



Mason Thurston
System of Care Partnership (SOCP)
Regional Family Youth System Round Table Partnership
February 26, 2021 Summary Meeting Notes

A System Tri-lead called the meeting to order and made the following requests and announcement for participants to:

- ***mute their phone when they are not speaking;***
- ***raise their hand using Zoom or on video and say their name before speaking; and***
- ***avoid over-talking by waiting for others to finish speaking.***

The System Tri-lead asked the convener to read through the roster to sign in participants.

A Co-System Tri-lead then read the vision and mission statements, followed by the eight part comfort agreement.

A Co-Family Tri-lead read the goals of the day listed below;

- Share Wraparound with Intensive Services (WISe) outcome data and information.
- Share behavioral health assessments document workgroup update and ask for input.
- Discuss sharing of behavioral health services matrix.
- Offer time for sharing new or existing program updates, questions and comments.

A Co-Family Tri-lead asked for the behavioral health assessments documents to be displayed. She then explained that the workgroup had made some wording changes and is now requesting approval of the document. Here are some of the responses from parents, schools, providers and other participants:

Parent: I like it.

Educational Service District: Thank you for the patience and persistence of all the workgroup members!

Child Welfare: I vote to approve. YAY!!!

School District: Agree!

Provider: I think this looks great!

Parent: Approve

School District: I vote to approve.

Provider: Approve

Juvenile Rehabilitation: I approve.

Provider: Approve

Health Plan: I approve, it looks great!

Administrative Services Organization: Approve

African American Advocate: Approve – great job!

Parent: I approve this.

Parent: I approve this.

Mason Juvenile Court: I like it. Great job!

Parent: Woo Hoo!!!

Parent & Youth: EXCITING

A Co-Family Tri-lead then announced that updates for the area of focus for Increased Representation of Marginalized Populations' and here are some highlights:

- An advocate for LGBTQIA, houseless issues and survivors of suicide has agreed to join the SOCP. The convener attempted a definition of the acronym as Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgender, Questioning, Intersex, Asexual and a participant told the group the A was for Allied. (Note: Various definitions can be found and individuals may want to use other definitions as they evolve.)
- Cielo Programs is making a change in representatives due to a scheduling conflict.
- Parent advocates for protected population related to domestic violence. Here are some notes from the parents who shared their story as well as discussion highlights:
 - There are protected populations under the Secretary of State that include families experiencing domestic violence, sexual assault victims, individuals who have been trafficked and others. Some of the protections include a 99 year protection order and mail re-routed to an Olympia post office box. Protections are also open to state workers who have been harassed.
 - Victims bear the brunt of keeping themselves and their families safe and their family has had to 13 times. She mentioned there has been a direct threat to a school and it went into lockdown. Victims can go to the police, Safe Place, Monarch and the prosecutor's office. Here are a few links about places discussed:
 - <http://monarchcjac.org/>
 - <https://www.safeplaceolympia.org/>
 - <https://www.dawsonplace.org/>
 - <https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/pao/Pages/family-justice-center.aspx>
 - <https://www.co.mason.wa.us/prosecutor/legal-advice.php>
 - It is challenging to apply for state assistance (financial, TANF, etc...) because of paper trails and some can pursue the father for child support. Dad has found the family several times.
 - Family participant from the Skokomish Tribe mentioned that they had used a system (red file) that meant child support is not to be involved.
 - There are things that fall through and their address has been given up by schools, truancy courts, a breach by Housing Authority and this situation requires good advocacy skills on the part of the victim(s). There are Skyward do's and don'ts.

- Mason county juvenile court participant says they have or will have a Community Engagement Board instead of Truancy Court, but if they are aware of confidentiality – to not disclose then they will honor that.
 - There was a question from a parent about case management, but there is none.
- The parent said that it is hard getting a name change and going to the social security office. A new re-registration is required every two years in writing within 10 days.
 - A provider participant (Educational Service District 113) said that they do not need an address for their behavioral health services and can use the agency address.
 - A parent participant shared that their extended family was in a similar situation and has moved but used a post office box instead of a street address. Thanked the other parent for sharing.
- Then the other parent shared her story. She was forced to co-parent with her abuser due to red tape and her abuser received less than two weeks of anger management. She was looked at as a bad mom.
- She shared that her kids have separation anxiety and anger, plus her 9 year old has potty training issues.
- She has used three different addresses but had to give additional address due to court barriers.
- Kids' passive symptoms have to be explained to behavioral health providers. This is because they haven't processed what has happened and they need trauma based therapy. Behavior repeats itself due to post traumatic stress disorder. These things create barriers to behavioral health services.
 - Cielo Programs explained they can provide services and don't require insurance. Website: <https://www.cieloprograms.org/> Contacts: Ramona Ramirez-Weza ramona@cieloprograms.org Director of Client Services or call reception at 360-709-0931.

A Co-Youth Tri-lead then asked if there were any questions about COVID, access to services and increases in cost of medications for the health plans.

- Questions from families about barriers to getting help for routine health problems prompted an offer for a local pediatrician to come to the next meeting.
 - A parent mentioned that Multiple Sclerosis symptoms are like cold and flu.
 - A parent was re-routed to a COVID center when they were trying to get help for a routine health issue.
- The convener asked for an update from providers and schools related to COVID and access to education services.
 - The Educational Service District 113 behavioral health services are continuing to provide in-person and virtual services. Both offer a COVID screener via attestation about COVID symptoms and they do not require a COVID test.

- Youth prefer in-person and virtual services are not a favorite modality. Only 5% are using telehealth.
 - Telehealth training is under emergency rules with options extended but ending on 4/20/21. Feds provide 60 days notice but with the pandemic this will be extended through the end of 2021.
 - Centers for Medicare and Medicaid have waived in-person assessments for services and won't take action if there are violations as long as there is good faith.
 - Washington state legislature passed legislation, approved telehealth training.
- SeaMar offers a hybrid model with telehealth services and an option to come in-person.
- Squaxin Island Tribe behavioral health outpatient services are doing both telehealth and in-person, depending on client preference and provider availability for individual sessions. Substance Use Disorder treatment groups are telehealth.
- Cielo Programs are 95% virtual and in-person is on a case by case basis.
- Catholic Community Services is very flexible and providing in-person services. If any symptoms appear, they go remote. Crisis services are wide open/available.
- North Mason, North Thurston and Olympia schools are working on a phase-in of in-person classes starting with elementary students. Olympia is maintaining an option so students can still engage in fully remote services. North Thurston says some students receiving special education services are coming in person and others are fully remote. The district is not providing simultaneous Zoom and in-person.
 - A parent commented that their son has health issues and does better with online school services. This led to comments from the North Mason Schools participant:
 - Students with special needs can be accommodated depending on staffing. Challenges with staffing in-person and online at the same time. Zoom with live classroom doesn't interact well. Suggests working with case manager. The IEP determines instruction.
 - The hybrid with two days a week in person is for general ed students.
- A Co-Family Tri-lead mentioned that the Washington State Community Connectors held a training on how to check to see how you are doing during the pandemic related to mental health.
- There were comments about dual coverage.
 - The child welfare participant commented that Medicaid is the payer of last resort.
 - The Molina participant agreed and added that you have to exhaust all other forms of insurance before activating Medicaid and provided her email: Alicia.molina@molinahealthcare.com

- A parent said that therapy groups are popping up online and there are wait lists. It is hard to wait. More waiting for non-Medicaid families.
- Another parent mentioned there may be challenges after transitioning out of WISE.
- The Educational Services District 113 participant mentioned that there are differences in services for Medicaid eligible youth and those not eligible for Medicaid.
- The convener mentioned that Catholic Community Services had some openings available for youth without Medicaid, but there is currently a wait list. Multisystemic Therapy services are full with youth not eligible for Medicaid but their service is time limited and that creates availability. There are immediate openings for Transition Age WISE for Medicaid eligible youth at Community Youth Services and short waits for WISE at Catholic Community Services for Medicaid eligible youth.

A Co-Youth Tri-lead asked the group if they had any program updates or anything to share.

- The convener shared this statement from the parent who is a member of the state Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC) and could not be present because their meetings conflict with SOCP meetings:
 - The DDC is making final revisions to the draft of its 5-year state plan that will be submitted to the Federal Government later this spring. Perhaps some of the members of the SOCP participated in providing input. The Council created a workgroup with yours truly as the chair to develop a framework that would be used to create and evaluate council policies and initiatives around equity, diversity and inclusion. The framework is being used to engage council members and state planning committee members in ensuring that the state plan's goals reflect the values of collaboration and coordination with stakeholders, advocacy for legislation and policies that remove barriers to access, and creating meaningful pathways for persons with DD and IDD to experience integrated lives in the community.

On the legislative front, there are a number of bills that the Council is tracking during this year's legislative session related to education, sub-minimum wages, ABLE accounts, etc. <https://www.washingtonstateable.com/>

Link to the Arc of Washington State Bills of Interest shared by convener since no link was shared and typically the Arc and the DDC advocate together along with families: https://arcwa.org/2021_session/
- The Co-Youth Tri-lead mentioned the youth only online group and additional efforts he is making to engage youth. He also shared his contact information: sebas.compton15@gmail.com
- The convener shared for United Healthcare since the participant was not there, that the state is encouraging referrals to WISE for youth ages 18-20.

A Co-Youth Tri-lead then adjourned the meeting, after thanking everyone for their participation and announced the next meeting would be on March 26th.