

System of Care Expansion Planning

Key Notes from Treatment Meeting on May 7th, 2015

The committee unanimously endorsed the following 3 priorities:

1. The need for a strategic system-wide communication plan and program

In order to expand and enhance treatment, there is the need for a plan and program to communicate to treatment organizations what each organization does so that the system can be utilized to its fullest potential. Providers do not always know what services other providers offer and this can lead to an inefficient use of resources and duplicate services.

The committee also felt that there was a need for better communication with families and youth regarding the value of treatment, the treatment process and the need for compliance, treatment options, stigma and financial challenges.

2. Resource utilization and treatment gaps

The committee expressed numerous questions regarding whether the currently available treatment resources are being fully used to their full potential and a need to a system efficiency analysis. Before expanding treatment options, there may be a need to look at how existing treatment resources are used. There are questions about what subpopulations need (such as children under 12, Spanish speaking, dual diagnosis) and whether there are treatment options or treatment gaps.

The committee voiced questions related to financial gaps and the uncertainty over managed care plans. Who is eligible for what dollars? Is there a gap for those who do not qualify for full coverage and those who have full insurance? How are these families being served if they cannot pay for services?

3. The need for a training needs assessment and training plan based on real time needs

While there are training options available, the committee expressed the need for a more systematic and standardized annual plan to address the training needs. There is a great deal of staff turnover and it would be good to explore on-line training on-demand to provide timely training. Initial training needs include how to coordinate care and share information, cultural competence, the “latest and greatest” treatment options, evidence-based and measureable outcomes, and the possible training needs around managed care.

The committee decided to devote each of the three committee meetings remaining on these priorities as follows:

June 4: Strategic System-Wide Communication

July 2: Resources and Financial Gaps

August 6: Training