

MEETING MINUTES

System of Care Statewide Advisory Council

6 June, 2017, 6:00 p.m.

Community Engagement Institute
238 North Mead, Wichita, KS.



Present: See Page 5

Note: As this was the initial meeting of this body council officials had yet to be elected and a charter/bylaws were not yet in place. The agenda and order of business were set by the Kansas System of Care Program Director, Kelsee Torrez, of the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS), in consultation with Community Engagement Institute (CEI) staff.

KDADS is the grantee under the system of care grant underwriting the creation of this council; the grant is administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

Welcome and introductions, activity on youth and family voice:

Kelsee Torrez and Randy Johnson, Director of the Center for Behavioral Health Initiatives at CEI, welcomed participants in the initial council, and participant introductions were made.

In order to get a snapshot of participants' thoughts regarding "youth and family voice," a Wordle was created using the PollEverywhere platform in response to the question "What word comes to mind when you think of youth and family voice?"

"Advocate" was the largest word.

Framing the System of Care:

The Kansas System of Care grant was framed as "an investment in system transformation," not just more mental health services or a "program."

This led to a discussion of systems and system expansion, noting that

- Multiple communities and organizations are involved
- The system is existing, involving "how and who we interact with on a day-to-day basis in our community"
- Sustainability beyond the SAMHSA grant period

SAMHSA's principles of a system of care were covered, and it was noted that these should be built into the council's efforts and activities:

- Family driven
- Youth guided
- Trauma informed
- Community based
- Culturally & linguistically competent
- Best-practice guided

Discussion around the principles proceeded:

- It's important that "youth-guided" is at the top, but more work needs to be done in this area (only one youth was present)
- These principles need to guide policy and practice in order to create systems change
- To be culturally competent and community based, service providers are adapting to the diversity of Kansas; our communities are going to drive the need
- How do we create a uniform structure and still meet the need?

Current system of care efforts were then covered, noting that SOC funds can be used to support families whose youth do not meet standards for services under the current severe emotional disturbance (SED) waiver. Discussion centered around the following:

- Support for SOC efforts by CEI staff
- Different approaches to prevent hospitalization and keep kids in their communities, such as
 - Wyandot Center/PACES' intensive outpatient model
 - Memoranda of understanding with school systems coordinating hospital discharge
- Parent support and need for skills development for parent support workers
- Mental health center staff stationed in schools
- Use of parent supporters to help parents develop parenting skills
- Networking and support groups for parents
- Peer networking for middle-school youth
- Solutions to transportation issues
- Need for better behavioral health training for para-educators in schools
- Leveraging existing relationships with schools to enhance community partnership
- Support for teachers (by para-educators)
- Role of parent supporters to help families walk through the system
- How we're making the SOC principles come alive

Role of evaluation in council decision-making:

Kelsee Torrez then presented the Kansas System of Care flow chart and the Advisory Council's role, and CEI/Center for Applied Research and Evaluation (CARE) staff presented asked about data the council would find useful and how the council would like data presented. Those present indicated those needs on a handout. Some metrics dictated by the grant were covered, such as

- What youth are getting out of their services and what their needs are
- Youth voice and involvement

Other data needs were discussed, such as

- Living situations differ, so our data need to reflect the diversity of living conditions
- Existing school data could be used (such as number of days missed, grades, etc.)
- Current data-gathering tools phrase questions negatively; some should and are being changed as delivered to reflect a more positive (strengths-based) approach and to be better understood by youth
- The need to settle on a definition of homelessness (HUD definition?)
- Likert scales can be confusing; one participant has developed an emoji scale to reflect the different points on the Likert scale
- Meaningful quality of life scales should be developed (“stable” in home and school doesn't preclude a poor quality of life)
- Planned focus groups can address some of these more qualitative measures
- Baseline measures don't keep up with quickly changing life situations, transitions, etc.
- Need for stipends for data-gathering participation

Acceptance or corrections/amendments to previous meeting minutes

Since this was the first Advisory Council meeting, there were no previous meeting minutes.

Actions taken or agreed to be taken

As this was the initial meeting, the following were given priority:

- Founding documents
 - Role descriptions for officers
 - Charter including
 - Mission and vision
 - Objectives
 - Membership
 - Timeline
 - Stipend policy
 - Advisory council workgroups

Discussion of membership:

- Need to expand membership of youth and family (51% youth and family representation is the target)

- Strategy for recruiting youth and family leaders
- Geographical representation—it was agreed that there was no need for council members on this statewide body to be from the catchment areas of existing partner mental health centers
- Role of members if they “wear multiple hats” within the system of care (eg., mental health center employee and caregiver of youth receiving behavioral health services)
- Need for bringing lived experience of mental health struggles or system use to the council
- Need for a charter to determine membership and role going forward

In lieu of an existing chair, Kelsee Torrez and Randy Johnson moved forward with the selection of interim chair and co-chair, outlining descriptions of those positions, noting the preference for a youth or caregiver for these roles.

The interim chair and co-chair are expected to serve at least through the end of the federal fiscal year, Sept. 30, 2017.

Nominations were made using PollEverywhere.

Election results:

Candy Hester was the sole nominee for interim chair and therefore elected.

Kaitlin Heaton and Kimberly Giesen were nominated for interim co-chair. PollEverywhere was used to vote, and **Kimberly Giesen** was elected interim co-chair by a majority vote.

Election of a secretary was tabled.

“May We Contact You?” forms were used to gather volunteers to form a working group on developing a council charter.

Next steps/upcoming business:

Next council meeting was set for **7 September, 2017, 5:00-7:00 p.m. at CEI (238 North Mead, Wichita)**, with teleconferencing (preference for video capability) available.

Upcoming business includes

- Finalization of charter work group
- Social marketing subcommittee selection
- Social marketing plan
- Increase of youth and family membership

Attachment: List of Attendees**Present:**

Jane Adams
Christina Boyd
A. Brown
Sam Demel
Kim Fisher
Debra Garcia
Rick Gaskill
Kim Giesen
Kaitlin Heaton
Candy Hester
Barbara Huff
Randy Johnson
Marla Lira
Drew Mayo
Larry Montgomery

Sam Philbern
Judi Rodman
Briana Searight
Mike Schelman
Lisa Southern
Shelli Sweeney
Harry Varns
Scott Wituk

Present, non-voting

Kelsee Torrez
Janell Stang
Brittany Brest
Anna Turosak
Lael Ewy