

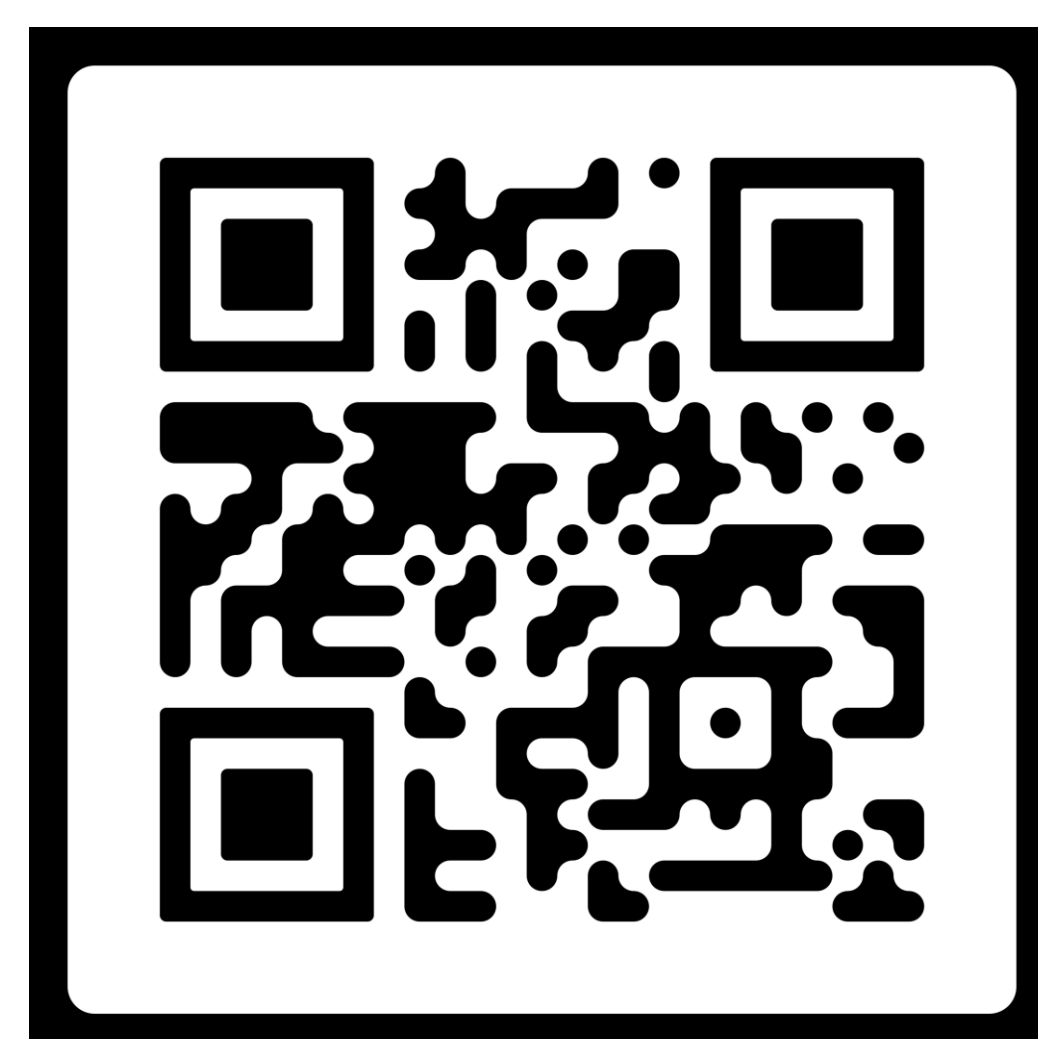
Family Therapy Service Systems Needs After the Rise and Fall of The Philadelphia Child Guidance Clinic (PCGC)

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ABOUT The PCGC:

- Founded in 1926 as the 3rd child guidance clinic in the USA
- A lab for Salvador Minuchin et al. to develop the most influential family therapy model (Structural)
- Treated ~400 new cases annually + a running caseload of ~400
- 50% low-income cases
- Partnered with social agencies
- Vibrant training ethos strengthened services locally and around the world
- Managed care + other forces → PCGC's closure, however, it lived on via trainees' smaller, splintered centers and spin-off therapies

There are scant needs assessments and outcomes studies for Family Based Services & Therapies; however, existing data demonstrate dire need & unequivocal improvement in functioning for children and families



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METHODS:

- Review of literature and publicly available PA family needs-assessments
- Content analysis of interviews of former PCGC providers and others working to rebuild robust family therapy + training centers

CALLS FOR:

- Interdisciplinary research on how youth mental health relies on their families & 'villages'
- Financial + treatment refocus from "sick child" to "family needs"
- Growth of family service centers to promote further reinvigoration of theory & practice