so important?*

- Research shows that more young people are experiencing serious thoughts of suicide.
  - In Kansas, suicide is the second leading cause of death for children and teens ages 10 and older.<sup>i</sup> The number of suicide deaths among Kansas teens age 15 to 19 has been rising since 2013 and is well above the national average.<sup>ii</sup>
  - In Missouri, suicide is the third leading cause of death for children and teens ages 10 and older,<sup>iii</sup> and the suicide rate for teens ages 15 to 19 in Missouri is well above the national average.<sup>iv</sup>
- Depression, anxiety, and other mental health conditions are becoming more common in children and teens.
  - For example, in many Kansas counties, more than one-third of middle and high school students reported feeling sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more.<sup>v</sup>
  - In Missouri, an estimated 15.5% of adolescents ages 12 to 17 years had a major depressive episode in recent years – and in 2020, as many as 1 in 4 students in grades 6 through 12 reported feeling very sad (often or always).<sup>vi</sup>

# Media Fact Sheet

(continued)



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## *What impact does Camber have on children's mental health in the communities it serves?*

- As the pioneer of trauma-informed mental healthcare models in the region, Camber has spent three decades developing and enhancing innovative therapies to help children live more balanced, healthy and resilient lives.
- Camber provides more inpatient mental health admissions for children than any other provider in our region, providing 3,311 admissions in 2021. That included 10,000+ individual therapy sessions and nearly 16,000 expressive therapy sessions.
- To expand our reach and impact, we are opening a new inpatient hospital and residential treatment facility at the HaysMed campus in Hays, Kansas, in January 2023. We also opened a new 54-bed children's inpatient hospital in Wichita in 2019.
- As a bridge to wellness, we are committed to serving as a valuable resource for the families, healthcare professionals, school districts, mental health providers, and other partners seeking our help. Each year we provide training, webinars, and free continuing education units for thousands of community professionals.

## *What types of mental health treatment does Camber provide?*

- Our inpatient hospitals are for children and teens experiencing a mental health emergency. It is critical that they receive therapeutic services immediately to stabilize the crisis they are experiencing and identify what led to the challenging behaviors or emotions.
- Our residential treatment centers serve youth who are not actively in a mental health emergency but are experiencing ongoing challenges with their wellbeing and haven't found improvement with outpatient services. This involves teaching emotion regulation and coping skills they can apply to everyday life upon returning home.

**For more information, visit [cambermentalhealth.org](https://cambermentalhealth.org).**

<sup>i</sup> American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. <https://afsp.org/facts/kansas>. Accessed August 2022.

<sup>ii</sup> America's Health Rankings. [https://www.americashealthrankings.org/explore/health-of-women-and-children/measure/teen\\_suicide/state/KS](https://www.americashealthrankings.org/explore/health-of-women-and-children/measure/teen_suicide/state/KS). Accessed August 2022.

<sup>iii</sup> American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. <https://afsp.org/facts/missouri>. Accessed August 2022.

<sup>iv</sup> America's Health Rankings. [https://www.americashealthrankings.org/explore/health-of-women-and-children/measure/teen\\_suicide/state/MO](https://www.americashealthrankings.org/explore/health-of-women-and-children/measure/teen_suicide/state/MO). Accessed August 2022.

<sup>v</sup> Kansas Prevention Collaborative. Kansas Communities That Care Youth Survey. <https://kansaspredictioncollaborative.org/bhi-map/?ind=depression>. Accessed August 2022.

<sup>vi</sup> Missouri Department of Mental Health, Division of Behavioral Health. "Status Report on Missouri's Substance Use and Mental Health." (2020) <https://dmh.mo.gov/sites/dmh/files/media/pdf/2021/05/sr2020-section-a.pdf>