

Northwest Region

System of Care



Vision

The Northwest Georgia region (15 counties) will provide all children (up to 21) and caregivers access to timely and appropriate assessments and interventions that work

Mission

To create a Comprehensive System of mental health and other necessary Interventions & Services which are organized into a Coordinated Network to Meet the multiple and changing Needs of Children and their families.

Northwest System of Care Advisory Council

- Juvenile Judges
- Treatment Providers
- Family Connection Partnership
- Education
- DFCS
- DJJ
- MHDDAD
- Public Health

Memorandum of Understanding

We, the undersigned, child serving organizations, each with our unique and important missions, processes, and procedures, share a concern for the care, safety, and treatment of children and their families. From time to time our missions intersect around care and treatment for families of children with severe emotional and behavior disorders.

It is our intent that at such times as our respective missions intersect, our work will be guided by those beliefs, values, and principles of a System of Care, as described by Sheila Pires in her work *Building Systems of Care: A Primer* and known locally as KidsNet Northwest.

We recognize that a System of Care approach is an evidence-based model with demonstrated accountability, improved services, and cost effectiveness. We recognize that a System of Care approach broadens the scope of services and emphasizes community-based care through multidisciplinary teams. We recognize that a System of Care approach moves care for children and their families from a fragmented to an integrated and coordinated service delivery system.

It is our intent, as the leadership of Northwest Region's child-serving system, to recognize our leadership role in Georgia's movement toward a statewide System of Care approach to services, to model and promote effective and efficient interagency collaboration, and to share governance of our KidsNet resources. It is our intent to remove silos of services and communication at the regional and local levels to develop a coordinated network to meet the multiple and changing needs of children and their families.

Though restrictions on funding may limit some KidsNet's service delivery functions to certain counties, it is our intent to infuse System of Care beliefs, values and principals throughout the 15-county region.

We believe that services should be child-centered and family-driven. We believe that families should be full participants in all aspects of the planning and delivery of services. It is our intent that services be responsive to the cultural, racial, and ethnic differences of the populations we serve. It is our intent to proactively and fully engage families in service planning and in system governance.

We believe that children with emotional disturbances should receive services in the least restrictive and most normative environment possible. We believe that children with emotional disturbances should receive services that are integrated, with linkages between child-serving agencies and mechanisms for planning, developing, coordinating, and evaluating services. It is our intent to develop shared outcomes and single plans of care across our system.

We believe that children with emotional disturbances should have case management or similar mechanism to ensure that multiple services are delivered in a coordinated and

therapeutic manner. We intend to develop processes to facilitate care coordination and accountability across our region.

We believe in the importance of early identification and intervention for children with emotional disturbances. We intend to promote early mental health screening in order to enhance the likelihood of positive outcomes.

Margaret R. Bean, District Program Manager, Public Health	Kathy Floyd, Director Region 3 DFACS
Margaret Cawood, Director, District 1 Department of Juvenile Justice	Dinah Paris, Director Region 1 DFACS
Charles Fetner, Regional Coordinator MHDDAD Region 1	Arianne Weldon, Community Facilitator Region 1 Family Connection Partnership
Tom Ford Lookout Mountain Community Services	Frank Aaron Highland Rivers CSB
Judge F. Bryant Henry, Jr. Walker and Dade County Juvenile Courts	Judge Mark Murphy, Presiding Judge Polk and Haralson County Juvenile Courts
Judge Sandra Miller, Chief Judge Paulding County Juvenile Court	Judge Timothy Pape, Presiding Judge Floyd County Juvenile Court
Judge Velma Tilley Bartow County Juvenile Court	Larry Ragsdale, Superintendent Paulding County Schools

SOCOC MEETING /KidsNet Policy Council

Agenda for Friday, September 12, 2008

- 1. **Call to Order/Introductions** Sandi Miller
- 2. **Minutes from the last meeting** Margaret Cawood
- 3 **KidsNet Directors Written Report** Ken Parks
- 4 **BHI Mobile Crisis Services Monthly Written Report** Dewayne Dennis
- 5. **Regional Update–Written Report** Charles Fetner
Monthly report on parental placement SOC Kids by county
- 6.**CSB’s Updates** Frank Aaron
-Highland Rivers Tom Ford
-Lookout Mountain
- 7. **School System Updates** Denia Reese
- 8. **Public Health Updates** Margaret Bean
Angie Robinson
- 9. **System of Care -Written Reports** Renee Anderson
-Monthly Report on DJJ SOC kids by county Kathy Floyd
-Monthly Report on DFCS SOC kids by county Dinah Paris
-Monthly Report on DFCS SOC kids by county
- 10. **Workgroup Reports of Activity**

11. Discussion Items:

- County SOC organizations/councils
- Local County staffing of children in residential facilities
- Policy for linking services must include follow-up
- County by County inventory
- Updated lists of provider services by CSB’s
- Preparation of presentation to School’s
- Youth and Parent Participation
- CCFA – meeting?
- Status of Grant?
- “Ages and Stages” assessment instrument

2008 Meeting Dates – the second Friday of the month:

- October 10, 2008 (Quarterly Financials)**
- November 14, 2008**
- December 12, 2008**
- January**
- February**
- March**
- April**

Northwest Regional System of Care History

2003-2007

System of Care Governance Board 2003-June 2007

- 2003 – MacArthur Foundation regional pilot site – engaged judicial leadership
- Coordinated cross training since 2003 – SOC, Results Based Facilitation, Sex Offending
- Oversight of 25 Kid SOC Pilot (DFCS & DJJ youth returned from residential tx)
- Established work group to establish regional protocols for the treatment of juvenile sex offenders returning from residential treatment.
- Implementation of MAYSI Screening at Intake Pilot & expansion (Highland Rivers & Lookout Mountain Community Service Boards, and DJJ)
- Provided training and support to local Interagency staffing committees
- Developed & Implemented uniformed mental health referral form.

ICAN

- Project officially began on April 20, 2004. 79 youth case managed to date.
- I CAN expanded to Chatham County in 2006, but is now on hold.
- Four parent advocates will start June 18th to serve Bartow, Floyd and Walker Counties.

Community Action Partnership (CAP) (Youth Development) 1999-Present

- Developed 15 County Resource Catalog and administered community mini grants to youth councils from Comprehensive Youth Development System Initiative funded by School to Work.
 - Regional Youth Summits since 2001
 - Current Project—Mentors for DJJ and DFCS youth
- ### Southwest Key Wraparound Demonstration Project 2006-Present
- 81% of SWK DFCS youth have stepped down and maintained a less restrictive community placement
 - 90% of SWK DFCS youth have maintained their initial community placement upon intake to SWK Wraparound
 - Over 90% of active SWK youth were promoted to the next grade level for the 2007/2008 school year
 - SWK youth's school attendance and parent participation in youth's education has increased
 - SWK has received no reports of substantiated child maltreatment cases amongst DFCS youth
 - SWK services cost \$61.02 per day, compared with Level of Care rates which range from \$138.69 to \$ 322.80 (Levels 4-6)
 - The case of Brian highlights the potential savings of SOC approach. The cost was \$312,213 to treat Brian at Level 4 for 76 months. After 11

months and only \$20,018 the child was ultimately adopted and discharged from SWK.

Bring the Children home

- Of 71 Region 1 parental custody children in the initial Bring the Children Home initiative have been discharged from all LOC services.

122 Project

- At the conclusion of the 122 Project (which lasted 7/1/06-11/15/06), only 9 DFCS custody children with viable community placements remained in residential treatment.

KidsNet NOW (NorthWest) April 2006-Present

- The strength and commitment of collaborative to Systems of Care was evidenced by its ability to, w/in 48 hours, initiate services as a KidsNet Rockdale expansion site.
- During 1st month of operation screened 52 children for MH problems (on-site at DJJ, DFCS, and Juvenile Court). Referred 42 for further assessment and treatment.
- KidsNet NOW and Family Connections Collaborative promoting Results-Based facilitation training to establish local skill sets for effective interagency results-based on collaboration.