

Behavioral Health Services (BHS) – Contractor Information Notice

To:	Children, Youth and Families Contracted Service Providers
From:	Behavioral Health Services, Children, Youth and Families
Date:	March 9, 2021
Title	Utilizing CANS Strengths in Therapy

The **Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS)** is a communimetric tool used to identify needs and strengths that is mandated by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and continues to guide mental health services offered through the Children, Youth, and Families (CYF) system of care. A primary focus and benefit of the measure is to serve as a vehicle to integrate outcome results into clinical practice.

Through a collaborative process, the Child and Adolescent Services Research Center (CASRC) created the “Utilizing CANS Strengths in Therapy” resource document that outlines the value of leveraging CANS Strengths into clinical practice. The document is intended to serve as a resource for service providers to identify strengths during the assessment and treatment planning phase and highlights the value of integrating and developing strengths in therapy.

Utilizing CANS Strengths in Therapy

This resource highlights the benefits of focusing on strengths throughout the treatment episode; sharing strengths identified during the assessment phase to enhance engagement; developing strengths-based objectives focused on future growth; utilizing interventions to reinforce strengths; and measuring strengths development through outcomes data.

Attachments

Utilizing CANS Strengths in Therapy

For More Information:

- Contact your Contracting Officer’s Representative (COR)