



Kansas System of Care Advisory Council Meeting
Minutes
Thursday, August 2, 2018

Present (see below)

Call to order: Council Kelsee Torrez brought the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

Introductions: Kelsee thanked all for participating in the meeting, explained the evening's format and asked all present to introduce themselves. Members joined from remotely from three locations: Garden City, Topeka and Wichita. One participant also joined by phone.

Minutes: The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed, and the floor opened for comments and amendments. Several corrections were proposed and accepted. Debra Garcia made a motion to accept the minutes with corrections. Judi Rodman seconded and the corrected minutes passed unanimously.

SOC Partner Updates: Each of the six formal SOC partners, along with KDADS, provided updates on the current status of their SOC efforts.

Compass Behavioral Health now has MOUs signed with thirteen local organizations and is gearing up for the implementation of new school-based efforts.

South Central Mental Health (SC) has received 57 referrals to its truancy program and is finding that trauma seems to be a common factor across the youths receiving services. SC is preparing to integrate components of the Family Acceptance Project into peer support services. SC will be focusing its marketing and outreach on national prevention month and suicide awareness in the coming quarter.

Sumner Mental Health's youth support group is starting at Wellington High School. Sumner recently received a funding from TASN and Juvenile Justice to provide school-based supports and case management. SOC staff are developing a resource map for people in Sumner County

PACES/Wyandot Center has 9-12 youth regularly attending youth peer support groups. Improving efforts to support LGBTQ youth has been identified as a priority. PACES parent peer support is focused on preparing families for the new school year. Ten staff recently completed a TISC train-the-trainer program from Wichita State University. PACES is also a pilot site for the recently announced school mental health initiative. PACES is also working with ThrYve a youth violence prevention organization and worked on educating people minority mental health needs in conjunction with Multicultural Mental Health Month in July.

Keys for Networking visited all four SOC service providers in the last quarter to discuss any parent support or engagement needs. There seemed to be general consensus on the need to bring all the

parent support service providers for a group meeting and to establish markers for increased parent engagement. Keys for Networking will be facilitating a training on August 14th for Compass staff based on FREDLA's parent support code of ethics and boundaries. Keys is also working to schedule an in-person training for all SOC parent support staff, probably in Wichita. Due to staff turnover, Keys is working to hire a new Lead Family Contact.

WSU Community Engagement Institute has had a number of staff changes in the last quarter. Lael Ewy and Randy Johnson will no longer be a part of the SOC team and Janell Stang will be transitioning out of the role of Youth Engagement Specialist. A new Youth Research Associate (YRA) position has been created. The first YRA is Jake Woodward who will be working on a suicide prevention project.

Kelsee Torrez, Project Director, reported on a number of system-level progress items. She noted that the Action Plan document received from SAMHSA is now available online at <https://www.kdads.ks.gov/SOC>. Anyone will now be able to track progress toward SOC goals. Kelsee led a discussion about a number of action plan items. This included:

- 1A - Developing a closer relationship with the Governors Behavioral Health Services Planning Council (GBHSPC): Kansas SOC will now be providing routine reports to the GBHSPC. Jane Adams is a member and will be assisting in these efforts, while also representing SOC at the GBHSPC Children's Service Subcommittee. It was noted that the planning council is seeking to recruit 16-20 year old youth to assist in providing leadership. SOC funds can be used to cover expenses for these youth to attend meetings. It was requested and agreed that the Council and/or partners would have the opportunity to review any formal reports to the GBHSPC before they are submitted.
- 1F – Completing the Strategic Financing Plan: Work on the plan began May 15th. Recognizing that additional voices are necessary for the plan to be successful, KDADS leadership is becoming more involved in the process. Secretary Keck will be making visits to the SOC partners in August and September to get a better understanding of SOC priorities. The strategic finance plan workgroup will reconvene after the site visits are complete.
- 1G – Developing a formal communication process: A visual representation of the Kansas System of Care Communication Process has been drafted. It was reviewed and approved by the Council.
- 2D – Developing a policy for the use of flex funds: A draft version of the Flex Funds Policy and associated request form was presented to the Council for approval. Kelsee requested feedback on the policy and form. A number of changes were recommended:
 - the eligibility ages should reflect the official definition of a child with SED. The policy will be revised to say "age 3 to 21"
 - Language will be added to verify that a family's needs could not be met with existing local resources
 - A signature line will be added for the use of a proxy in the event that a CBS Director is not available to sign the request

Larry Montgomery moved that that Flex Funds Policy and Request Form be approved with the noted changes. This was seconded by Jane Adams and the motion passed.

The final Flex Fund Policy will be distributed with the meeting minutes.

Committee updates: Each of the four committees provided brief updates on their current priorities and efforts. Kaela asked all present to go to the SOC Facebook and twitter sites and start following them. The Social Marketing Committee is trying to find creative ways for youth and families to drive social marketing efforts without having to attend typical committee meetings. The committee asked for council feedback on a number of ideas (see below).

The Evaluation Committee is focused on finding approaches to research and evaluation that are meaningful to youth, families and professionals.

The Cultural and Linguistic Competency Committee held its first meeting. The first priority will be to revisit the “Behavioral Health Disparities Impact Statement” and improve it with input from more diverse voices.

The Training & Workforce Development Committee is focused on developing a Kansas System of Care Orientation for youth, families and professionals and exploring how parent support training and certification could be strengthened. Particular emphasis is being placed on adopting national certification standards.

- Small group discussion: Following the committee reports each meeting location held a small group discussion of questions/ideas for which the committees are seeking Council input. These included:
 - Evaluation: What information is meaningful to determine whether SOC is working or how it can be improved? How can evaluation matter to you?
 - Feedback: *Some data reports seem to go up and down for the youth and it is hard to interpret what might be going on for youth/families; A “report card” for families to see and understand their progress would be meaningful*
 - Training & Workforce Development: What do you wish you knew more about? What do you think new council members will need to know?
 - Feedback: *Any training would be good; Committees are already helping when trying to describe SOC to someone; It’s easier to direct people to a place within SOC; More information on what SOC means for families would be helpful (e.g. what services are covered)*
 - Social Marketing: How can we make meetings more accessible, especially for youth and families? How do you feel about creating a separate workgroup for youth?
 - Feedback: *It will be good to get youth separate from adults; Adults get in the way and youth will have better ideas without adults present; Virtual works but it is not ideal for building relationships*
 - Council as a whole: What information/processes do we need to make the Council more of a governance body? How do you feel about the current format of this meeting?
 - Feedback: *The current format seems to create better “energy;” the technology options are helping; The Council should create guidance for how to best use the multiple location format; The Council needs to have a better understanding of the overall SOC vision and should direct that vision; Members need more insight into how their voices are being translated into change; The Council officers*

need to be more empowered to take ownership of the leadership

Local Advisory Council updates: The Compass region reported that the attempt to create local councils in each of their subregions has not been effective. They will now be convening one local council that will hold rotate its meetings between the subregions. A local youth advisory group continues to be active in schools. They are developing and distributing mental health awareness materials to school students and staff.

The South Central region's council is focused on improving access to resources for parents and families. Parent skills education sessions are now being provided on Saturdays and the parent support team has been directed to increase outreach through school collaborations.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:00.

Next meeting: October 25, 2018, 5:00 – 7:00

DRAFT

Attendees

Kevin Duarte
Judi Rodman
Larry Montgomery
Jane Adams
Simon Messmer
Jeanne Urban-Wurtz
Kelsee Torrez
Alyssa Wilson
Debra Garcia
Hannah DeWitt
Joanne Gross
Kayla Moore
Briana Searight
Kaitlin Heaton
Tara Gregory
Kaela Moore
Nicole Freund
Janell Stang
Rick Gaskill
Kim Fisher
Elizabeth Murillo
Tram Pham
Katrina Pollet

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