



Guidebook to Interagency Planning Efforts addressing Kids' Behavioral Health

April 2008

Prepared by the Center for Systems Integration (CSI)
www.csi-policy.org
on behalf of Colorado LINKS for Mental Health
with support from Interagency Prevention Systems,
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Foreword

Background: Colorado LINKS for Mental Health (Linking Interagency Networks for Kids' Services) is an initiative seeking to create partnerships between state agencies and community groups working in the kids' mental health system. In 2006, the initiative brought together key stakeholders at the "BIG Meeting," where participants identified over thirty different interagency planning groups working on kids' mental health, health, substance abuse, and other youth issues.

The LINKS Guidebook is one of the outcomes of that important meeting. Participations expressed an interest in knowing more about the different entities working on similar issues. The purpose of the guidebook is to enable organizations *to identify other planning groups* working on youth health, mental health and co-occurring issues, so as to create opportunities to collaboration and avoid duplication in efforts. Hopefully, the guidebook will serve as a useful resource to state agencies, foundations, providers, policymakers, consumers, planning organizations, and community organizations.

Content of the Guidebook: The guidebook does not include every organization working on youth health, mental health, substance abuse, and other issues. Rather, it was determined that in order to be most useful in interagency planning that the entities to be included in the guidebook meet the following criteria, the entities:

- Are some type of interagency planning council, committee, task force, coalition, or commission;
- Are related to children and youth mental health and other co-occurring disorders (substance abuse, developmental disabilities, and traumatic brain injuries) either directly or indirectly;
- Are statewide in focus;
- Conduct planning on cross-systemic level, not focusing only on one specific project or focus area but across multiple areas; and
- Provide opportunities for coordination and collaboration and avoidance of duplication with other efforts.

The guidebook also includes two visuals to help the reader understand the kids' mental health system:

- A visual of the primary state offices involved in supporting or overseeing components of the kids' mental health system.
- A matrix of all of the groups included in the guidebook, showing the types of members participating in each group.

How to use the Guidebook: The guidebook is a planning tool for individuals and planning groups. An individual might use the guidebook to:

- Identify an interagency group looking at issues of interest to the individual; and
- Identify an interagency group where membership is open to anyone interested.

A planning group might use the guidebook to:

- Help them identify which issues are currently not being addressed, so that their planning work can focus on gaps in the current system;
- Identify the other planning groups that are working on an issue of interest to them (by doing a word search on key terms), allowing for coordination and integration of efforts;
- Identify other planning groups with resources or authority that their group lacks, allowing them to partner and make their own efforts more successful; and
- Help them to identify opportunities to combine subcommittees working on aligned issues or otherwise consolidate the efforts of multiple planning groups.

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Primary State Departments and Units Involved in the Kids' Mental Health System

Explanation:

The LINKS visual shows the five state departments that deal with children and youth mental health issues, along with the Governor's office and the Colorado State Legislature. The rectangles contain those divisions, sections, or units of the state departments that deal with kids' mental health issues. The complexity of the mental health system is quickly seen in the sheer number of state offices with a mandate to address some part of the kids' mental health system, directly and/or indirectly.

INSERT VISUAL HERE

Matrix of Groups by Membership

Matrix Explanation:

This matrix shows the types of organizations who are associated with each group through membership on the group or leadership of the group. The large bold X's indicate the primary state agency, division, or organization from which the group in the guidebook is coordinated. The smaller x's indicate the state agencies, divisions, or organizations that have members in the group. Among other things, the matrix shows the amount of overlap in membership across the many groups included in the guidebook. The abbreviations used are listed below:

State Agencies:

CDHS – Colorado Department of Human Services

CDPS – Colorado Department of Public Safety

CDE – Colorado Department of Education

CDHCPF – Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing

CDPHE – Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

CDoC – Colorado Department of Corrections

DOLA – Colorado Department of Local Affairs

Judicial – The Colorado State Judicial Branch

Governor's Office – The Governor and Lieutenant Governors' Offices

Legislature – The Colorado State Legislature, including elected members and legislative offices

Local Government – Local government agencies such as school districts, law enforcement, counties, and municipalities

Cmty Based Orgs & Non-Profits – Community based organizations and non-profits.

Divisions, Units, Sections:

DMH – Division of Mental Health

ADAD – Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division

DD – Developmental Disabilities

DCW – Division of Child Welfare

DYC – Division of Youth Corrections

SHHP – Supportive Housing and Homeless Programs

DCJ – Division of Criminal Justice

Insert Page 1 of the Matrix Here

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1451 Steering Committee: Collaborative Management Program

Goals

The 1451 Collaborative Management Programs are supported by the input, expertise, and active participation of the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee provides program oversight and is composed of representatives of the parent organizations of mandatory signatories, family and consumer representatives, and participating counties.

The purpose and goals of the Collaborative Management Program are as follows:

- Develop a more uniform system that includes input, expertise, and active participation of child serving organizations.
- Reduce duplication and eliminate fragmentation of services.
- Increase the quality, appropriateness, and effectiveness of services provided.
- Encourage cost-sharing among providers.
- Lead to better outcomes and cost-reduction for the services provided to children and families in the child welfare system, including the foster care system.

Website/Contact Information

Norm Kirsch, norman.kirsch@state.co.us, 303-866-3592

<http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/childwelfare/1451SteeringCommittee.htm>

Members

Mary Berg, Jefferson County	Lloyd Malone, Teller
Bob Christiansen, Chaffee County	Wayne Maxwell, Weld County
Susan Colling, Colorado State Probation	Joanne Mc Lain, Elbert County
Alicia Davis, CO State Court Admin.'s Office	Kathy Moan, El Paso County
Bill DeLisio, Colorado State Court Administrator's Office	Art Navalta, El Paso County
Robert Dorshimer, Community	Tom Quinn, Colorado State Probation
Barbara Drake, El Paso County	Dave Rastatter, Weld County
Jim Drendel, Larimer	Judy Rodriguez, Colorado DHS, Child Welfare Services
Jose Esquibel, CDPHE	Gloria Romansik, Weld County
Susan Franklin, Jefferson County	Maija Schiedel, El Paso County
Ellen Green, Colorado DHS, Administrative Review Division	Lee Searcy, Mesa County
Judy Griego, Weld County	Denise Suniga, Larimer County
Marge Grimsley, Community	Kit Thompson, Boulder County
Treva Houck, Mesa County	Arden Trewortha, Chaffee County
Jackie Johnson, Weld County	Susan Walton, Elbert County
	Maurice Williams, Division of Youth Corrections
	Meg Williams, CO Department of Public Safety

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1451 Steering Committee: Collaborative Management Program

Kevin Klinkerfues, Jefferson County

Janet Wood, Colorado DHS, Behavioral Health Services

Valorie Ladwig, Denver County

Julie Yoder, El Paso County

Corrine Lamberson, HCPF

Membership List as of November 2006.

<http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/childwelfare/1451SteeringCommittee.htm>

Inclusion of Kids, Families, and Consumers

Yes

Support (financial and in-kind)

The HB 1451 Collaborative Management Programs in local communities are supported through a model that allows for \$2 million in incentives to save/keep in communities.

Authority

Non-legislated body that has developed to oversee a legislated project, HB1451 (24-1.9, C.R.S.).

Sources

Colorado Department of Human Services 1451 Steering Committee web-page. Retrieved October 3rd 2006 from <http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/childwelfare/1451SteeringCommittee.htm>

Advisory Committee on Homeless Youth

Mission Statement

The mission of the Advisory Committee on Homeless Youth is to end youth homelessness by improving the quality, availability, and accessibility of services provided to homeless youth and those at risk of homelessness.

Vision Statement

Public, private, and faith-based Agencies working together to end youth homelessness in Colorado.

Values/Principles

Federal, state, and local government officials, along with service providers and homeless youth working collaboratively to ensure that Colorado youth have the opportunities and supports which are necessary to transition successfully to adulthood.

Goals

Overall Goals

- Identify and remove obstacles to the provision of services to homeless youth;
- Improve the quality of services provided to homeless youth;
- Reduce needless expenditures caused by the provision of overlapping services; and
- Identify funding resources available to entities serving homeless youth.

Top Priority Areas for five year strategic Colorado Homeless Youth Action Plan

1. **PREVENTION:** To prevent youth homelessness by promoting a culture of individual, familial, community, and government responsibility.
2. **HOUSING:** To have safe, decent, easily accessible, and developmentally appropriate homes for every youth.
3. **SUPPORTIVE SERVICES:** To provide comprehensive, wrap-around services to achieve maximum self-sufficiency or reunification.
4. **PLANNING:** Establish best practices and policies based upon accurate data and strategic planning.
5. **OUTREACH:** To identify and link vulnerable youth to appropriate housing and services.

Planned Activities

Working to:

- Improve the vital documents acquisition and retention process for youth exiting systems of care;
- Acquire better data and analyzing that data to better understand the statewide picture of youth homelessness;
- Facilitate the creation of additional housing units for transitioning youth/homeless youth;
- Increase health, mental health, and substance abuse services as part of the prevention and supportive services priorities; and
- Reduce trafficking and exploitation of homeless youth.

Advisory Committee on Homeless Youth

Ongoing Activities

Implementation of the Colorado Homeless Youth Action Plan, including any specific policy recommendations, to facilitate the reduction or removal of gaps, barriers, and redundant services to homeless young people in Colorado.

Past Activities (Reports, projects, changes to policy)

Homeless Youth Services Gaps Analysis; Worked with Advisory committee members to facilitate the expansion of mental health services to homeless young people through a collaborative agreement between Urban Peak, Rainbow Alley, and University of Denver; Created additional housing for homeless former foster and/or juvenile justice system youth with disabilities

Website/Contact Information

<http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/shhp/Homeless-Youth.htm>

Andy Johnson; Homeless Youth Coordinator, CDHS - Supportive Housing and Homeless Programs

4020 S. Newton St.; Denver, CO 80236

303-866-7366

andrew.johnson3@state.co.us

Subcommittees

Prevention Workgroup, Housing Workgroup, Supportive Services Workgroup, Planning Workgroup, Outreach Workgroup.

Members

Andy Johnson, Chair, Homeless Youth Coordinator, CDHS, Supportive Housing and Homeless Programs

Christopher Roe, Resource Development Team Leader, CDHS, Supportive Housing and Homeless Programs

Bob Coulson, Adolescent Services Administrator
CDHS-Division of Child Welfare

Ricardo Matthias, Adolescent Specialist
CDHS-Division of Child Welfares

Katie Wells, Coordinator of Adolescent Services

Roxanne Sabin, Child and Youth Services Supervisor, JeffCo Social Services

Anne Powley, Chafee Independent Living Program, Jefferson County Social Services, Division of Children, Youth and Families

Kristen Waites, Chafee Independent Living Program, Jefferson County Social Services, Division of Children, Youth and Families

Maija Schiedel, Manager Permanency Division, Children and Family Services, El Paso County DHS

Deborah Chavez, Child and Family Services, El Paso County DHS

Advisory Committee on Homeless Youth

CDHS, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division

Jim Gault, Central Region Director
CDHS, Division of Youth Corrections

Jennine Hall, Program Manager, CDHS,
Division of Youth Corrections

James Meadows, CDHS, Division of Youth
Corrections

Julia Koc, CDHS, Division of Youth
Corrections

Susan Shierkolk, CDHS, Division of Vocational
Rehabilitation

Chrisina L. Pacheco, Children and Youth
Resources Manger, City of Longmont

Nicole White, Chafee Program Coordinator,
Boulder county Dept. of Social Services

Dana Scott, Coordinator for the Education of
Homeless Children and Youth, Colorado Dept.
of Education

Doug Glynn, Colorado Depart. of Education,
AEFLA

Meg Williams, Manager, Office of Adult and
Juvenile Justice Services, CDPS

Jose Esquibel, Director Interagency Prevention
Systems, Colorado Dept. Public Health and
Environment

Susan Colling, Juvenile Programs Coordinator
Division of Probation Services, CO Judicial
Dep't

Sam R. Martinez, Child and Family Program
Specialist, U.S. DHHS

Mark Neujahr, Mesa County DHS

Dave Wolfe, Adolescent Supervisor, Adams
County Social Services

Paula McKey, Director, Boulder County Dept
of Social Services

Wade Branstetter, TANF Social Caseworker
Boulder County Dept. of Social Services

Heather Powers, CO's Finest Alternative High
School

Anna Stout, Homeless Liaison-South Quadrant
Denver Public Schools Educational Outreach

Jackie Ulmer, Homeless Liaison-North
Quadrant
Denver Public Schools Educational Outreach

Sheree Dougherty, District Homeless
Coordinator, Jeffco Public Schools

Cathy Haller, Prevention Services Coordinator,
Mesa County Valley School District 51

Candice DiManna, Manager, Comitis Crisis
Center

Scott Shields, President, Family Tree

Nicole Sherwood, Outreach Supervisor
Family Tree - Gemini Youth Shelter

Ashley Cloutier, Outreach Case Manager,
Family Tree - Gemini Youth Shelter

Kathleen O' Director of Youth Services

The GLBT Community Center of
Colorado/Rainbow Alley

Advisory Committee on Homeless Youth

Debbie Stafford, Colorado State Representative, House District 40	Wendy Talley, Director of Programs, Urban Peak
Allen Pollak, Director Children and Families Denver Department of Human Services	Kendall Rames, Clinical/Site Manager, Urban Peak Denver
Rena Walker, Youth Administrator, Denver DHS	Kippi Clausen, Project Director, Bridging the Gap @ Mile High United Way
Janice Cannon, Denver DHS	Lindi Sinton, Division Director, Volunteers of America
Edwin Chambers, Denver DHS	Dorothy Bryan, Project Manager Transitional Services for Youth and Families, Volunteers of America
Steve Hartbauer, Youth Services Denver Office of Economic Development	Susan Zimmerhackel, Resource Specialist, Dry Bones Denver
Commander Deborah Dilley, Denver Police Department, District 6	Emily Stone, Community Coordinator, Lost but Found, Greeley
Jerene Petersen, Denver's Road Home, Denver DHS	John Wooster, Project Beyond and Northern Colorado Youth for Christ, Greeley,
Randle Loeb, Metro Denver Homeless Initiative Board	Dr. Ken Watson, Homeless and Mental Health Services Program Manager, Metro Care Provider Network Homeless Youth Consumer Representatives
Sarabeth Donovan, Program Organizer, Prax(us)	
David Walbridge, Case Manager, community Alternatives, Inc	
Monica Haskell, Aurora Mental Health Center	
Andi Lyons, Rainbow Alley Program Manager, The GLBT Community Center of Colorado	
Aaron Cordova, Program Manager, Jefferson Center Mental Health, The Road	
Tami Lack, Development Director, Third Way Center	

Member List as of 12/31/07.

<http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/shhp/Homeless-YouthCommittee.htm>

Advisory Committee on Homeless Youth

Inclusion of Kids, Families, and Consumers

Homeless and formerly homeless youth participate in the committee and associated workgroups. Focus groups are held with homeless youth to inform the implementation of various section of the Colorado Homeless Youth Action Plan.

Authority

The Colorado Legislature passed the Homeless Youth Services Act (House Bill 02-1159) in 2002 and the Office of Homeless Youth Services (OHYS) was housed under the Colorado Department Public Health and Environment. On May 21, 2004 the Governor signed House Bill 1107, authorizing the transfer of the OHYS from the Department of Public Health and Environment to the Department of Human Services, Supportive Housing and Homeless Programs. The Advisory Committee on Homeless Youth acts in an advisory capacity to the OHYS and is the body responsible for carrying out the implementation tasks of the Colorado Homeless Youth Action Plan.

Partnerships with other planning groups

Bridging the Gap at Mile High United Way, Mental Health Planning and Advisory Council's Youth and Youth Adults Transitions Committee

Progress on Partnerships with Other Planning Groups

Holding joint meetings to address identification and vital documents/ records acquisition and retention process. Working with other state and local entities as well as service providers to address this issue. Developing joint recommendations related to mental health needs to transition age youth.

Sources

Andy Johnson; personal communication; December 31, 2007

Advisory Council on Adolescent Health (ACAH)

Mission Statement

The Advisory Council on Adolescent Health is an interdisciplinary group of adolescent health experts and community advocates, who advise the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, educate and inform the public, and advocate for policies and programs to improve the health and well-being of all Colorado adolescents.

Vision Statement

The vision of the Advisory Council on Adolescent Health is to forge and strengthen state and local partnerships that promote the health and well-being of Colorado's adolescents, emphasizing positive youth development, prevention, risk reduction, and early intervention.

Values/Principles

The council believes that its mission requires cooperation among many partners:

- Parents and other adults
- Teens
- Schools
- Non-profit community-based organizations
- The Colorado General Assembly
- Foundations
- Businesses
- Voluntary health agencies
- Faith-based organizations
- Community action groups
- Media
- Primary health care providers
- Public agencies

Goals

The council was commissioned in 1982 by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to provide expertise and advice on priorities and use of resources to improve the health of the state's youth. The expertise and advice takes the form of a periodic report on Adolescent Health in Colorado, in which the Council advances 10 core recommendations and accompanying key strategies, which are meant to serve as a blueprint for action. The 2003 Report is the fifth edition of Adolescent Health in Colorado.

These are the 10 Critical Tasks for Moving Forward with Adolescent Health in Colorado

1. Build public support for investment in youth
2. Involve youth in the process
3. Build on opportunities for crafting positive youth policy
4. Strengthen coordination of programs and services
5. Support parents in effective parenting

Advisory Council on Adolescent Health (ACAH)

6. Foster schools that promote health
7. Ensure access to health care
8. Support communities to offer positive options to youth
9. Adopt evidence-based approaches
10. Use data and established measurements to determine

Past Activities (Reports, projects, changes to policy)

Adolescent Health in Colorado, 2003 Report:

<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/ps/adolschool/adolehealthreport.asp>

Website/Contact Information

<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/ps/adolschool/adolehealthreport.asp>

Members:

Chair: Frank Campanella-Green

Vice-Chair: Chanel Freeman

Karen Abrahamson, Prevention Liaison,
Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division CDHS

Mike Johnson, Project Pave

Peggy Baikie, MD, St. Anthony's Hospital

Paritosh Kaul, MD, Denver Health and Hospital

Paige Backlund-Jarquin, Planned Parenthood
of the Rocky Mountains

Glenna Kelly, Community Programs Manager,
Kaiser Permanente

Robin Beach, M.D., Professor Emeritus of
Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine
University of Colorado School of Medicine

Emily Kinsella, Family Planning, Colorado Dept.
of Public Health and Environment

Ann-Marie Braga, MS, LCSW Program
Director, Adolescent Health at CDPHE

Katy Kupecz, Director of Youth Programs for the
CDPHE's State Tobacco Education and
Prevention Partnership.

Sandy Berkowitz, MA, Mental health
counselor at Kaiser Permanente

Joneen Mackenzie, RN, Executive Director
Abstinence and Relationship Training Center

Beverly Buck, JD, MPA Director,
Communications and Devel.at the Center for
Human Investment Policy, UC Denver,
GSPA

Alicia Oletski, Community Special, State Tobacco
Education and Prevention Partnership, Colorado
Dept. of Public Health and Environment

Ronnie Rosenbaum, MS, Director Shared
Beginnings, St. Anthony Hospitals

Advisory Council on Adolescent Health (ACAH)

Frank Campanella-Green, MA, Community Health Division Manager with the Boulder County Health Department

Shannon Sainer, Program Manager, Colorado Organization on Adolescent Pregnancy, Parenting and Prevention

Lori Casillas, Exe. Director, Colorado Organization on Adolescent Pregnancy, Parenting and Prevention

Judy Shlay, M.D., MSPH Community Health Services Denver Health

Karen Connell, MA, Supervisor of the Prevention Initiatives Office at CDE

Linda Tamayo, Program Manager, HIV/STDS/Teen Pregnancy Prevention CDE

Cindy Wakefield, Prevention Initiatives, Colorado Dept. of Education

Susan Dreisbach, PhD, nurse educator, and researcher.

David Wells, M.D., CM Youth Corr., Colorado Dept. Human Services

Jo English, Director of School-based Health at Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment

Cathy White, Coordinated School Health, Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment

Gina Febbraro, Tony Grampas Youth Services Program Director, Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment, D

Chanel Freeman, Fellow, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Div, Colorado Dept. Human Services and Assets for Colorado Youth

Deb Givray, University of Northern Colorado

Rachel Hutson, RN, CPNP, MSN, Child, Adolescent and School Health Unit Director, Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment

Hilary Johnson, Colorado Health Foundation

Member List as of January 1, 2008

Advisory Council on Adolescent Health (ACAH)

Inclusion of Kids, Families, and Consumers

Student members of the statewide Youth Partnership for Health contributed to the 2003 Report by providing quotes and reviewing and commenting on selected chapters. They also developed, conducted, and published a companion survey to the Colorado Youth Risk Behavior Survey. They are not on the council, however.

Authority

The Advisory Council on Adolescent Health was commissioned by the Director of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment in 1982 to advise the department on issues related to adolescent health. The Adolescent Health Program, located within the Prevention Services Division, convenes the council.

Partnerships with Other Planning Groups

- 1) Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division, Colorado Department of Human Services
- 2) Prevention Initiatives office at the Colorado Department of Education.
- 3) The Child, Adolescent and School Health Unit; the State Tobacco Education and Prevention Program; the Injury, Suicide and Violence Prevention Unit, the Colorado Physical Activity and Nutrition Program; the Women's Health Unit; and the Health Care Program for Children and Youth with Special Needs at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

Support (financial and in-kind)

Assisting with costs for publishing the 2003 Report: the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division, Colorado Department of Human Services, and the Prevention Initiatives office at the Colorado Department of Education.

The Maternal and Child Health Block Grant, Prevention Services Division and Emergency Medical Services and Injury, Suicide and Violence Prevention sections at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment also contributed resources to the publication of the 2003 report.

Sources

Advisory Council on Adolescent Health, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. (2003). The Advisory Council on Adolescent Health's Adolescent Health in Colorado 2003 Report. Retrieved July 5, 2006, from:

<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/ps/adolschool/adolehealthreport.html>

Advocacy Coalition

Goals

For children and families to receive timely and appropriate public and private mental health services, including physical health and other supports.

Planned Activities

Continue to provide referral and information services to families. The Advocacy Coalition is also co-sponsoring a Dual Diagnosis Summit in 2007.

Ongoing Activities

Their work with families is ongoing. Currently they are focused on providing families with answers to questions on the following subjects:

- Evaluation
- Mental Health or Health Treatment
- Health Payer Systems
- Connections to Other Families
- School Issues

Past Activities (Reports, projects, changes to policy)

The Advocacy Coalition works together as a single point of entrance for families seeking help dealing with systems and insurance around mental, behavioral health and physical health. They work together to provide advocacy, support, and education to families. By partnering together they are able to keep families from ping-ponging from organization to organization and are able to coordinate information for the family internally so the family only needs to make one phone call to get its needs met.

Website/Contact Information

1-800-881-8287

Members

The Advocacy Coalition is early in its development and has not addressed the issue of membership restrictions. Members are:

- Family Voices of Colorado
- The Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health ~ Colorado Chapter
- EMPOWER Colorado

Member List as of 11/20/2006.

Inclusion of Kids, Families, and Consumers

Member groups have inclusion of family members.

Advocacy Coalition

Authority

Community-based group with no legislative or other policy making or implementing authority.

Partnerships with other planning groups

The Advocacy Coalition partners with "many different systems and organizations."

Progress on Partnerships with Other Planning Groups

Partnerships with multiple agencies and organizations are ongoing.

Support (financial and in-kind)

Grants from Rose Community Foundation, Cerebral Palsy of Colorado, the Colorado Health Foundation, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

Sources

Megan Floyd, personal communication, July 26, 2006.

Blue Ribbon Policy Council for Early Childhood Mental Health

Mission Statement

The Council's mission is to craft public policies and implementation strategies that support the social and emotional well-being of young children and their families. The Council's youth, family members, legislators, university partners, state agencies, health/mental health providers, and system of care leaders cooperatively address the policy barriers that arise in attempting to create a seamless system of care. Because the Council wants to ensure that policy development is valuable at the local level, recommendations are tied to practical experience in communities. Outcomes from these policy recommendations encourage changes on the state level in areas such as reimbursement and Medicaid funding.

Vision Statement

Purpose of the Council: The Council is a group of early childhood champions who use their knowledge and leadership to ensure that:

- They utilize three early childhood mental health projects, Project BLOOM, Harambe Colorado, and Kid Connects, for expertise and guidance, and for their projects to draw on the knowledge of the Council
- They create public policies and implementation of such policies that support the social/emotional well-being of young children and their families
- They ensure that the principles of systems of care for young children guide the work they all do for the mental health of young children in Colorado

Values/Principles

Consistently approaching problems from the family perspective is one of the shared values and objectives of many of the agencies represented on the Council.

Goals

The Blue Ribbon Policy Council for Early Childhood Mental Health goal has been to increase awareness in early childhood mental health. The focus areas have been in funding, system of care, and policy.

Planned Activities

Development of an Early Childhood Mental Health Toolkit as an online and print resource to support education and awareness of the cost-benefit of early intervention, and the need for successful integration of primary and behavioral health care.

Ongoing Activities

Quarterly meetings of the Council and ongoing monitoring of and recommendations regarding early childhood mental health policy activity in Colorado.

Past Activities (Reports, projects, changes to policy)

<http://www.tapartnership.org/news/Oct04/field.htm>

Blue Ribbon Policy Council for Early Childhood Mental Health

Website/Contact Information

Claudia Zundel, CDHS, Division of Mental Health, claudia.zundel@state.co.us, 303/866-7528
Penny Gonnella, CDPHE, penny.gonnella@state.co.us, 303/692-2362
Tracy Kraft-Tharp, Kid Connects, tkth@aol.com, 303/421-2787
Sarah Hoover, JFK Partners/UCDHSC, sarah.hoover@uchsc.edu, 303/315-2152
<http://www.tapartnership.org/news/Oct04/field.htm>

Subcommittees

Funding, System of Care, and Policy have been subcommittee areas of the council.

Members

With over 35 members, the Council brings together representatives from early childhood mental health, family members and policymakers.

Adoree Blair, Family Member	Bill Kottenstette, Office of Lt. Governor
Carol Breslau, The Colorado Trust	Lorraine F. Kubicek, OMNI Institute Jennifer Landrum, Project BLOOM staff
Christine Collins, Alliance	Linda Meredith, CO Head Start Assoc. / Comm Partnership for Child Dvlpmt
George DelGrosso, Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council	Sandy Petersen, Zero to 3
Tom Dillingham, HCPF/Child Health Plan Plus Division (CHP +)	Teri Pinney, CDPHE, PSD-CASH-A4
Kelly Dunkin, The CO Health Foundation	Steve Poole, MD, The Children's Hospital
Jose Esquibel, CDPHE/Interagency Issues for Prevention Systems	Corry Robinson, Univ. of CO Health Sciences Center, JFK Partners
Megan Floyd, CO Federation of Families For Children's Mental Health	Jeanne Rohner Mental Health Association of Colorado (New Address)
Jerry Frangas , Colorado State Legislature	Lisa Roy, The Piton Foundation
Rhonda Goodman, Family Member	Beverly Solomon, Family Member
Chris Habgood, Mental Health Association of Colorado	Barbara Smith, Ph.D., UCD/Center for Evidence Based Practices in Early Learning
Anna Jo Haynes, Mile High Montessori	Dave Smith, Colorado Dept. of Education
Beverly Hirsekorn, Colorado DD Council	Debbie Stafford, Colorado State Legislature
Rebecca Karlin, Office of the Governor, Policy Initiatives	Steve Tool, Health Care Policy and Finance
Moe Keller, Colorado State Legislature	John VanDenBerg, President
Karen Knoll-Moran, OFA/CCB/Region VIII	Kathy Watters, CDPHE-HCP, PSD-HCP-A4

Members as of November 2006.

<http://www.tapartnership.org/news/Oct04/field.htm>

Blue Ribbon Policy Council for Early Childhood Mental Health

Inclusion of Kids, Families, and Consumers

There are seven family members invited to sit on the Council as well as consumer and family representation from the Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health ~ Colorado Chapter. Council meetings have included a contemporary family issue in a Colorado community to ground the policy topics to local community issues.

Support (financial and in-kind)

The conveners of the Blue Ribbon Council provide financial and in-kind support (Colorado Department of Human Services Division of Mental Health, Project BLOOM, Kid Connects, Harambe Colorado).

Authority

Project BLOOM , Kid Connects, Harambe Colorado and Colorado Department of Human Services Division of Mental Health convene the Blue Ribbon Policy Council for Early Childhood Mental Health. While there is no legislative or statutory mandate for this Council, each project has formally included the Council as a policy body.

Partnerships with other planning groups

Smart Start Colorado through the Early Childhood State Systems Team
Colorado System of Care Collaborative

Sources

The Blue Ribbon Policy Council convening project staff.

Colorado's System of Care for early Childhood" Linking Systems, Practice, and Policy in Early Childhood Intervention website. Retrieved on July 5, 2006 from:
<http://www.tapartnership.org/news/Oct04/field.htm>

Coalition for Minority Youth Equality

Mission Statement

To ensure fair and equal justice for all juveniles by overseeing policies that addresses the social, cultural, and economic and educational roots of disproportionate representation of minorities in the juvenile justice system.

Vision Statement

Unity through Diversity

Goals

GOAL 1: DATA and RESEARCH. Improve the data collection and analysis system in Colorado to measure impact of minority over representation.

GOAL 2 – TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. Provide technical assistance to programs/ communities addressing minority over representation and improve education to targeted audiences, i.e. community meetings, services clubs, chamber of commerce, faith based groups, etc.

GOAL 3 – ADVOCACY. Advocate for minority youth and families by monitoring legislation that may affect them, and championing equal access to services by all youth.

GOAL 4 – INTERVENTION/PROGRAMS. Fund programs and interventions that have been proven effective in addressing minority over representation or in reducing minority confinement.

Planned Activities

Goal 1 Tasks:

1. Improve Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention required data collection and reporting – Matrix.
2. Improve Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Formula Grant program outcome and impact.
3. Rather than just collection data, need to analyze it.
 - * Implement a set process to determine the trends in overrepresentation.
 - * Based on these trends prioritize resources (money, training, and technical assistance, etc).
4. Focus and Expand data collection beyond Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act mandatory information to: Arrest, Aftercare/Parole, and Adjudication

Goal 2 Tasks:

1. Provide communities user-friendly data.
2. Checklist for assessing Disproportionate Minority Confinement in agency/community etc.
3. Have available resources for accessing Cultural Competency Training.
4. Basic training and talking points on who and what the Coalition is and does.

Coalition for Minority Youth Equality

Goal 3 Tasks:

1. Expand audience of recipients.
2. Track key legislators – committees of jurisdiction that can affect Disproportionate Minority Confinement (justice-funding–corrections-human services-education-mental health).
3. Develop over-representation/child/family impact statements for proposed legislation.

Goal 4 Tasks:

1. Reduce truancy issues within minority community.
2. Recruit administration from education system to participate in the coalition and educate administration for intervention.
3. Continue to fund and expand Minority Family Advocacy Programs.

Members

The Colorado Coalition for Minority Youth Equality is a subcommittee of the Colorado Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Council, which is also in this guidebook. The Coalition membership includes culturally diverse state and local representatives.

Website/Contact Information

http://dcj.state.co.us/oajja/Boards_and_Councils/CMYE.html

Authority

Federal mandate.

Potential Future Partnership Opportunities

Denver Indian Family Resource Center Initiatives
Federation of Families for Children’s Mental Health ~ Colorado Chapter– Children youth initiatives/focus groups

Sources

Colorado Coalition for Minority Youth Equality Action, October 2005 – September 30, 2008.

Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council

Mission Statement

To promote the development and growth of relevant, high quality, comprehensive mental health services at the community level.

Goals

The Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council (CBHC) serves as a unifying and coordinating vehicle for its members. It promotes development and growth of quality services; performs research, surveys, and education activities; spearheads state-level policy involvement; and markets member services. CBHC sponsors an annual mental health conference that provides training for mental health professionals. CBHC collaborates with other mental health providers, advocates, consumers and state government representatives to prevent and resolve cross agency and consumer conflicts.

Planned Activities

2006 Conference:

The 2006 CBHC Conference will focus on "Integrating Health." Many sessions will continue its focus as a collaborative organization providing leadership and direction in shaping and preserving the future of the state's community mental healthcare systems.

Keeping track of the 2007 Legislative Session, supporting, and opposing legislation.

Past Activities (Reports, projects, changes to policy)

The CBHC tracks mental health bills in the Colorado State Legislature, and has a yearly Legislative Report summarizing the bills they tracked on its website, at

http://www.cbhc.org/legreport_5.html

Website/Contact Information

1410 Grant Street, Suite A-310, Denver, Colorado 80203

Phone: 303-832-7594. Fax: 303-830-7132. <http://www.cbhc.org>

Members

Community Mental Health Centers/Clinics:

Arapahoe/Douglas Mental Health Network

Asian Pacific Development Center

Aurora Mental Health Center

Centennial Mental Health Center

Colorado West Regional Mental Health Center

Community Reach Center

Jefferson Center for Mental Health

Larimer Center for Mental Health

Mental Health Center of Denver

Pikes Peak Mental Health Center

San Luis Valley Comprehensive Community
MH Center

Southeast Mental Health Services

Southwest Colorado Mental Health Center

Spanish Peaks Mental Health Center

West Central Mental Health Center

Behavioral Healthcare Organizations (BHOs)

Northeast Behavioral Health

Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council

MH Center Serving Boulder and Broomfield
Ctys.
Midwestern Colorado Mental Health Center
North Range Behavioral Health

Foothills Behavioral Health, LLC
Colorado Health Partnerships, LLC
Behavioral Healthcare, Inc.
Access Behavioral Care, Colorado Access,
Denver

Member List as of November 2006.

<http://www.cbhc.org>

Inclusion of Kids, Families, and Consumers

No.

Sources

The Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council Website. (2006) Retrieved December 29th 2006 from
<http://www.cbhc.org>

Colorado Child & Adolescent Mental Health Coalition

Mission Statement

It is recognized that emotionally disturbed and mentally ill children and adolescents exist in every child-serving system and agency in our society. The purpose of this coalition is to bring these systems together to discuss common concerns and to devise ways to serve emotionally disturbed and mentally ill children more effectively, regardless of where they are, through education, collaboration, networking, and joint programming.

Vision Statement

The Coalition envisions that State of Colorado as one whether duplication of services decreased, knowledge and use of best practices is readily and easily accessible and implemented when working with children and adolescents. The Coalition also envisions the State of Colorado as one where parents, consumers, and professionals value working together collaboratively in best interests of children and adolescents.

Goals

1. Through the use of an educational forum, to continue to promote best practices in the State of Colorado.
2. Through collaboration, to promote the most effective use of resources, knowledge and skills to better serve children and adolescents.
3. Through networking to allow professionals and consumers the opportunity to interact in a respectful and genuine way.
4. Through joint programming, to support families interacting with agencies and systems in the State of Colorado.

Planned Activities

The Colorado Child and Adolescent Mental Health Coalition (CCAMHC) will host its 20th Annual Conference in Fort Collins, Colorado April 13-15, 2008 where approximately 300 professionals, partners, consumers and youth will gather to learn about pressing issues and promising or best practices in working with children and adolescents.

Past Activities (Reports, projects, changes to policy)

The Colorado Child and Adolescent Mental Health Coalition has primarily served an educational and networking role in that the annual conference has been held for the past 20 years. Each year for the past four years, attendance at the conference has increased by about 10 – 15 percent.

Colorado Child & Adolescent Mental Health Coalition

Website/Contact Information

Ashley M. Tunstall, President
Colorado Child and Adolescent Mental Health Coalition
C/o Center for Governmental Training
3615 S. Huron, Suite 206
Englewood, CO 80110
ashleytunstall@gmail.com
(303) 570-5880.

Members

Colorado Child and Adolescent Mental Health Coalition

The membership of the Coalition numbers over 300 and includes parents of children with special needs, mental health clinicians, social caseworkers, juvenile probation officers, educators, residential providers, and human services administrators, among others.

Broad Members and conference Planners include:

Conference Coordination

Monica Giles
Joe Sprague

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center of Colorado
Hope Wisneski, Deputy Director

Colorado Department of Human Services
Debra Cady, Division of Youth Corrections
Jill Jordan, Division of Child Welfare

Colorado Mental Health Institute

David Feinman, Fort Logan
Miles Dial, Pueblo

Community Services

Isabelle Medchill, Denver Indian Family Resource Center
Parent Representative
Christine Schrader

County Departments of Human Services

Denver, Human Services, Allen Pollack and Patricia Garcia
El Paso, Human Services, Jeff Wells

Colorado Child & Adolescent Mental Health Coalition

Residential; Treatment Centers

Terry Hoffman, Excelsior Youth Center

Child Placement Agencies

Doris Palmer, Catholic Charities

University/Colleges

Metropolitan State College of Denver

David Bernstein, Colorado MST Support Services

Consultants

Ashley Tunstall: Emergency Assessment, Child Custody

Frank Bennett: MH, Adoption, Foster Care

Charles Perez, Child Welfare

Mental Health Centers

Marilyn McIntyre, Larimer Center for Mental Health

Linda Nordin, Jefferson Center for Mental Health

Alyce Duckworth, Arapahoe/Douglas Mental Health Network

Kathie Snell, Aurora, Mental Health

Office of Domestic Violence and Sex Offender Management

Kristy Alles-Serrant

Colorado Chapter of The Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health

Lily Boyce

State Judicial

Kenya Pakenhna, 18th JD Probation Officer

Members as of 12/15/07

Inclusion of Kids, Families, and Consumers

CCAMHC has a parent representative on the board. Additionally, consumer and partners are involved at the annual conference every year. To the extent possible, youth participate, usually as part of a panel.

Partnerships with other planning groups

Member Organizations:

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center of Colorado

Colorado Department of Human Services, Division of Youth Corrections and Division of Child Welfare

Colorado Mental Health Institute, Fort Logan and Pueblo

Colorado Child & Adolescent Mental Health Coalition

Denver Indian Family Resource Center
County Departments of Human Services, Denver HS and El Paso HS
Excelsior Youth Center
Catholic Charities
Metropolitan State College of Denver
Larimer Center for MH
Aurora MH
Arapahoe/Douglas MH Network
Jefferson Center for MH
Office of Domestic Violence and Sex Offender Management
Colorado Chapter of The Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health
State Judicial

Potential Future Opportunities

CCAMHC is in active discussion about how we can better serve the community in-between conference. We believe we are not yet complete in fulfilling our mission and will continue to discuss expansion and/or modification of our approach as a Coalition.

Support (financial and in-kind)

1. Colorado Dept. of Human Services, Division of Child Welfare, Promoting Safe and Stable Families
2. Colorado Dept. of Public Safety, Division of Criminal Justice
3. Larimer County department of Human Services
4. City and County of Denver Department of Human Services
5. Colorado Chapter of the Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health
6. Colorado Dept. of Human Services, Office of Workforce Development
7. Emily Griffith Center
8. Excelsior Youth Center

Sources

www.ccamhc.org

Colorado Coalition for the Homeless

Mission Statement

The mission of the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless (CCH) is to work collaboratively toward the prevention of homelessness and the creation of lasting solutions for homeless and at-risk families, children, and individuals throughout Colorado. CCH advocates for, and provides a continuum of housing and a variety of services to improve the health, well being, and stability of those it serves.

Since 1984, CCH, a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization, has brought together concerned individuals, agencies providing emergency food and shelter, housing providers, religious leaders, and representatives from business and government to address the problem of homelessness.

Goals

For over 20 years, CCH has been creating lasting solutions to homelessness in Colorado. It's outreach programs actively seek out those who are homeless and encourage them to take advantage of help while on site services provide a resource for those who choose to come to CCH. Once connected with CCH, a range of housing, health services, and supportive programs allow individuals to stay in housing and participate in the larger community.

Ongoing Activities

Lasting solutions to homelessness are complex and require a range supportive services paired with housing and healthcare resources. CCH provides these supports to give individuals the best possible chance of finding a home and rejoining the community. Staff members within the programs are integrated with housing and medical care professionals to provide comprehensive resources for clients.

Programs for families and individuals throughout Colorado include:

Outreach services

Emergency services and transitional housing for families

Affordable childcare tailored to homeless families

Rural outreach

Transitional case management

Benefits acquisition

Connection to community resources

Job skills development

Past Activities (Reports, projects, changes to policy)

CCH Major Milestones

1984 – Colorado Coalition for the Homeless founded

1985 – Stout Street Clinic opens

1986 – CCH holds first Statewide Conference

1988 – CCH acquired and developed Ruth Goebel House

Colorado Coalition for the Homeless

1990 – CCH establishes the Homeless Families Program
1995 – CCH develops and administers the Rural Colorado Homeless Initiatives Project
2001- CCH completes purchase and renovation of 2111 Champa St. building
2002 -- Stout Street Clinic expanded and renovated
2003 – CCH established Renaissance Property Development
2003 – CCH hires its 250th employee
2004 – CCH opened Civic Center Apartments in downtown Denver, its 12th housing property
2004/2005 – CCH Celebrates 20th Anniversary of CCH and Stout Street Clinic

Website/Contact Information

http://www.coloradocoalition.org	<u>Stout Street Clinic:</u>
Main Phone: 303-293-2217	2100 Broadway
Main Email: cch@coloradocoalition.org	Denver, CO 80205
	303-296-4996
<u>Administrative Offices:</u>	<u>Renaissance Property Management:</u>
2111 Champa St.	303-293-2217
Denver, CO 80204	
303-293-2217	

Members

Member Organizations:

Colorado Social Legislation Committee: <http://www.cslc.org>
National Low Income Housing Coalition: <http://www.nlihc.org>
National Alliance to End Homelessness: <http://www.endhomelessness.org>
National Coalition for the Homeless : <http://www.nationalhomeless.org>
Colorado State Legislature: http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/stateleg.html
Vote Smart: <http://www.vote-smart.org>
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development: <http://www.hud.gov>
National Healthcare for the Homeless Council: <http://www.nhchc.org>

Colorado Coalition for the Homeless Board of Directors and Executive Staff:

Jay Brown, Chair: University of Denver College of Law
Jim Winston, Vice Chair: Retired V.P. Paine Webber Inc
Bryce Lloyd, Treasurer: Senior Vice President, FirstBank of Tech Center
Kenn Martin, Secretary: Consumer Representative
Steve Bassett: Sr. Vice President, Trammel Crow Co.
Gylinda Gonzales: Consumer Representative
Beth Kapla: Consumer Representative
Becky Martinez, M.D.: Team Leader, Hyde Park Clinic
Eileen Pappas: Marketing Consultant
Walt Rakowich: President, ProLogis
John Weslar: President, Front Range, ResponseLink
John Parvensky: President

Colorado Coalition for the Homeless

Stan Eilert: Vice President of Operations
Louise Boris: Vice President of Programs
Kay Tennant: Executive Assistant / Assistant Secretary to the Board

Members as of November 2006.

<http://www.coloradocoalition.org>

Inclusion of Kids, Families, and Consumers

Yes.

Partnerships with other planning groups

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Potential Future Partnership Opportunities

Connect homeless programs to public health networks
Traumatic Brain Injury – autism; Fetal Alcohol Syndrome

Support (financial and in-kind)

Colorado Coalition for the Homeless received ongoing support to continue its programs. In August 2005, the Department of Housing and Urban Development announced its intention to work with CCH in helping more homeless individuals in Denver.

Sources

Colorado Coalition for the Homeless web-page. (ND) Retrieved July 6th, 2006 from
<http://www.coloradocoalition.org>

Colorado Early Childhood and School Readiness Commission

Mission Statement

The Colorado Early Childhood and School Readiness Commission is committed to the future of Colorado's Children. The safety, quality, and accessibility of the early childhood system of services and supports will impact school readiness and our children's future. The Commission will identify critical issues, evaluate policies, make recommendations, and propose legislation to continue to improve school readiness in Colorado. This Commission is specifically charged with creating an early childhood system

Goals

The Colorado Early Childhood and School Readiness Commission has the opportunity to synthesize the efforts of many programs for young children into a sensible and sound evidence-based policy approach that will improve the "school readiness" of Colorado's young children and the lives of their families.

The Commission is charged with creating a "system" of care, education, and readiness for Colorado's young children. Created by House Bill 04-1277, the three-year Commission will focus on the following priority areas as it utilizes specialized knowledge and expertise concerning the links between early childhood care and education, early childhood development, and school readiness indicators. This new system is comprised of:

1. Improving quality, accessibility, and affordability of early childhood programs and supports
2. Providing continued study and strategic responses to those critical issues impacting the quality, accessibility and affordability of early childhood programs and supports
3. Promoting meaningful parent-involvement in all aspects of early childhood systems and programs
4. Measuring quality in early childhood programs by objective outcomes directly linked to school readiness, academic achievement and productivity in life
5. Linking the numerous early childhood statewide initiatives that have developed long-range comprehensive strategies and plans at the state and local levels through a policy agenda that will lead to a comprehensive early childhood system.

Planned Activities

While this current Early Childhood and School Readiness Commission will 'sunset' on June 30, 2007 if successfully signed into law, the Early Childhood Commission will become the new Commission with the specific duty of creating a policy board for the early childhood system.

Ongoing Activities

To be the policy action team for early childhood issues in Colorado.

Past Activities (Reports, projects, changes to policy)

Report to the legislature was written in November 2005; minutes of the monthly Commission

Colorado Early Childhood and School Readiness Commission

meetings are on the Colorado Foundation website; five pieces of legislation sponsored by the ECSR Commission will be heard by the 2007 legislative assembly; “Children with Challenging Behavior” report will be delivered to the legislature in January 2007.

Website/Contact Information

[www.Coloradofoundation.org](http://www.coloradofoundation.org)
<http://www.coloradofoundation.org/template.asp?intPageId=157>

Laurie Beckel, Staff Director, Colorado Foundation for Families and Children
303-837-8466, ext. 130
cfecsrcommission@coloradofoundation.org
lbeckel@coloradofoundation.org

Members

The Governor appoints eleven members of the Commission, no more than six of who shall be from the same party. Members shall be representative of the following interests: the Division of Child Care in the Department of Human Services, the Community Consolidated Child Care Services Pilot Program, educators teaching children in preschool, kindergarten, or grades one through five, the State Board of Community Colleges and Occupational Education, the county departments of human services, nonprofit child care facilities, private for-profit child care facilities, parents of children currently enrolled in a nonprofit or private for-profit early childhood care and education program who is not otherwise in the business of child care or early childhood education and director of a Colorado Head Start grantee program.

Commission meetings are held on the 3rd Friday of each month in the State Capitol Building, Room 356. In 2006, from January through June, meetings are scheduled to begin at 12:00 Noon and end at 3:30 pm.

Governor Appointments:

Cheryl M. Caldwell, Aurora, (R) Educator teaching children in preschool, and grades K-5.
Karen Beye, Broomfield (D), County department of human services
Anne Keire, Loveland (U), Community consolidated child care pilot program
Kara Heide, Edwards (U), Business community
Jennifer Vasquez, Englewood (R), parent of a child currently enrolled in an early care and education setting
Ophelia Mejia, Denver, (D) Non-profit organization
Stephen Bates, Golden (D), Division of Child Care
Cliff Richardson, Lakewood (R), State Board of Community Colleges and Occupational Ed.
Mary C. Parsons, Colorado Springs, (U) Nonprofit child care facilities
Kathryn Hammerbeck, Highlands Ranch (R), Private for-profit child care facilities
Sheila Groneman, Silverthorne (D), Head Start grantee program director

Colorado Early Childhood and School Readiness Commission

Legislative Appointments:

Senators:

The Honorable Brandon Shaffer (D) – District 17, Boulder
(open seat)

The Honorable Suzanne Williams (D) – District 28, Aurora

Representatives:

(open seat)

The Honorable Nancy Todd(D) – District 41, Arapahoe and Denver Counties

The Honorable Judy Solano (D) – District 31, Eastlake

Coordinator: Laurie Beckel

Members as of December, 2006.

<http://www.coloradofoundation.org/template.asp?intPageId=157>

Inclusion of Kids, Families, and Consumers

Yes, the Governor must appoint parents of children currently enrolled in a nonprofit or private for-profit early childhood care and education program that are not otherwise in the business of child care or early childhood education. Currently, Jenifer Vasquez, Englewood (R) (co-chair of the Family Leadership Task Force of the Early Childhood State Systems Team).

Authority

Legislative Mandate: House Bill 04-1277

Partnerships with other Planning Groups

MOA with Smart Start Colorado (Early Childhood State Systems Team)

Progress on Partnerships with other Planning Groups

Colorado Children's Campaign through legislative action as well as specific stakeholder groups

Support (financial and in-kind)

The Coordinator for the Commission, Laurie Beckel, works for the Colorado Foundation for Families and Children with funding from the early childhood funders group, which shows the Commission as one of its "Strategic Ventures".

Sources

Colorado Early Childhood and School Readiness Commission. (ND). Retrieved August 3rd, 2006, from <http://www.coloradofoundation.org/template.asp?intPageId=157>

Colorado Interagency Coordinating Council – Part C

Mission / Purpose / Values

The Colorado Interagency Coordinating Council (CICC) shall support and implement the following values in council functions and activities:

- Children and families are valued for their unique capacities, experiences, and potential.
- Families have the right and responsibility to make decisions on behalf of their children and themselves.
- Communities are enhanced by recognizing and honoring the diversity among all people.
- Families make the best choices when they have comprehensive information about the full range of formal and natural resources in their communities.
- Creative, flexible, and collaborative approaches to services allow for individual child, family and community differences.

Goals

- A. The CICC, as delineated by 34 CFR 303.650-303.654, shall:
1. Advise and assist the Colorado Division for Developmental Disabilities, Early Childhood Connections in the development and implementation of the policies that constitute the statewide early intervention supports and services system;
 2. Assist the Division for Developmental Disabilities, Early Childhood Connections program in achieving full participation, coordination, and cooperation of all appropriate public agencies in the State;
 3. Assist the Division for Developmental Disabilities, Early Childhood Connections program in the effective implementation of the statewide system by establishing a process that includes:
 - a. Seeking information from public and private service providers, service coordinators, Community Centered Board Early Intervention Staff, administrators, Administrative Unit Staff (school districts and BOCES), health providers, parents, and other about any Federal, State, or local policies that impede timely service delivery, and
 - b. Taking steps to ensure policy problems identified in (1) are resolved;
 4. Assist the Division for Developmental Disabilities, Early Childhood Connections program in the resolution of disputes, to the extent appropriate.
- B. The CICC has overlapping membership with the Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council, which advises and assists in policies for all children, birth through eight years of age.
- C. The administrative duties of the CICC include, to the extent appropriate, advising, and assisting the Division for Developmental Disabilities, Early Childhood Connections program in the:
1. Identification of sources of fiscal and other support for early intervention supports and services,
 2. Assignment of financial responsibility to appropriate agency,

Colorado Interagency Coordinating Council – Part C

3. Promotion of the interagency agreements under 34 CFR 303.532, 7 of 9
4. Preparation of the applications and amendments to the applications under Part C,
5. Development of the applications and amendments to the applications under Part C,
6. Development of policies and procedures to facilitate a smooth, seamless system of transition for children with disabilities to services under Part C to preschool services under Part B,
7. Evaluation of the overall effectiveness of Part C efforts in Colorado, specifically as those efforts relate to the accomplishment of the CICC values and policy directions; and
8. Preparation and submission of an annual report to the Governor and the Secretary about the status of the early intervention supports and services delivery system operated in the State that includes the information required by the Secretary for the reporting year.

Website/Contact Information

John Miles, 303-866-7459, John.Miles@state.co.us, and
Ardith Ferguson, 303-866-7657, Ardith.Ferguson@state.co.us
3824 West Princeton Circle, Denver, CO, 80236
888-777-4041
<http://www.earlychildhoodconnections.org>

Subcommittees

The CICC has two standing committees: the Executive Committee and the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Committee. Standing committees are authorized to continue in existence from year to year.

The Executive Committee is comprised of the co-chairpersons of the CICC, who, according to the CICC bylaws, must be parents of children with disabilities, and four other members as selected by the entire CICC. The Executive Committee:

- a. Represents the CICC as needed between CICC meetings.
- b. Reviews and provides input to the CICC on critical issues raised by the Lead Agency or the community at large.
- c. Reviews all CICC committee reports.
- d. Reviews roles and responsibilities of CICC, Lead Agency, and any ad hoc/subcommittees annually.
- e. Reports back to the CICC regarding recommendations made to the Lead Agency.
- f. Manages the CICC budget as articulated in the Part C State Plan.
- g. Develops a slate of nominees for the offices of the chairpersons and for the Executive Committee.
- h. Develops and provides new Council member orientation in conjunction with Lead Agency staff.

The MOU Committee is comprised of appointed representatives of the Colorado Department of Human Services, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, the Colorado Department of Education, and any other state agency deemed appropriate by the governor or the CICC. The MOU Committee

Colorado Interagency Coordinating Council – Part C

- a. Identifies and communicates state and federal policies that may impact implementation of Part C at the local level.
- b. Assists in resolving local interagency conflicts and facilitating local collaboration.

Additionally, the CICC will authorize, as needed, special purpose committees (SPC) to achieve specific outcomes, research, advocacy or other tasks determined by the CICC.

Members

The CICC meets quarterly. The meetings are open to the public and the meeting dates, locations, agendas and minutes are posted on the Early Childhood Connections website. Each meeting agenda includes a time for public comment (www.earlychildhoodconnections.org).

The governor appoints members for two-year renewable terms. The CICC is comprised of thirty-three members who represent the geographic and cultural diversity of the state as follows:

- At least 20% are parents of children with disabilities, including parents from diverse populations, parents of infants and toddlers with disabilities, and parents of children 12 or younger with disabilities who have knowledge and experience with programs for infants and toddlers with disabilities
- At least 20% are public or private early intervention providers
- At least one representative from the state legislature
- At least member in personnel preparation
- At least one member from each State agency involved in providing or paying for early intervention supports and services for infants and toddlers with disabilities, and who has sufficient authority to do policy planning and implementation of on behalf of their agency
- At least one member from the State educational agency responsible for preschool services to children with disabilities who has sufficient authority to do policy planning and implementation on behalf of their agency
- At least one member from the agency responsible for State governance of health insurance
- One member representing Native American Tribal Councils
- One member representing a Head Start agency
- One member representing Child Care

Current Members 2007-2008 CCIC Members

**** Contact person is a parent representative; POG= Pleasure of the Governor**

Dayle Axman Supervisor, Life and Health Section, Consumer Affairs Colorado Division of Insurance 1560 Broadway, Ste. 850 Denver CO 80202	Judith Persoff, Educational Psychologist, Develop. Pathways 325 Inverness Drive S Englewood CO 80112 303-858-2348 judi.persoff@developmentalpathways.org
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Colorado Interagency Coordinating Council – Part C

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dayle.axman@dora.state.co.us

Justin Gutierrez, Co-chair

Service Provider, Part C
Coordinator, Upper Arkansas
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Term: 7/12/06 - 6/30/08

Corrine Lindsey, CO Commission of Indian
Affairs

4411 S. Washington St.
Englewood CO 80113
303-806-0508
clindsey@law.du.edu
Term: 5/10/06 – 6/30/07

Katherine Bair, Canon City School District Re-1
101 N. 14th

Canon City CO 81212
719-276-5732
bairk@canon.k12.co.us
Term: 7/6/05 - 6/30/07

Julie Harmon, Co-chair**

5857 Grandby Hill Drive
Colorado Springs CO 80918
719-531-9400
jharmon@peakparent.org
Term: 7/12/06 – 6/30/08

Patricia “Trish” Peters, Southwest Kids
Early Childhood

6852 Road 21
Cortez CO 81321
970-564-1669
nevermto@quixnet.net
Term: 7/10/07 – 6/30/09

Joyce Johnson
CO Dept of Human Services
1575 Sherman Street, 1st Floor

Term: 7/12/06 – 6/30/08

joyce.johnosn1@state.co.us

Term: 7/10/07 - POG

Leandrea Pfluger Co-Chair **

6071 Hoyt Street
Arvada CO 80004
303-421-2869
303-548-6343 cell
ldpfluger@yahoo.com
Term: 7/6/05 – 6/30/09

Dana Scott, Office of Homeless Education,
CO Dept of Education

201 E. Colfax Ave
Denver CO 80203
303-866-6930
scott_d@cde.state.co.us

Term: 7/6/05 – POG

Geraldine Stirlacci, Service Provider, Family
Star Early Head Start, Montessori Infant
Parent Education Center

2246 Federal Blvd
Denver CO 80211
720-840-0598
gerri@familystar.net
Term: 7/12/06 – 6/30/08

Amy Scangarella, Health Care Policy
Financing

1570 Grant St
Denver CO 80203
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Colorado Interagency Coordinating Council – Part C

Term: 8/23/01 – POG

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Members as of July 2007

<http://www.denvergov.org/PartC/2051aboutus.asp>

Inclusion of Kids, Families, and Consumers

Yes, see member description above.

Authority

The Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS)/Division for Developmental Disabilities (DDD) was designated by Governor's Executive Order as the new lead agency for Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Partnerships with other planning groups

- The Denver Interagency Coordinating Council
- The Colorado Developmental Disabilities Council
- The Colorado Developmental Disabilities Council Multicultural Committee
- JFK advisory committee

Colorado Interagency Coordinating Council – Part C

- Head Start/Early Head Start Children With Special Needs Task Force
- Co-Chair Colorado 360 Project

Support (financial and in-kind)

Colorado Department of Human Services, Division for Developmental Disabilities, Early Childhood Connections Program

Sources

Early Childhood Connections Website. (2007) Colorado Interagency Coordinating Council webpage. Retrieved December 11th, 2007 from

<http://www.earlychildhoodconnections.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=service.content&linkid=89>

Colorado Interagency Council on Homelessness

Mission Statement

To plan, develop, and implement a coordinated and integrated response that ends homelessness by:

- Identifying and eliminating barriers to accessing and receiving culturally competent mainstream services within the present system;
- Reducing duplication of services;
- Uniting mainstream public and private homeless service providers across the State in an ongoing effort to break the cycle of homelessness and help homeless persons achieve and maintain maximum self-sufficiency;
- Creating a homeless service delivery system whereby homeless persons can access the government and private services they need to reach their maximum potential.

Vision Statement

We envision a Colorado where our communities including public and private sectors have united and collaborated to make homelessness a rare and brief experience that does not cross into future generations.

Goals, Past, Planned, and Ongoing Activities, combined

The Colorado Interagency Council on Homelessness was created on October 28, 2003 through Executive Order of Governor Bill Owens to serve as an advisory body to the Governor on housing needs and homeless issues. The council is co-chaired by Marva Livingston Hammons, Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Human Services, and Brian Vogt, Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Local Affairs. Members of the council include: government and elected officials, foundations, non-profit housing and homeless providers, business representatives, and representatives from Colorado State Departments that serve homeless populations. The council has developed two strategic plans that include the following priorities and action items focused on improving access to housing and services for persons who are homeless.

Chronic Homeless Plan for Individuals with Disabilities

Priority #1: Expand and Maximize Service Resources

- Expanding substance abuse services;
- Expanding mental health services; and
- Expanding health resources.

Priority #2: Expand and Maximize Housing Resources

- Supporting and promoting housing legislation;
- Determining new homeless programs or projects;
- Expanding residential housing options for homeless persons with mental illness, substance abuse issues, and co-occurring disorders; and

Colorado Interagency Council on Homelessness

- Expanding housing development in the public and private sectors.

Priority #3: Improve Cross System Policies, Planning and Services

- Improve intake and assessment processes and procedures;
- Prepare for federal changes to McKinney Act funding; and
- Improve statewide planning and policy development on the delivery of housing and services to persons who are homeless.

Priority #4: Increase Access to Mainstream Resources

- Expand and develop creative outreach procedures;
- Improve processes and procedures for obtaining SSI, Medicaid, and VA, TANF, Workforce Investment Act, and CHP+ benefits;
- Develop new processes in bringing people into the SSI system;
- Improve discharge-planning procedures across institutions;
- Develop effective pathways to accessing Medicaid benefits;
- Develop integrated treatment programs for persons with co-occurring disorders; and
- Address transportation issues for persons trying to access mental health and substance abuse treatment.

Priority #5: Develop an Outreach and Education Campaign to Reduce the Stigma of Homelessness

- Educate elected officials, policy makers, mainstream providers, and local providers regarding the special needs of the homeless and system cross-over issues; and
- Develop programs and projects that reduce stigmas attached to persons who are homeless, including those with special needs.

Homeless Families and Unaccompanied Youth Plan

Priority #1: Obtain baseline data to capture numbers and situations to better create and allocate resources to those specific situations.

- Strategy 1.1 - Create a comprehensive database that includes public, private, non-profit resources, services, and housing for the homeless population.
- Strategy 1.2 - Implement a comprehensive HMIS Data System.

Priority #2: Target housing resources for homeless families to get them into appropriate long term housing as quickly as possible.

- Strategy 2.1 - Develop Rapid Re-entry/Housing First approach for homeless families.
- Strategy 2.2 - Increase resources to support Housing First Model.

Priority #3: Develop a seamless, coordinated, interagency process that improves access to mainstream services for homeless families and unaccompanied youth.

- Strategy 3.1 - Increase easier access to the array of public and private services needed by homeless families.

Colorado Interagency Council on Homelessness

- Action 3.1.1 - Use assistance center approach as a diversion option as well as an appropriate placement locator process.
- Action 3.1.2 - Create a “One Stop” Family Assistance Center Model – including education, employment, Food Stamps, training, Work force Center, etc...
- Action 3.1.3 - Create “Family Connection” teams include public/private to help mentor families to achieve success.
- Action 3.1.4 Blend housing practices and funding sources i.e. career development, job training, TANF, Food Stamps, Medicaid, SSA/SSI, etc...
- Action 3.1.4 - Blend housing Action 3.1.5 - Provide technical assistance and training for homeless providers to build greater capacity.
- Action 3.1.6 - One Child, One School, One Year. Foster cross-agency collaboration with McKinney district liaisons to increase awareness, access and stability of homeless students.

Priority #4: Recommend the development of a comprehensive statewide homeless plan that incorporates the family homeless plan.

- Action 4.1 - Develop a comprehensive statewide homeless plan that incorporates the family homeless plan with the existing plan for chronic homelessness.

The priorities and strategies developed by the council are being further developed and implemented through the hard work of the following six sub-committees:

1. Mental Health, Substance Abuse, Health and Integrated Treatment (MSHI)
2. Housing Development
3. Benefits Acquisition
4. Families and Children
5. Discharge Planning
6. Education

Website/Contact Information

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Subcommittees

Mental Health, Substance Abuse, Health and Integrated Treatment Committee
Housing Development Committee
Benefits Acquisition Committee
Discharge Planning Committee
Homeless Families with Children and Unaccompanied Youth Committee
Education Committee