

## Pennsylvania System of Care Partnership

### Logistics

**Name of Coordinating Body:** State Leadership and Management Team for the Pennsylvania System of Care Partnership (PA SOC Partnership), Safe Schools/Healthy Students Partnership and Healthy Transitions Partnership

**Administrative Home:** Department of Human Services

**Staffing:** The Partnership's staff consists of staff associated with the funded initiatives, as well as dedicated time from key staff at state-level entities.

**Funding:** The Pennsylvania System of Care Partnership, Safe Schools/Healthy Students Partnership and Healthy Transitions Partnership are funded through cooperative agreements with the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

**Membership:** At the state level, youth and family leaders, in equal partnership with system leaders, oversee all county-level activities and tackle challenges that many counties face, such as financing, policy development, regulatory barriers, strategic issues and resource issues that stand in the way of system reform.

The State Leadership and Management Team (SLMT) includes eight systems partner representatives, four youth partners, and four family partners. The Partnership's success rests on systems integration. As such, the following state agencies are represented on the SLMT: (1) Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Children's Bureau, (2) Juvenile Court Judges Commission, (3) Department of Human Services, Office of Children Youth and Families, (4) Office of Child Development and Early Learning, (5) Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network (Department of Education), (6) Department of Drug and Alcohol Services and (7) Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts.

### Structure

The Partnership has three subcommittees: Social Marketing; Cultural and Linguistic Competency; and Evaluation and Continuous Quality Improvement. Each subcommittee is composed of youth partners, family partners and system partners representing counties, state agencies and other stakeholders. The subcommittees provide additional emphasis on these important aspects of the integrated work.

At the county level, youth, family leaders and system partners, in equal partnership, assess their county's strengths and challenges against the defined System of Care standards. They establish priorities for improvement and establish action plans to achieve their goals. System of Care staff are available to provide each county with training, technical assistance, support and evaluation based on their unique needs. Similar processes are being developed with the new initiatives under the state coordinating body.

Mechanisms have been established for collaborative learning experiences across the implementation efforts at the local level. These include regular webinars, and statewide learning institutes and trainings.

### History

**Year & Method of Establishment:** The SLMT was first convened in 2009 to address the Pennsylvania System of Care efforts. The membership and role of the SLMT has evolved to address additional integration efforts.

**Vision:** Every youth and family in Pennsylvania will be able to access and navigate a unified network of effective services and supports that are structured in adherence to System of Care Values and Principles.

The System of Care Partnership has developed the following standards to inform its work:

- Equal partnership on leadership teams
- Youth-driven
- Family-driven
- Integration of child-serving systems

- Valuing natural and community supports
- Assuring cultural and linguistic competence
- Youth and Family Services and Supports Planning Process
- Continuous Quality Improvement
- Community of Practice on School Based Behavioral Health - Safe Schools/Healthy Students: [www.papbs.org](http://www.papbs.org)

### Current Work

Each of the integration efforts has established strategic plans and logic models as a framework, defining the expected results and outcomes. The State Leadership and Management Team and the staff of the various partnerships continually consider ways to leverage the shared outcomes across the separate initiatives.

### Priority Projects/Initiatives

The Partnership's statewide cooperative agreement is one of many System of Care communities throughout the country working to bring youth leaders, family leaders and system leaders together in equal partnership to integrate the child-serving systems, so that desired outcomes are achieved cost effectively through evidenced-based practice and natural supports.

### Accomplishments

Pennsylvania has strategically linked other integration efforts at the state level through shared leadership teams and integrated administrative structures.

### Contact Information

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### Links

- Pennsylvania Recovery: [www.parecovery.org](http://www.parecovery.org)
- Youth & Family Training Institute: [www.yftipa.org](http://www.yftipa.org)
- PA Families, Inc.: [pafamiliesinc.org](http://pafamiliesinc.org)