

PA SYSTEM of CARE PARTNERSHIP STANDARDS

I. Youth Driven	
A	A minimum of 25% of the members on the leadership team are youth, who share equal responsibility with family & system partners at all meetings and activities.
B	Guidelines/policies for county leadership ensure youth members are prepared, supported, comfortable, and above-all valued, while also giving youth multiple outlets to make their voice heard.
C	The County Leadership Team partners with and supports local youth initiatives and/or actively facilitates the development of youth efforts and leadership in the community, with a focus on continuation and sustainability of any such youth activities.
D	Child-Serving System principles and processes require youth voice as a standard practice, with several youth meaningfully participating in advisory boards and/or in an advisory capacity to the county child-serving systems.
E	Opportunities for youth will be made available in each respective child-serving system, including support for volunteering, employment and/or mentoring roles; and youth within the system will be given the tools needed to expand their leadership opportunities moving forward.
F	Youth are given/taught the information and skills needed to make informed decisions about their own care, of which youth have a primary decision making role regarding their own care and overall well-being.
II. Family Driven	
<p>Family-driven means that families have a primary decision making role in the care of their own children as well as in the policies and procedures governing the care for all children in their counties, in their communities, and in the state. Systems will work in partnership with families so that the System of Care value of “family driven” can be realized even within the context of delinquency and/or dependency proceedings. This includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Choosing culturally and linguistically competent, supports, services and providers. 2. Setting goals; 3. Designing, implementing and evaluating programs; 4. Monitoring outcomes 5. Partnering in funding decisions 6. Determining the effectiveness of all efforts to promote the mental & behavioral health of youth & families. 	
A	The County Leadership Team is comprised of no less than 25% family members, representing the system of care target population.
B	Family leaders have the skills, information and the necessary supports to fully participate as equal partners in the governance team and all of its activities.
C	All county level youth-serving systems are improved by and held accountable to families.
D	Families have multiple opportunities to enhance their competence and confidence so they can provide leadership, support and advocacy.
E	Family support is available to all families in order to improve youth and family outcomes.
F	Families have the information and skills to make informed decisions with and for their family members.
G	Families and systems have shared responsibility for engagement to ensure informed decision-making.
H	Families have a primary decision making role regarding their child's care and overall wellbeing.

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III. Leadership Teams	
A	At least half of the Leadership team membership is made up of youth and family members, in equal numbers, who are representative of the population of focus
B	The Leadership Team includes leaders from the County Juvenile Justice, Child Welfare, Behavioral Health, Education and Drug & Alcohol systems
C	The Leadership Team meets regularly and makes decisions.
D	There is a well defined mechanism to supply ongoing information, training and data to every member of the Leadership Team to support equal decision-making within the leadership structure.
E	All Leadership Team members have a shared understanding of, and commitment to, where they are going, what they are doing and why as evidenced by the development of a county mission and vision that align with that of the PA System of Care Partnership.
F	All members participate in the development and approval of strategic goals, action steps and desired outcomes.
G	There is a well-defined mechanism to monitor and continuously assess the implementation and progress of the strategic plan.
H	There is evidence of specific and tangible policies and regulations that have been or are being developed to assure implementation and sustainability of an effective System of Care.
IV. Integration of Child-Serving Systems	
A	County Leadership Teams ensure that the mission, vision and desired outcomes of each child-serving system are clearly incorporated into the implementation of SOC planning.
B	Counties utilize a cross-system or joint-system training process developed/facilitated in partnership with youth and families.
C	For every youth and her/his family, systems coordinate efforts to complete a comprehensive, individualized assessment process, at or near the point of intake, that is used and shared amongst all involved child-serving systems.
D	Data and information is frequently shared and easily accessible to all involved child-serving systems. Individual youth and family information is appropriately shared in order to effectively develop and execute their single plan of care. Cumulative data is shared in order to inform a continuous quality improvement process.
E	A youth and family driven process to determine and access needed services and supports is accessible to all youth and families regardless of their initial contact point with the child-serving system(s).
F	There is an ongoing, systematic process for recognizing and enhancing the strengths, as well as identifying and addressing the barriers that affect implementation of fully integrated, cross-system plans.

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	<p>V. Natural and Community Supports</p> <p>Natural supports are personal associations and relationships, independent from formal services, typically developed in the community that enhance the quality and security of life for family and youth, including but not limited to, family relationships; friendships reflecting the diversity of the neighborhood and the community; association with fellow students or coworkers as well as associations developed through participation in clubs, organizations, and other civic activities.</p>
A	County Leadership Teams ensure and distribute current comprehensive resource list(s), with input from youth and families, that cross-walks all categories of community supports, activities and essential assets available within the county.
B	Youth and families determine what natural supports are specific to their strengths, needs and culture, as well as what community resources help meet the needs of their broader communities.
C	County Leadership Teams value and actively facilitate the growth of individuals, groups, activities, programs and agencies in their county and communities that have been identified as positive, effective supports by youth and families.
D	County Leadership Teams develop and sustain mutually beneficial partnerships with youth, families and communities to identify unmet needs in the county and to identify natural and community supports to meet those needs.
E	County Leadership Teams expect and value participation of natural supports on individual youth and family teams.
	<p>VI. Cultural and Linguistic Competence</p> <p>Cultural competence is the integration and transformation of knowledge, behaviors, and attitudes from and about individuals or groups that enable policy makers, administrators, youth, families, service providers, and system partners to work effectively in cross-cultural situations. Cultural competence is a developmental process that evolves over an extended period of time.</p>
A	County Leadership Teams understand the demographics of their counties including the diversity in culture, ethnicity, religion, primary language and sexual orientation.
B	County Leadership Teams ensure the availability of culturally relevant and culturally specific trainings for System of Care stakeholders including youth, family and system partners, as well as providers of services and community supports.
C	County Leadership Teams partner with culture brokers and leaders within specific cultural groups in order to determine their needs for development and adaptation of services and supports.
D	County Leadership Teams ensure the use of the specialized/adapted services and supports that have been identified by specific cultural groups including but not limited to translation and interpretation for those with limited English proficiency.
E	County Leadership Teams ensure that easily understood service-related and outreach materials are available in the languages of the commonly encountered groups and/or groups represented in the community to be served.
F	Culturally and linguistically diverse families, representative of the youth and families in the community, are prepared to engage and participate at all levels of the County System of Care from driving their own services and supports to involvement in county decision making and leadership processes, including membership on the County Leadership Team.

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G	All plans developed with youth and families within the county are individualized to their unique culture, beliefs and values.
H	County Leadership Teams ensure that implementation of the High Fidelity Wraparound (HFW) model includes HFW staff who are representative of the communities to be served.
VII. Evaluation and Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI)	
A	County Leadership Teams, partnering agencies and/or providers collaborate to gather data using the local evaluation measures for the purpose of continuous quality improvement (CQI).
B	County Leadership Teams actively engage and participate in the development and the implementation of a statewide SOC/HFW Local Evaluation and CQI plan.
C	Counties funded by the PA SOC Partnership consistently submit data to the SOC Evaluation Office on any and/or all of the implementation indicators, care processes, outcomes, quality assurance and other requirements as mandated by the federal cooperative agreement with SAMHSA and/or as agree within the PA SOC Partnership.
D	Youth, family and system leaders participate in and sustain a county-based structure that interfaces with the State Level CQI Steering Committee.
E	County Leadership Teams will develop and implement a plan for the effective sharing and channeling of resources (human and other) to support and sustain the Local Evaluation and ongoing CQI process.
F	County Leadership Teams work with the SOC/YFTI Office of Evaluation and the CQI Steering Committee to develop and establish protocols for data sharing and processing on an ongoing basis.
VIII. High Fidelity Wraparound	
A	County Leadership Teams will develop a youth driven and family driven joint planning process that facilitates integrated planning among system partners and values natural supports.
B	For every 25 youth at risk of out of home placement and their families, counties develop and sustain a HFW team that includes, at a minimum, 1 coach/supervisor, 2 facilitators, 1 family support partner and 1 youth support partner.
C	The County Leadership Team ensures that High Fidelity Wraparound (HFW) is implemented in partnership with the Youth and Family Training Institute's training, coaching, credentialing and fidelity monitoring process.
D	Every youth and family that participates in the HFW process will have the ability to have a youth support partner and/or family support partner.
E	The referral process for HFW is known and understood by all child-serving systems and by all youth and families that are eligible.
F	HFW Fidelity is monitored through ongoing use of fidelity measures; data is regularly reviewed, and results are addressed, by County leadership Teams as part of a CQI.