System of Care Expansion Grant

Overview

The System of Care (SOC) Expansion Grant, awarded in September 2018, was designed to minimize the negative impacts of symptoms associated with mental illness and to prevent placement in restrictive settings, such as hospitals, juvenile detention, and residential treatment. Specifically, System of Care funding delivers day support services, therapeutic foster care services, and an increase in the availability of school-based student support specialists for young people experiencing emotional disturbance.

System of Care funding is additionally utilized to expand youth and family networks as well as to provide social marketing for mental health promotion and attentiveness to stigma challenges that are associated with mental illness. The system wide delivery of System of Care programming is designed as a collaborative structure which will be the catalyst for continuous feedback and recommendations to local and state policy makers. This will aid in efforts to improve service delivery and outcomes for youth and family behavioral health services across Washington State.

The System of Care Expansion Grant will facilitate our Governor’s overall goal to overhaul Washington’s mental health system by keeping individuals experiencing mental health symptoms in the community and out of institutional placement. The Governor has explicitly outlined a goal to “treat people in the most effective and least restrictive setting.”

The System of Care core values guiding this work include:

- A family driven and youth guided/directed framework
- Importance of community-based services
- Delivery of services with cultural and linguistic humility to address issues of diversity and disparity

Primary goals

1) Increase school-based screening and engagement of youth who are experiencing serious emotional disturbance within identified catchment areas;

2) Increase the number of youth receiving Day Support Services within Rochester School District (second site planned for year two);

3) Address the needs of children and youth in foster care by increasing access to Therapeutic Foster Care Services (two sites planned for Western Washington and one site planned for Eastern Washington);

4) Continue to promote and sustain youth and family participation in the System of Care through the Children’s Behavioral Health Governance Structure, especially in collaboration with the Family Youth System Partner Round Tables (FYSPRTs); and

5) Increase the number of people exposed to positive mental health promotion messages and stigma awareness through a social media campaign.

These goals are consistent with previous efforts to prioritize addressing trauma and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) more effectively. Services paid through the grand will also fill a gap of high intensity services that exist between the current Wraparound with Intensive Services (WISE) and Children’s Long-term Inpatient Program (CLIP).

Key partners

- Children’s Behavioral Health Governance Structure, Family Youth System Partner Round Tables (FYSPRTs)
- Department of Health (DOH)
- Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Research and Data Analysis (RDA)
- Educational Service District (ESD) 113
- GMMB social marketing firm
• Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)
• Rochester School District

**Federal fiscal year budget 2019**
$3,000,000

**Oversight**
• Health Care Authority (HCA), Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR)
• Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

**For more information**
• Alan “Ace” Bulger, SOC Grant Director
  Ace.Bulger@hca.wa.gov
  360-725-1641

• Elizabeth Cayden, SOC Project and Social Marketing Manager
  Elizabeth.Cayden@hca.wa.gov
  360-725-1497

• Additional information about child and youth behavioral health services in Washington: