

NYS System of Care and Wraparound Training Institute Monthly Update February 2023

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Upcoming SOC Related Events

February 23-24, 2023 – ONLINE WORKSHOP: Community Engagement in Collective Impact

Collective Impact Forum presents this opportunity to learn more about what “community engagement” means, and to discuss avenues of communication, collaboration, and co-leadership within your community. A series of planning and engagement tools will be reviewed that empower residents and grassroots leaders become true partners in achieving impact. Includes a half-day workshop on February 23, 2023, from 1-4:30 PM, and a coaching hour with workshop faculty on February 24, 2023, from 1-2 PM. \$175 per person, with group rates available for those with 10 or more participating. [Click here for registration and more information.](#)

Let Us Hear From You – by February 28!

The Office of Mental Health NYS SOC Evaluation Team wants to hear your perspectives on implementation of the system of care (SOC) approach in your community or region. Please complete the survey linked below by Tuesday, February 28th. Your responses will provide valuable information about progress of the SOC approach throughout the state. All your responses will remain confidential, and your name will never be reported in connection with any of your responses. We thank you in advance for completing the survey; your time and input is greatly appreciated! Please click this link to access the [SOC Rating Tool Survey](#)

If you have any questions as you complete this survey, please contact Delisha Bella at delisha.bella@omh.ny.gov.

May 10-11, 2023 – FREE Systems of Care Virtual Summit

The National Center for Training and Technical Assistance on Child, Youth and Family Mental Health (NTTAC) has announced its **FREE** [Virtual Systems of Care Summit](#), entitled Building Together: Building Systems That Care. Stay tuned for registration information or [join the NTTAC email list](#).

July 9-11, 2023 – Rural Schools Association Conference

To be held in Cooperstown, NY under the theme “Rebuilding the Rural Reality: From the Middle of Nowhere to the Heart of Everything”, [The Rural Schools Association](#) invites school or BOCES districts with unique and successful programs that focus on making rural schools more effective and efficient to submit program proposals by Thursday, February 23, 2023. Mental health-related programs are included in the [request for proposals](#). [Check here for registration information](#) as it becomes available.

Systems of Care Action Planning

Our team is available to assist county cross-system teams in exploring implementation of the SOC framework to better address the needs, gaps and barriers for children, youth, and their families. Whether your cross systems infrastructure has been in place for decades or you need to reimagine better collaboration, this workshop can assist. **Twenty-three counties have already completed planning and are working on exciting change initiatives.** Contact [Jessica Stanis](#) for more information.

Wraparound Training and Implementation Institute

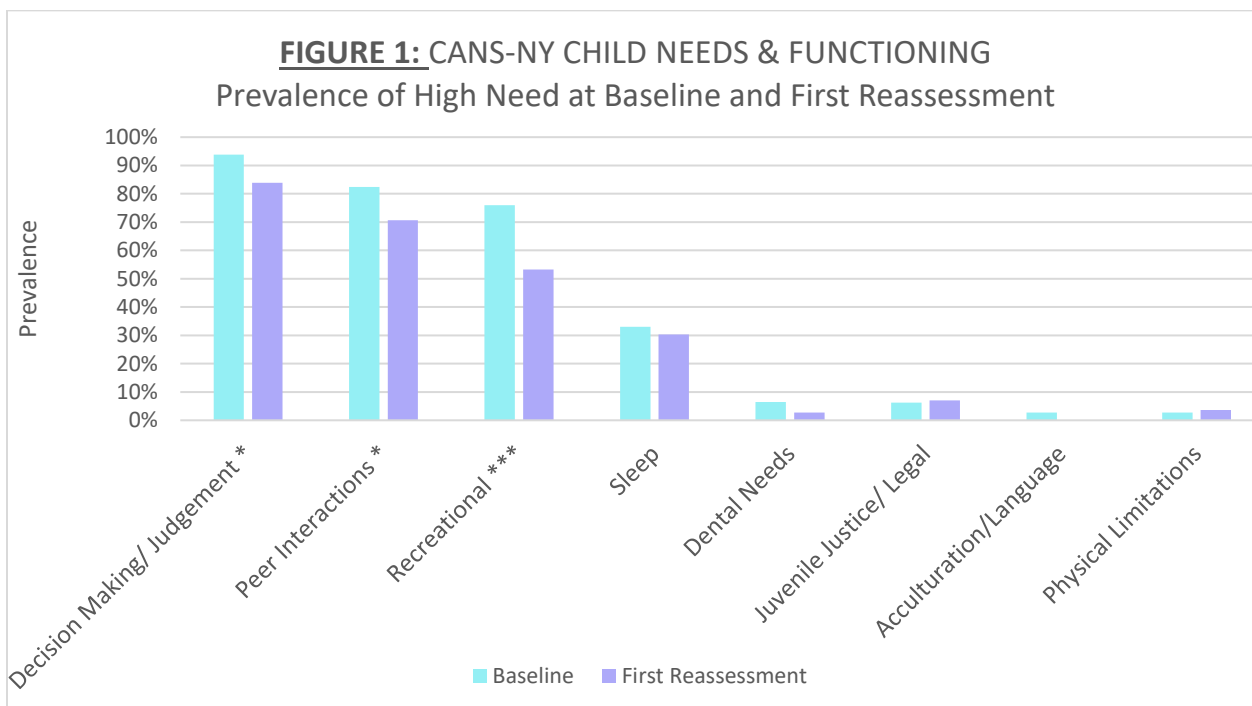
Learn about the benefits of the practice model within Health Homes from a variety of perspectives by watching an [informative video](#), or contact [Kimberly Heffner](#) for more support. Visit the [High Fidelity Wraparound tab](#) on New York State's SOC website, and find the [New York High Fidelity Wraparound Availability Chart](#) available slots in counties across the State.

High Fidelity Wraparound (HFW) Enrollees: Change Over Time

The Child Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS-NY) functional assessment tool is completed by providers with the family of HFW enrolled children/youth. It serves to identify needs and strengths of the youth (primarily) and caregiver, and is completed at baseline, at six-month reassessments or changes in acuity, and at discharge, so changes over time can be reviewed. Child Needs items are scored on a scale of 0-3, with 0 indicating no need was identified and 3 indicating that intensive action is needed. Outcomes below are based on a subset of 109 HFW enrollees who have completed both a CANS-NY baseline assessment and first reassessment.

Measure scores for HFW enrollees were dichotomized into Low Need (scores of 0-1) and High Need (scores of 2-3). Chi square tests of independence were run to examine potential relationships between the prevalence of enrollees exhibiting high need at baseline and first reassessment. Measures of statistical significance are denoted where applicable (* $p < .05$; ** $p < .01$; *** $p < .001$).

Looking at the CANS-NY Child Needs and Functioning domain, there was a decrease in percentage of HFW enrollees demonstrating high need for 6 of 8 measures, with the greatest decreases in Recreational, Peer Interactions, and Decision Making/ Judgement (23%***, 12%*, 10%*, respectively). As per CANS-NY tool definitions, the decrease seen on the Recreational measure indicates that from baseline to first reassessment, the percentage of HFW enrollees able to constructively utilize their leisure time through enjoyable recreational activities increased from a quarter of HFW enrollees to nearly half of enrollees. This is a positive finding, with the hope that HFW enrollees continue to improve on these measures during and after their enrollment in the HFW care management model.



* $p < .05$ ** $p < .01$ *** $p < .001$

SHAPE Update

We are pleased to announce that the following schools and/or districts have been selected for participation in the third cohort of the SHAPE Up New York Learning Collaborative, which will begin in 2023. The NYS System of Care Team at the NYS Office of Mental Health, in collaboration with the University of Rochester Medical Center, Expanded School Mental Health Initiatives at Pediatric Behavioral Health & Wellness, will once again be holding office hours and monthly sessions with participating districts as they work on specific goals to improve school mental health systems.

Participating Districts:

- Solvay UFSD (Onondaga County)
- Fort Plain Central School (Montgomery County)
- Ticonderoga Central School District (Essex County)
- Binghamton City School District (Broome County)
- White Plains City School District (Westchester County)
- Enlarged School District of Troy/Troy High School (Rensselaer County)
- Sodus Central School District (Wayne County)
- Garden City Public Schools (Nassau County)

For districts that may have interest in [The SHAPE System](#) please register for an account to access the various assessments and resources available.

Did You Know?

What's Great In Our State! [Click here to nominate](#) individuals, programs or organizations that are making a difference in supporting the increased mental health needs of children, youth and families in New York State. Nominations must be submitted by February 17, 2023, for the May 9th recognition event. Awardees and nominators will be notified on April 10, 2023. Contact [Jessica Stanis](#) for more information or with questions.

Systems of Care Summit 2022 Survey Results: Six months after the June 2022 NYS SOC Summit, a questionnaire was distributed to county leads as a check on progress, challenges, accomplishments and needs as they relate to local SOC development and expansion. Fourteen responses were received from various counties. [A synopsis of the results can be downloaded here.](#)

Youth Involvement and Engagement Assessment Tool: To ensure that youth are actively engaged, programs should conduct regular assessments. This online tool can assist organizations and community partnerships to determine how well they involve youth in programs, and to test if certain strategies are working to retain youth. [Click here for more information](#), and [download the assessment tool here](#) (8-page PDF).

The National Center for Training and Technical Assistance on Child, Youth and Family Mental Health (NTTAC) held a webinar in January to highlight a Self-Assessment Tool used in Wisconsin to assist tribal nations and counties in identifying the strengths and needs of the System of Care infrastructure and principles. This tool is intended to be completed by a diverse team of people committed to moving toward the vision of the System of Care. Each area of the tool prompts the group to rate the current state of the tribal nation or county on a scale of 1-4 based on alignment with best practices. Following completion of the tool, counties are encouraged to develop an action plan to address the needs within their system. [Click here to view the tool.](#)

New York State Mentoring Dashboard: Check out the launch of [this new dashboard](#) featuring youth mentoring programs in New York State during the National Mentoring Month! The dashboard is a collaborative effort between the [NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services](#) (DCJS) and the [NYS Youth Justice Institute](#) (YJI) and we hope that it is a tool that families, service providers, and community members can utilize to find targeted mentoring programs in their area.

Community Health Worker Community of Practice Solicitation: HRI's Covid-19 Health Disparities Program is seeking community health workers to serve as consultants in a paid, year-long opportunity to discuss pre-and post-pandemic impacts, submit feedback on materials, and help to develop a toolkit for others. Up to \$7,500 per person may be awarded as taxable compensation for up to 10 individuals. More information can be found [here](#) and [here](#), and [applications](#) are due Friday, February 24, 2023.

New C-SPOA Referral Applications: Outlined in an email message on January 3, 2023, two new C-SPOA referral applications were unveiled in support of a more streamlined process. Applications include one for use in referring consumers to C-SPOA coordination, and a second for use in referring consumers to Youth ACT, CCR or RTF services. Please see the email message for additional information and direct any questions to **OMH Division of Integrated Community Services for Children and Families** at (518) 474-8394 or DCFS@omh.ny.gov.

A Great Resource For Care Managers: [FindHelp.Com](https://www.findhelp.com) offers a nationwide search for helping organizations, supports and services.

MH Support for Employers & Employees: [Headspace Health](https://www.headspace.com) has introduced its new [Unified Mental Health and Wellbeing Experience for Employers and Employees](https://www.headspace.com/employers). Combining meditation and mindfulness with on-demand coaching, therapy and psychiatry services, this new approach has been developed in response to the increasing demand for employer support in the employee mental health arena.

Social Marketing Toolkit: The nine-language social marketing tool kit materials released in 2018 are still available on www.msnavigator.org under the tabs Health Homes Explained, System of Care Explained, Family Peer Advocate and Youth Peer Advocate. [The Multiple System Navigator](https://www.msnavigator.org) is an excellent location to find information on cross-systems news and events. The site was built for youth, parents, family members and caregivers that rely on supports from multiple child and family serving systems.

System of Care Framework: The System of Care **Framework** has been revised to better reflect the evolution of research and children's systems changes. [This article](#) is an important one to read and come back to, time and time again.

University of Connecticut, Innovations Institute: Beginning in the New Year, the TA Telegram - a publication of the TA Network - will be disseminated from our new home at the University of Connecticut School of Social Work under the name [Innovations Institute](#). We will continue to send the Telegram every two weeks with the same great curated content you have come to expect.

Youth Engagement Tidbit: When forming a youth or student advisory group, carefully and thoughtfully select representatives that have social capital with their peers and not just the young people that are involved in everything. Some examples include natural leaders – athletes, musicians, thespians, scholars, LGBTQA+, English Language Learners, students with 504 Plans or IEPs, gamers, writers, students who participate in CTE, etc. What an honor that an adult might recognize each of them as having social clout and something valuable to contribute. Imagine the eclectic group of perspectives from which your program, organization or school could benefit!

Deputy Commissioners' Corner

The Deputy Commissioners' Workgroup closed out 2022 with a presentation and robust discussion with the [Conference of Local Mental Hygiene Directors](#). A number of recommendations to strengthen and sustain cross-system efforts were shared, all of which aligned with the Workgroup's mission of reinforcing and advancing a statewide system of care to more efficiently and effectively support children and youth with complex needs and their families.

Specific suggestions included solidifying local, regional, and state level collaborations, implementing a cross-system assessment process, and improving the delivery of coordinated services. In addition, increasing participation by Developmental Disabilities Regional Offices in the local Single Point of Access (SPOA) process and furthering interagency coordination to implement the New York State Family Services Family First Prevention Services Act were discussed. The maximization of resources to better align and leverage funds (e.g., by braiding and blending) and break down barriers to doing so also was a recommendation with which Workgroup members heartily agreed, and one that the Workgroup is actively working to address.

It was with great excitement that the Workgroup also discussed Governor Hochul's State of the State message with its focus on ensuring that every New Yorker gets the care they need, when they need, and how they need it. The proposed expansion of outpatient services, pay parity for telehealth, more wraparound services for people

transitioning from one setting to another, and the expansion of school-based mental health services are but a few examples of the initiatives that the Workgroup is eager to see advance and collectively help to implement.

At the same time, the Workgroup is enthusiastic about the growing number of interagency initiatives to better serve children and families that are underway, such as the partnership between the NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) and NYS Education Department to develop Family Opportunity Centers. These Centers will help to meet the emerging needs of families by facilitating connections and coordination with community partners like schools and mental health and substance use disorder service providers. Workgroup also is extremely excited about the partnership between Families Together in New York State and the NYS OCFS to employ [Family Policy Advisors](#) at the state and regional levels to assist OCFS in developing policies and procedures that promote the voice of parents.

With the start of 2023, stay tuned for details about ways families and youth and other key stakeholders will continue to inform the Workgroup and the ways in which the Workgroup will continue to collectively act to best support children, youth and families who are involved with multiple systems.

Deputy Commissioners Workgroup Membership: CCF (Vanessa Threatte, Elana Marton, Chris Tosado), [DDPC](#) (Vicky Hiffa), [DOH](#) (April Hamilton, Ann-Margret Foley, Myla Harrison, Suzanne Swan, Colette Poulin, Kirsten Siegenthaler), [DOL](#) (Chris White), [Justice Center](#) (Davin Robinson), [OASAS](#) (Pat Lincourt, Maria Morris Groves), [OCFS](#) (Lisa Gharthey-Ogundimu, Gail Geohagen-Pratt, Katherine Sena, Nina Aledort, Galen Gomes, Kristin Gleeson, Kathleen Hoskins), [OMH](#) (Bonnie Catlin, Angela Keller, Meredith Ray-LaBatt, Sarah Kuriakose, Nancy Pepe), [OPWDD](#) (Jill Pettinger, Abiba Kindo, Josh Olsen), [SED](#) (Kathleen DiCataldo, Suzanne Bolling), [SOFA](#) (Alana Stelline, Michael Gunn), [Governor's Office](#) (Emily Badalamente, Kim Hill)

Other News

Building Effective Children's Systems of Care

The New York State (NYS) [Conference of Local Mental Hygiene Directors, Inc.](#) (CLMHD), in collaboration with the Office of the Mental Health, launched the "[Building Effective Children's Systems Webinar Series](#)" in October 2021. The intent of this eight-part series is to foster peer-to-peer interaction and cross-site learning to support local development, enhancement, and expansion of cross-system efforts to better serve children, youth, and young adults with emotional, social, and behavioral needs, and their families across NYS. In addition, CLMHD and OPWDD presented a 6-part webinar series [Working With Individuals With Mental Health and I/DD](#) which is available on-line.

April 25-27, 2023 NNEDLearn2023 – application deadline February 6, 2023

The [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#) invites [National Network to Eliminate Disparities in Behavioral Health \(NNED\)](#) members to participate in its thirteenth annual training opportunity for community-based organizations, [NNEDLearn2023](#). The goal of NNEDLearn is to develop members' skills in evidence-supported and culturally appropriate mental illness and substance use prevention and treatment practices and to support practice implementation. This training model includes two introductory webinars, a three-day virtual intensive training, and four follow-up virtual coaching sessions. NNEDLearn participants will engage in the virtual intensive training sessions on **April 25-27, 2023. Applications to participate in the virtual NNEDLearn 2023 are now available on the NNED website.** Use the [NNEDLearn 2023 Pre-Application Decision Tree](#) to see if your organization is ready to apply. [Click here to apply for one of the training tracks now.](#) **The deadline to apply is Monday, February 6, 2023, at 5:00 pm EST.**

Trans 101: Creating a Safe and Affirming Environment for Transgender Consumers

The New York State Office of Mental Health's Office of Diversity and Inclusion is excited to partner with Christian Huygen, Ph.D. and Parker Jordan, LMSW from Rainbow Heights Club to make their training webinar - **Trans 101: Creating a Safe and Affirming Environment for Transgender Consumers** available to behavioral health providers outside New York City. This engaging presentation will **focus on how to affirm, support and work with mental health consumers who identify as transgender or gender nonconforming and will also highlight the mental health concerns that disproportionately impact this community due to stigma and marginalization.**

Attendees will come away with a greater sense of comfort and confidence about interacting with transgender and gender-nonconforming people in a respectful and affirming manner. Please see below for available training dates and registration instructions.

If you're located in New York City, please email parkerjordan@rainbowheights.org to request NYC-specific training dates and registration links.

If you're located outside New York City, please register through one of the following links:

Wednesday, February 22nd from 3-4:30 pm [Click Here to Register!](#)

Tuesday, March 14th from 10-11:30 am [Click Here to Register!](#)

Thursday, March 23rd from 3-4:30 pm [Click Here to Register!](#)

Tuesday, April 11th from 10-11:30 am [Click Here to Register!](#)

Thursday, April 20th from 3-4:30 pm [Click Here to Register!](#)

Wednesday, April 26th from 10-11:30 am [Click Here to Register!](#)

*Please note, registration for each webinar is limited to the first 300 registrants. These interactive sessions are only being offered live and will not be recorded or shared afterwards.

If you're located outside New York City and have 20+ staff interested in participating, please email parkerjordan@rainbowheights.org to coordinate registration to ensure all staff are able to attend the desired date.

The State of New York Office of Mental Health (OMH) is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Social Work as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed social workers #SW-0227. Licensed Master Social Workers and Licensed Clinical Social Workers who attend this class in its entirety will receive 1.5 contact hour toward renewal of their social work license.

Subscribe to (or unsubscribe from) the NYS Systems of Care Listserv by emailing [Angela Keller](#).

