

**Children and Youth Behavioral Health Subcommittee to
The Behavioral Health Advisory Committee
February 3, 2016**

Subcommittee Members in Attendance:

Angela Hobbs-Lopez, Community Mental Health & Substance Abuse, Department of State Health Services (DSHS)
Calvin Holloway, Substance Abuse Services, DSHS
Marisol Acosta, DSHS
Christina Gonzales, Department of Family and Protective Services
Gyl Switzer, Community Partner: Suicide Prevention for Merily Keller
Candace Aylor, Family Representative
Barbara Granger, Family Representative
David McClung, Youth/Young Adult Representative
Evelyn Zaragoza, Youth/Young Adult Representative
Suling Homsey, Health and Human Services Commission, Medicaid Office
Allen Pittman, Health and Human Services Commission, Medicaid Office
Lori Robinson, Texas Juvenile Justice Department, Probation and Community Services
Monica Rodriguez, Community Representative of Local Mental Health Authorities
Ron Kimbell, Community Representative of Local Mental Health Authorities
Barbara Kaatz, Texas Education Agency, Division of Federal and State Education Policy
Molly Lopez, Higher Education, Texas Institute for Excellence in Mental Health, UT Austin

Staff Attending:

Sherri Hammack, Texas System of Care Initiative, Health and Human Services Commission
Texas System of Care (TxSOC) Team Members, Texas Institute for Excellence in Mental Health, University of Texas at Austin

- I. Welcome & Introductions
 - A. Members introduced themselves.
 - B. Sonia Gaines, Associate Commissioner, Mental Health Services, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Sonia gave a brief recap on the two group's merger and brief overview of the other advisory groups. (See handout in meeting packet for list of members and draft of rules in regards to committees).
 - C. In your meeting packet, you can find the 2016 quarterly meeting dates.
 - D. An activity was conducted to draw from participants' experience regarding the best characteristics on 'the most productive/effective work group you have been on.'

- II. Family Successful Experience

Verlyn Johnson from Heart of Texas shared her family's story and her experience with the trauma informed care initiative.

III. Texas System of Care Consortium Minutes Approval (Action)

- A. Correction On page 5, #7a to read: Candace Aylor made a public comment and provided handouts regarding trauma informed recovery systems framework. Ms. Aylor commented that she has been giving presentations on her own without compensation.
- B. Angela Hobbs-Lopez moved for approval of meeting minutes for the October 27, 2015 meeting with the one correction. Candace Aylor seconded the motion. The meeting minutes were approved.
- C. There was a discussion over the name of the group. Candace recommended the word trauma be in the group name. Marisol suggested maybe adding the goal: resiliency. Moving forward, the group would work through the name and take feedback to the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee (BHAC).

IV. Background/Overview

- A. Texas Systems of Care, Sherri Hammack, Health and Human Services Commission
Sherri presented an overview of system of care, the history, and current funding. Sherri encouraged everyone to view the short video on the system of care website: www.txsystemofcare.org. In the meeting packet, you will find the excerpt from Senate Bill 200. Texas Family Voice Network, statewide family group for children's mental health, and Allies Cultivating Change by Empowering Positive Transformation, statewide youth and young adult group, were discussed. A brochure on Texas Family Voice Network can be found in your meeting packet. The system of care has a shared position open at Center for Elimination of Disproportionality and Disparities for a culturally and linguistically competent position. System of Care communities across the state were presented along with the final outcome being active statewide implementation.
- B. Texas Children Recovering From Trauma, Marisol Acosta, Department of State Health Services
Marisol presented a brief overview of the Trauma Initiative, which is a part of the national network. This initiative goes beyond trauma treatment and looks at how trauma is impacting the work force. A brochure was passed out with the website for the initiative. There is no legislative mandate that supports this initiative at this time. The age of the population served is 3 to 17, but we also look across the lifespan. There are 16 learning collaboratiaves across Texas. Many of the domains in trauma informed care fall under system of care values. Marisol is the point of contact for the State. There will be an upcoming Trauma Informed Care Summit in Austin.

There was an activity to look at the connections and gaps between the two initiatives. The group discussed some of their thoughts and ideas.

V. Community Perspective, Monica Rodriguez, Community Representative of Local Mental Health Authorities, and Robert Shaw, Texas System of Care Initiative

Monica and Robert hosted an interactive talk show style presentation where system of care was explained from the community perspective, along with successes and challenges at the community level and advice for the state agencies in supporting system of care work in the communities.

VI. Updates-Project Specific

A. Children Mental Health Awareness Day (CMHAD) Event in Austin, Victoria Yu, Communications Specialist, Texas System of Care Initiative

All City of Austin permits have been approved. The event is scheduled for Saturday, April 30th, with speakers at the south steps of the Capital and then a mile walk to the park where various activities will be taking place. Senator Nelson will sponsor the event. The national theme of 'Finding Help, Finding Hope' will be our theme this year. Also a community toolkit for CMHAD is available on the system of care website. If you would like to volunteer on the committee, please email Tori Yu. As in years past, there is a Creative Art Contest on why children mental health matters which ends on March 1st. A video category was added this year. 1st, 2nd, 3rd places will be displayed at the Capital for 2 weeks. A voting poll will go out in March for people to vote on the artwork. Texas System of Care has partnered with Austin Youth Film Festival for an award around children's mental health. There was a brief discussion on if the artwork would be returned to the contestant.

B. Texas Family Voice Network, Barbara Granger, Family Involvement Specialist, Texas System of Care Initiative

This is network of family leaders across the state and the vision and mission statement were presented. The network has a current membership of 25 to 30 family members that come into Austin on a quarterly basis. A current project is distributing a community survey to identify needs. We are encouraging young families to join the network. A parent matching effort is underway to provide families access to family support. There was a discussion over curriculum on family leadership.

C. Allies Cultivating Change by Empowering Positive Transformation (ACCEPT), David McClung & Evelyn Zaragoza, Youth/Young Adult Engagement Representatives

An overview of ACCEPT was given along with a flyer. The age range of members is 13-18, young adults 18-25, and 25-30 age range. The group's next meeting is on February 19th and there should be about 25 to 30 youth at the meeting. Currently work on adopting a youth curriculum.

D. Transition Age Youth Supported Employment, Molly Lopez, Texas Institute for Excellence in Mental Health, UT Austin

This project is looking at Individual Placement and Supports (IPS) approach for youth transitioning to adulthood. We are partnering with Thresholds out of Chicago. There was a 2 ½ day kick-off training for the demonstration sites that went well. The communities participating in the project are Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD, Bluebonnet Trails Community Services, Heart of Texas Region MHMR Center, and Paving the Way (with Pecan Valley community center) and a few service organizations.

- E. Updates - Medicaid 1915c Waiver – Youth Empowerment Services (YES), Jennifer Martinez, YES Team Lead, Department of State Health Services
Jennifer provided a background and update on the program. The YES program serves children between the ages of 3 to 18 years old and on the website you will find all of the services that are available for YES participants. The funding of the program was discussed. The partnership between the Texas Institute for Excellence in Mental Health and YES Waiver program was discussed. Erin Espinosa discussed the training component with wraparound implementation and community readiness for the YES Waiver. Erin discussed wraparound in Texas (handouts in meeting packets). Highlights from the WrapSTAR project was also presented. As of today, the local mental health authorities are serving over a 1,000 kids. The state wide roll progress was discussed. Next steps for the YES Waiver Program were presented and there was a discussion regarding the provider network.
- VII. Strategic Planning/Thinking, Tracy Levins, State Development Specialist, Texas System of Care Initiative
Tracy facilitated an exercise on what we need to remember in strategic planning for trauma informed care. The group briefly discussed their ideas.
- VIII. Public Comment
No public comment was given.
- IX. Next Steps
The next step is to identify co-leaders for the subcommittee. The co-leaders would help develop the quarterly agenda and facilitate the meeting. A nominations committee composed of 2 or 3 people to help identify the co-leadership team was identified. Volunteers for the nominations committee are Nancy Stanley, from Paving The Way in Fort Worth, Evelyn Zaragoza, Youth/Young Adult Engagement Representative, Lori Robinson with Texas Juvenile Justice Department, and Valencia Gensollen, family member from Fort Worth.
- X. Announcements
A. *Trauma Informed Care Summit* scheduled for **August 16-18 in Austin.**
B. The next meeting for the *Children and Youth Behavioral Health Subcommittee* is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 13th, in HHSC, CO Building 2 (909 West 45th Street) public hearing room 164/auditorium.**

At 3:00 p.m., the meeting adjourned.