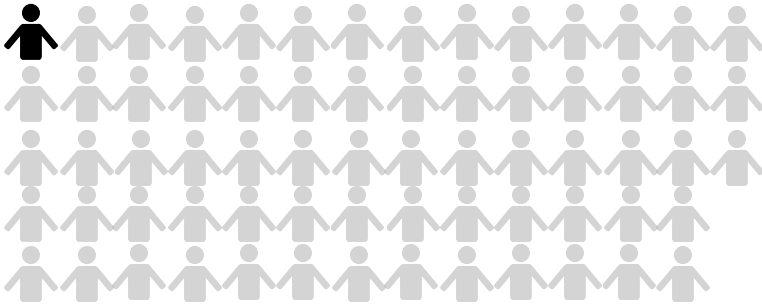


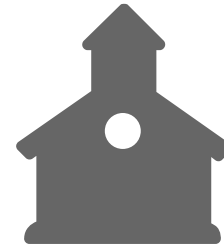
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LEADERSHIP FOR EVIDENCE-BASED AUTISM PROGRAMS IN SCHOOLS



With 1 in 68 children now being served for autism spectrum disorder (ASD; CDC 2014), there is an urgent demand to provide high-quality school-based services for ASD.



Although evidence-based practices (EBPs) for educating children with ASD exist, current methods for selecting, implementing and sustaining these practices in community school settings are not effective.

SCHOOL STAFF NEED *SUPPORT* AND *SPECIFIC STRATEGIES* FOR **HOW** TO IMPLEMENT EBPs TO MAXIMIZE OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN WITH ASD.

THIS PROJECT AIMS TO ADDRESS THAT NEED BY:

- 1) Exploring current implementation practices used by school districts across the state of California
- 2) Adapting an implementation support strategy (LOCI) for school district use
- 3) Evaluate the feasibility and acceptability of this adapted LOCI strategy for school staff

THE STEPS IN THIS PROCESS INCLUDE

1

Gathering information from school-based professionals about the current implementation practices used in their district using a brief on-line survey.

2

Get feedback from school-based professional about what training and leadership support is needed to successfully implement EBP within their programs using focus groups.

3

Try the adapted LOCI strategy with school districts to determine if it is feasible to implement and if participating school staff find it helpful.