

System of Care Web-based Tutorial

Module I: Introduction to System of Care



System of Care



DEFINITION

- System of Care (SOC) is a nationally recognized framework and Best Practice for organizing and coordinating services and resources into a comprehensive and interconnected network for youth and families.
- Its goal is to work in partnership with youth and families who need services or resources from multiple human service agencies to be safe and successful at home, in school, and in the community; and through this assistance, make the community a better place to live.
- System of Care builds on youth, family, and community strengths; and makes the most of existing resources to help children and their families achieve better outcomes with the most normative and least restrictive environment possible.

System of Care

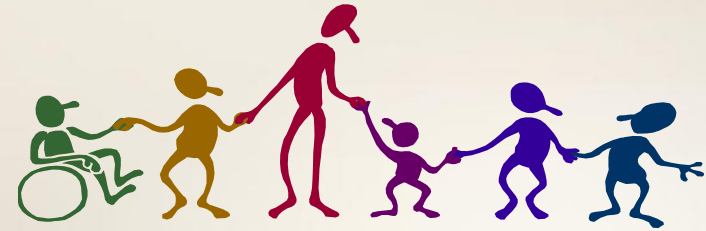
CORE VALUES



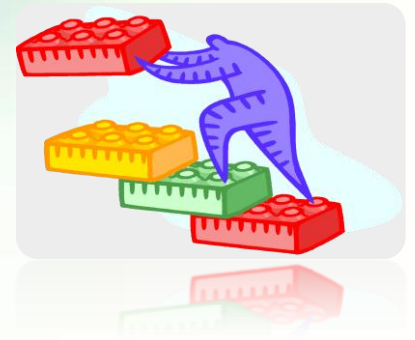
Family Driven & Person Centered: The needs of the child and family determine what services are needed.

Collaboration: Family and children work with PBH and others in the community to make decisions about services and care.

Cultural Competency: Agencies, programs and services are sensitive to cultural, racial and ethnic differences.



System of Care



10 SYSTEM OF CARE PRINCIPLES

Children with or at risk for serious emotional disturbances should:

- have access to a comprehensive array of services that address the child's physical, emotional, social and educational needs.
- receive individualized services in accordance with the unique needs and potentials of each child and guided by an individualized service plan.
- receive services within the least restrictive, most normative environment that is clinically appropriate.

10 SYSTEM OF CARE PRINCIPLES (continued...)



Children with or at risk for serious emotional disturbances should:

- The families and surrogate families of children with or at risk for serious emotional disturbances should be full participants in all aspects of the planning and delivery of services.
- receive services that are integrated, with linkages between child-serving agencies and programs and mechanisms for planning, developing, and coordinating services.
- be provided with case management or similar mechanisms to ensure that multiple services are delivered in a coordinated and therapeutic manner and that they can move through the system of services in accordance with their changing needs.

10 SYSTEM OF CARE PRINCIPLES (continued...)

Children with or at risk for serious emotional disturbances should:

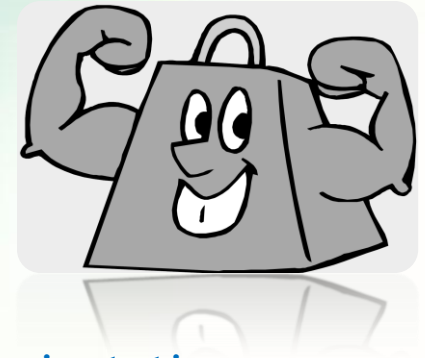
- Early identification and intervention for children with or at risk for serious emotional disturbances should be promoted by the System of Care in order to enhance the likelihood of positive outcomes.
- be protected, and effective advocacy efforts for children and youth with emotional disturbances should be promoted.

10 SYSTEM OF CARE PRINCIPLES (continued...)

Children with or at risk for serious emotional disturbances should:

- Their rights should be protected and effective advocacy efforts should be promoted.
- receive services without regard to race, religion, national origin, sex, physical disability, or other characteristics, and services should be sensitive and responsive to cultural and special needs.

System of Care

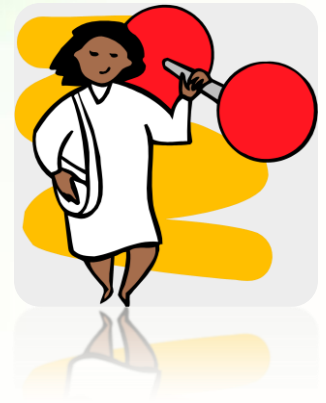


STRENGTH-BASED APPROACH

Systems that shift from a deficit-based to a strength-based orientation communicate the following attitudes and beliefs:

- All families have strengths. Their strengths are unique and depend on the family's beliefs, cultural background, ethnicity, socio-economic backgrounds, etc.
- The absence of particular competencies within families or individuals should not be seen as a failure or inadequacy on the part of the family or individual. Sometimes the formal or informal human service system fails to promote opportunities for a family to display or learn the competencies that they need to succeed.

System of Care



STRENGTH-BASED APPROACH (continued...)

- Families with problems are not “broken” or “need to be fixed.” A strength-based orientation means that families are approached in ways that focus and build on the positive aspects of functioning. Providers should not only accept, but highly value the individual differences among families and family members or other natural supports.
- The goal of intervention is not “doing for people.” The goal is to work with families as partners in order to help them become less dependent on agencies. This means that professionals are not viewed as experts who are expected to solve or fix a family’s problems.

System of Care Collaborative

AT THE STATE LEVEL:

“NC State Collaborative” <http://www.nccollaborative.org/>

The State Collaborative for Children and Families provides a forum for the discussion of System of Care development and issues regarding how agencies, community partners, and families can work together to produce better outcomes for children and families.

- The State Collaborative meets on the second and fourth Fridays of the month from 9:00am-11:00am at the [National Center for Child Traumatic Stress](#) 411 West Chapel Hill Street, Suite 200, Durham, NC 27701.
- The small working group focuses on tasks at hand and local issues. Meetings are held the second Friday of each month.
- The large group meets on the fourth Friday of each month which is reserved for reports and presentations.
- Location of both meetings is subject to change. Contact Libby Jones at ljones3@bellsouth.net or Rebecca Wells at rwells@unc.edu for more information.



System of Care



IN THE COMMUNITY: “Local Community Collaborative”

The Local Community Collaborative here at PBH are held monthly in each of the 5 counties within the PBH catchment area. Membership consists of Department of Social Services (DSS), Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (DJJDP), Department of Public Instruction, Court Staff, Guardian Ad Litem (GAL), The Health Department, Providers, CFAC members, and a host of other community partners and stakeholders.

It is a place where agencies and community partners, along with family members can come to work collaboratively to better meet the needs of children and families. On a local level you can also find multiple problem solving groups that are working together with families and community partners to achieve safety, permanence and well being for children as systems issues arise.

PBH also hosts a multi-county System of Care Collaborative, held quarterly. This committee is solely dedicated to discussing and carrying out projects specific to System of Care Initiatives and youth continuum development efforts from the Local Community Collaborative.