



CONNECTing

Transforming Children's Services in Connecticut

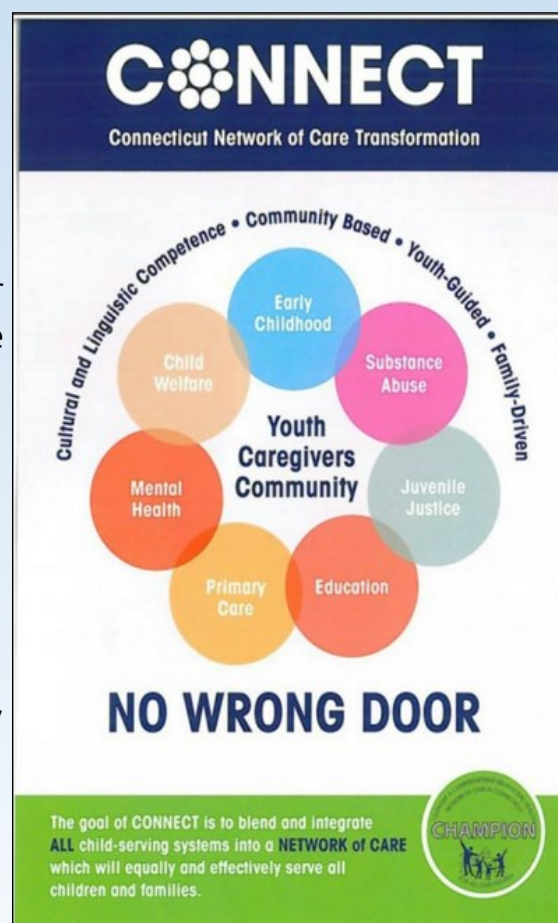
ISSUE JAN 2016.1

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- ◆ Motivational Interviewing
- ◆ Provider Fair
- ◆ Social Marketing
- ◆ Transformation Teams
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- ◆ Data Corner
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Welcome to the first edition of CONNECTing. The Care Management Entity (CME) program at Beacon Health Options is launching this quarterly newsletter to keep providers and families informed about community events, CONNECT grant activities, and the progress on our shared goal to integrate Connecticut's child-serving systems. We appreciate your input, feedback and collaboration.

WHAT IS CONNECT?

The Connecticut Network of Care Transformation (CONNECT) is a statewide initiative to create a partnership between families, state agencies, and service providers at the local, regional and state levels to develop a "No Wrong Door" approach to the delivery of children's behavioral health care. The enhanced partnership supports children, youth, and families in accessing the services they need in a timely and effective manner through an integrated network of care. CONNECT has six statewide Transformation Teams: Family Engagement Team, Cultural and Linguistic Competency Development Team, Communication and Social Marketing, Network of Care Analysis, Data Integration, and Workforce Development.





CME trained in Motivational Interviewing

The CME team along with other Beacon Health staff were trained in Motivational Interviewing (MI) in November. Dr. Jonathan Fader is a licensed clinical psychologist and team psychologist for the NY Mets baseball team and is certified as a consultant by the Association for Applied Sport Psychology. Dr. Fader has over fifteen years of experience as a Motivational Interviewing trainer and has participated in the “Training for Trainers” program, making him part of the nationally recognized Motivational Interviewing Network of Trainers.

Motivational Interviewing, often referred to as MI, is an effective way of talking to people about making changes in their lives and will be incorporated into the services provided to the children and families served by the CME. MI helps staff gain an understanding of our members’ perspectives on changes and the ambivalence that often accompanies change. This empathetic, collaborative and affirming approach can often facilitate a family’s own reasons for change. Participants had very enthusiastic feedback on the trainer and the counseling approach.

“I learned that MI is all about understanding a person’s WHY”
Jules C.

“MI training was one of the most useful tools I have learned in my career thus far!” - Dana F.

“I am still thinking about the MI training weeks later and implementing it in my daily life. “ - Jillian T.

“ It was a great reminder that one does not need to have the answers to help others, as listening, empathy and connection can support meaningful change.”- Drew L.



Torrington Police Chief Michael Maniago addressing local service providers and guests. (Picture from Register Citizen)

Torrington Provider Fair

Police Chief's Community Action Committee in the town of Torrington, CT organized a very successful provider fair in early November. CONNECT and FAVOR along with over thirty area providers came together to present information about their programs and services. The story was featured in the Torrington Register Citizen. For more details visit <http://tinyurl.com/zbtyn8>

"From my perspective, this was such a tremendously helpful event," said Torrington Mayor Elinor Carbone "All around, a

Statewide Care Coordination

A Statewide Care Coordination Meeting was held on 11/18/15 at the Milford DCF Office. The meeting provided Care Coordinators throughout the state with an opportunity to meet and share resources that help Connecticut families succeed.



Social Marketing Webinar

SOCIAL MARKETING

Techniques can include:

- ◆ Community outreach
- ◆ Direct Mailings
- ◆ Advertising
- ◆ Partnership Development
- ◆ Holding Events
- ◆ Marketing Materials
- ◆ and Social Media.

A Social Marketing 101 Webinar was held on 11/23 at Beacon Health Options. Social marketing focuses on changing awareness, attitudes, and behaviors as they relate to advancing social causes. Social marketing has been used to address many of the world's most pressing issues spanning from public health to public safety to environmentalism.

The webinar was hosted by CHDI through the CONNECT grant and was facilitated by two national technical assistance providers: Tim Tunner, Ph.D., MSW, Project Coordinator at the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD) and Leah Holmes-Bonilla, National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD).

Transformation Team Updates

Workforce Development

The Connecticut Network of Care Transformation are holding “Agents of Transformation” (NOC -AOT) trainings throughout Connecticut. The trainings engage caregivers and parents in becoming the voice for children and a force for positive change in their communities and the state. Contact your regional FAVOR Family Systems Manager, listed below, for more details.



Maguena Adetona Southwest	203-521-7953	madetona@favor-ct.org
Jacquese Patterson Southcentral	203-707-0740	jpatterson@favor-ct.org
Lorna Grivois Eastern	860-573-0689	lgrivois@favor-ct.org
Manuel Maldonado Northcentral	860-706-4454	mmaldonado@favor-ct.org
Patricia Gaylord Western	203-598-6272	pgaylord@favor-ct.org
Nydia Dominguez Central	203-623-0378	ndominguez@favor-ct.org

Communication and Social Marketing

The WRAPCT.org website is being updated in layout and content. Representatives from the Marketing and Social Media CONNECT workgroup, Ann Petitti and Taylor Ford, have been working with a web designer to add a CONNECT page, update community collaborative information and add functionality to the calendar and training registration. Also, follow us on Facebook at Connecticut Network of Care Transformation page.



Data Nook

The CONNECT Data Integration and Coordination Workgroup is working on developing a data dashboard that will integrate data from multiple state systems and will allow the user to view data by town or region. The data will be available to each regional Network of Care (NOC) to examine data from various interest areas such as: population/census, behavioral health, education, juvenile justice, and child welfare. The workgroup met seven times in 2015 and, at year's end, its scope was expanded to become the "Statewide Data Integration Workgroup." The team is excited to move forward in the coming year and is currently planning regional data trainings with the Yale Consultation Center for the Spring of 2016. For more information about this workgroup, please visit www.wrapct.org. Relevant updates will be posted on the CONNECT/Data Integration page of the website.



CONNECT Champion for 2015

Isaac Gonzalez received our first **CONNECT Champion of the Year Award**. The award was presented at the Statewide Council of Collaboratives Meeting held on 12/4/15. Isaac was recognized for his excellence, devotion and determination in advancing family advocacy and "family voice" within the child-serving services in Connecticut. Many congratulations and thanks go out to Isaac for all his good work.

Upcoming Events:

World Autism Awareness Day raises an awareness of issues surrounding people, particularly children, with autism worldwide. World Autism Awareness Day is Saturday, April 2, 2016.

May is Mental Health Month an annual observance to raise awareness of mental health and to promote mental wellness. Throughout the month, agencies across the state host events in their communities to educate and promote mental wellness.





CONNECTing

Transforming Children's Services in Connecticut

ISSUE APRIL 2016.2

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WHAT IS CONNECT?

The Connecticut Network of Care Transformation (CONNECT) is a statewide initiative to create a partnership among families, state agencies, and service providers at the local, regional and state levels to develop a “No Wrong Door” approach to the delivery of children’s services within Connecticut.

CONNECT’s Statewide Transformation Teams

CONNECT has six statewide Transformation Teams: Family Engagement Team, Cultural and Linguistic Competency Development Team, Communication and Social Marketing, Network of Care Analysis, Data Integration, and Workforce Development. In this issue, we will introduce each team and its focus. In future issues, we will provide updates on the work being done by each group.



CONNECT Statewide Transformation Teams



Family Engagement Action Team (FEAT)

FEAT teams are youth and family leaders in our communities that work to ensure that child-serving systems are family-driven, youth-guided, and culturally and linguistically competent. These youth and family champions also guide statewide policy by providing input and sharing strategies for best serving the families in their communities.

“The beauty of the world lies in the diversity of its people” - anonymous



Cultural and Linguistic Competency Development Team

This team is responsible for developing, planning, and implementing a statewide process for incorporating Enhanced Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) Standards within the Network of Care in Connecticut. CLAS Standards are guidelines that inform, guide, and facilitate practices related to culturally and linguistically appropriate health services. If you would like additional information regarding the Standards, visit the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health website:

<http://www.minorityhealth.hhs.gov>.

CONNECT Statewide Transformation Teams

Communication and Social Marketing Team

Social marketing focuses on changing awareness, attitudes, and behaviors as they relate to advancing social causes. Our Communication and Social Marketing Team is tasked with increasing awareness of the Network of Care and its principles as well as increasing awareness of behavioral health needs and services. The team has been working on enhancing the WrapCT.org website and sharing information through the social media webpage. Visit and follow the “**Connecticut Network of Care Transformation**” page on Facebook for updates, events, resources and much more at



<https://www.facebook.com/CT.CONNECT.champions/?fref=ts> .

Network Analysis Team

The Network Analysis team is gathering information on the current level of connectedness of the child-serving community throughout Connecticut. The team is working on developing a landscape of the current service systems including: their integration, communication and collaboration with the goal of enhancing community partnerships. The team is working in collaboration with the CT Children’s Behavioral Health Plan Network Analysis team to complete this very extensive task.

*Teamwork makes the
Dream Work*



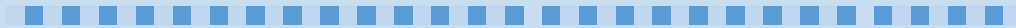
CONNECT Statewide Transformation Teams

Data Integration Team



The purpose of the Statewide Data Integration Team is to strengthen the process for collecting, integrating, and sharing data across child-serving sectors. The goal of this team is to make data more accessible, more collaborative, and more useful through a family-driven process to transform data integration at the state level. This forum

provides an opportunity for families, providers, and state agency partners to meet regularly to share and track data needs, strengths, gaps, and interests in building capacity for an integrated statewide system.



Workforce Development Team

The Workforce Development Team is responsible for the implementation of a training and mentoring program to promote the values of the Network of Care and the Wraparound model. The focus is on engaging family leaders and developing opportunities for them to share their knowledge and voices in the development of family-driven and youth-guided systems of care in Connecticut. Thus far, nearly 300 family members have been trained through the Agents of Transformation training with numerous upcoming trainings scheduled in the coming months.

Trainings and Conferences

29th Annual Research & Policy on Child, Adolescent and Young Adult Behavioral Health Conference

Connecticut CONNECT leaders: Tim Marshall (Department of Children and Families), Jeana Bracey (Child Health & Development Institute of CT, Inc.), Susan Graham (Family Champion), and Joy Kaufman (Yale University) presented a paper entitled, “Impact of Community-Based Participatory Research in a Children’s Mental Health Network of Care” at the National 29th Annual Research & Policy on Child, Adolescent and Young Adult Behavioral Health Conference.



Presenters (Left to right): Tim Marshall (Department of Children and Families), Jeana Bracey (Child Health & Development Institute), Susan Graham (Family Champion) and Joy Kaufman (Yale University) .

Persuasive Storytelling

Family leaders, FAVOR and CME staff attended a two-day, Persuasive Storytelling training held January 20-21, 2016. Stories help people connect with their audience on an emotional level. Stories convey key information in a way that is remembered and helps persuade an audience to take action. This is true for both spoken and written stories as well as the stories told with data. The training helped participants learn how to incorporate their personal stories in public speaking situations to help reduce stigma and increase awareness of children’s mental health issues.



“You are the expert on your story. People have to come hear you tell it.”— Taylor Ford

Family Champions



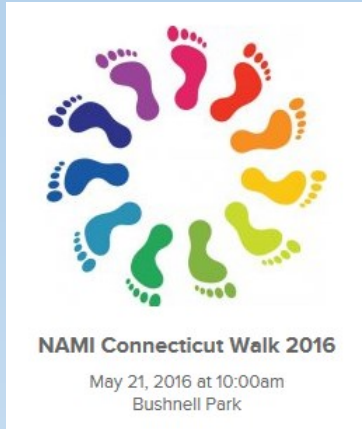
Family Champions and Leaders

Family Leaders developed and delivered an “Integrated Service System: Network of Care” presentation for western Connecticut. The leaders pictured above include (left to right): Patricia Gaylord (FAVOR), Maureen O’Neill-Davis (Parent), Carol Roberts (Parent), and Susan Graham (CONNECT). The information was first presented to area providers in Danbury on February 26, 2016 and then to family members at a Family Leadership Brunch held in Waterbury on March 2, 2016. The speakers set forth the rationale for transforming the children’s service systems and a vision for the future. The presentation was well-received by both audiences and generated an abundance of ideas and discussion. Congratulations to our families on their success. If your region is interested in a similar event, contact the FAVOR Family Systems Manager in your area for more detail.



Community Corner

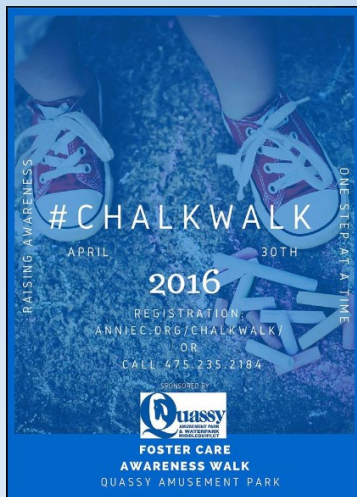
Upcoming Events:



May is Mental Health Awareness Month. It is a time to raise awareness of mental health and to promote mental wellness. CONNECT is partnering with organizations to host mental health awareness activities throughout the state.

NAMI Walk

Sign up for the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) Walk on May 21, 2016 at Bushnell Park in Hartford. Join the many walkers “Stepping Toward Hope & Wellness”.

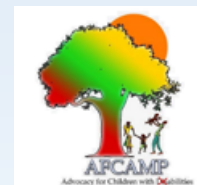


CHALK WALK

May is also National Foster Care Month. The Annie C. Courtney Foundation is hosting a Chalk Walk on April 30th at Quassy Amusement Park to raise awareness about foster care and adoption. You can register at www.Anniec.org/chalkwalk/



Happy Spring !!!





CONNECTing

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Pictured to the right (left to right: Mary Jo Meyers, Susan Graham, Beresford Wilson, Tim Marshall, Dr. Jeff Vanderploeg, Kristina Stevens, Knute Rotto, Patricia Gaylord).

Pictured below: Beresford Wilson and Susan Graham



WHAT IS CONNECT?

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"Helping Children and Youth Succeed" was the focus of a half-day event held on June 29th by the Department of Children and Families (DCF). Michael Williams, DCF Deputy Commissioner, and Tim Marshall, DCF Behavioral Health Clinical Manager,

welcomed DCF staff, family champions, CONNECT leadership, Intensive Care Coordination staff, and community leaders to discuss system development and statewide data initiatives. The presentations focused on the theme, "Where We Were, What We've Done, and Where We Are Going." Presenters included: Tyler Kleykamp, the Chief Data Officer of the Office of Policy Management; Michelle Riordan-Nold, the Director of the CT Data Collaborative; Knute Rotto, Chief Executive Officer for Beacon Health Options CT; and Mary Jo Meyers, Consultant for Wraparound among many other distinguished speakers.

CONNECT Statewide Transformation Team Updates

CONNECT Transformation Teams: Family Engagement Action Team, Cultural and Linguistic Competency Development Team, Communication & Social Marketing , Network of Care Analysis, Data Integration, and Workforce Development.

Family Engagement Action Team (FEAT)

FEAT teams are in the statewide development process. FAVOR will be coordinating meetings with alumni of the Network of Care – Agents of Transformation training (NOC-AOT). The families will be meeting to discuss how they can impact system change. Additional training opportunities for families will include Persuasive Storytelling and Data 101. Trainings can be scheduled by contacting FAVOR, Inc. at 860-563-3232.



Cultural and Linguistic Competency Development Team

The Cultural and Linguistic Development Team is currently wrapping up the final phase of a six-month pilot with 12 agencies across the state. The agencies were asked to identify areas for improvement related to health disparities. A second phase, which will include 14 more agencies, will be starting in August. Based on the results, a workgroup of families and providers will be tasked with developing, planning, and implementing a statewide process for incorporating Enhanced Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) Standards. The CLAS standards help to ensure that care is provided in an effective, equitable, understandable, and respectful way to diverse cultures. Link to: <https://www.thinkculturalhealth.hhs.gov/content/clas.asp> for more information on the national standards.



CONNECT Statewide Transformation Teams

Communication and Social Marketing Team

The Communication and Social Marketing Team played a vital role in organizing and coordinating a variety of mental health awareness events during May which is designated as National Mental Health Awareness Month. The events increased awareness and reduced stigma about mental health. The activities are being submitted to the 2017 Excellence in Community Communications and Outreach (ECCO) Recognition Program along with SAMHSA's National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day 2016. In addition, this Team has been collaborating with the Data Integration and the Workforce Development teams on spreading the word about the CONNECT data portal and parent leadership trainings, respectively.



Network Analysis Team

The combined PA 13-178 and CONNECT Network Analysis workgroup supports the goal of gaining a better understanding of partners in the child-serving systems and how these systems coordinate and integrate their efforts. The workgroup has been concentrating on four groups of providers: behavioral health providers, pediatric/primary care providers, schools and families. Surveys have been developed for the behavioral health group which will be distributed regionally to the providers during the summer. A separate collaboration survey will be distributed to pediatric providers in August. A network analysis of the schools is in the planning phase. Family and consumer feedback is also an integral part of network analysis and there is a plan to host community forums to gain this valuable input.

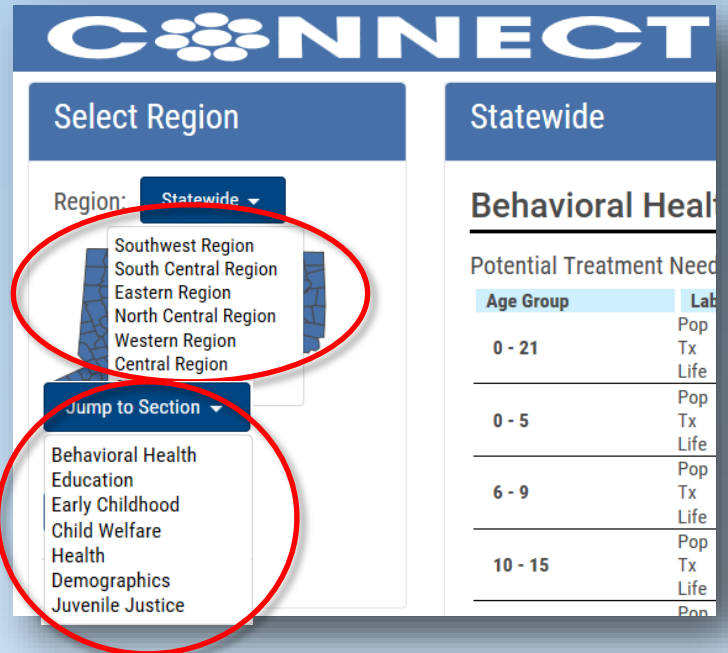


**"Coming together
is a
BEGINNING
Keeping together is
PROGRESS
Working together
is
SUCCESS"**

CONNECT Statewide Transformation Teams

Data Integration Team

The Statewide Data Integration Team went live with the CONNECT data dashboards website in May. The website will serve as a central data portal for a number of the child-serving systems. The CT Data Collaborative assisted in the technical development of this website. The Team now intends to explore additional data sets and opportunities for sharing during the next several months. They are seeking input for the types of information that providers, families, and communities would find helpful. Visit the site at <http://connect.ctdata.org>.



Workforce Development Team

The Workforce Development Team is working on integrating the Data 101 and Persuasive Storytelling trainings with the Agents of Transformation training to create a Family Champion Curriculum. In addition, the Workforce Development Team is collaborating with the Cultural and Linguistic Competency Development Team to train families on the CLAS Standards. The families who are trained will be a resource for guiding the system towards cultural and linguistically appropriate care.



Mental Health Awareness: May 2016

Raising Awareness & Raising Hope



Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) held a live broadcast from Washington DC entitled, "Finding Help, Finding Hope." A local viewing was hosted by Beacon Health Options in Rocky Hill, CT.

In May, CONNECT partnered with a variety of providers around the state to help raise awareness and reduce stigma about mental health. The events were held in observance of Mental Health Awareness Month. Read on for details of each event!



Annie C. Courtney Foundation's first annual foster care awareness walk on April 30th. The "Chalkwalk" trail included inspirational quotes about the experience of foster care.



Parent Teacher Association Council held their 4th Annual Health and Wellness Fair at the Bailey Middle School gymnasium.



Let's Dance! A ZUMBA FLASH MOB held in Bushnell Park in Hartford, CT on May 7th.



Mental Health Awareness: May 2016

Raising Awareness & Raising Hope

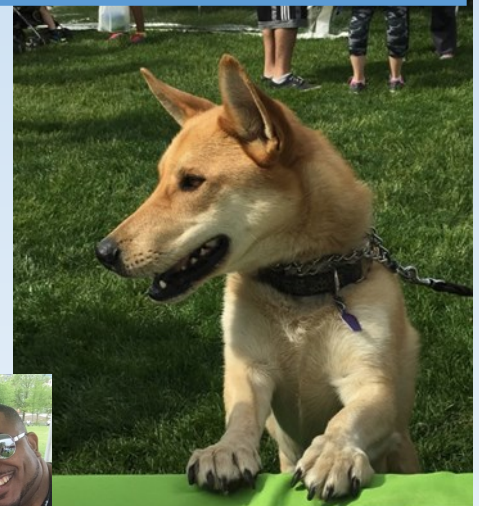


“Laugh for the Health of It” and “Young Adult Meet Up!” offered an hour of laughter and exercise. The event was co-hosted by Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR) and TurningPointCT on May 13th in Bridgeport.

Drug Awareness for Parents: Opioids 101, held on May 9th in Shelton, provided families with information and resources related to the recent opioid epidemic in the U.S.

A 5K and 10K Race for Mental Health was hosted by the Community Health Center in Hubbard Park in Meriden on May 7th.

A Family and Community Expo held in Willimantic on May 21st included education, food, music, and more.



NAMI WALK held on May 21st at Bushnell Park

NAMI CT is Connecticut's largest grassroots mental health organization. The NAMI Walk theme this year was “Stepping Toward Hope and Wellness”. The Walk serves as the organization's largest annual fundraiser and main source of funds needed to provide all their programs free of charge. Thanks to all the Beacon Health Options walkers, both two-legged and four-legged.



Community Corner

Upcoming Events:

The Second Annual iCAN Conference is scheduled for September 22, 2016. The iCAN Conference, hosted by the Consumer and Family Advisory Subcommittee in conjunction with the Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership, is a true demonstration of how partnerships can enhance services and care for families and individuals within our state. Call 860-263-2442 or register online at: CTBHP@BeaconHealthOptions.com

For sponsorship information or to host a provider table, please contact Yvonne Jones, Customer Service Manager at 860-263-2020 or by email at: yvonne.jones@beaconhealthoptions.com



2nd Annual iCAN Conference
"DEMONSTRATING TRUE PARTNERSHIPS"
THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2016
THE ARTISTS COLLECTIVE
1200 ALBANY AVENUE
HARTFORD, CT 06112
8:30AM - 3:00PM
Breakfast & Lunch Included!

Seating is limited. To attend the conference, you must reserve a seat before September 4, 2016. To reserve a seat, please call (860)263-2442 or email CTBHP@BeaconHealthOptions.com.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE
The Consumer and Family Advisory Subcommittee and the Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership (CT BHP) are proud to host the second annual iCAN Conference. The goal of the iCAN Conference is to demonstrate true partnership among CT Medicaid consumers, agencies, and providers. By forming partnerships that will offer education about the programs, services and resources available throughout the state and through the CT BHP, we are helping people live their lives to the fullest potential.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- Racial Disparities
- Substance Use/Abuse - Opioid Treatment Developments
- Consumer & Family Engagement
- Family Advocacy (English & Spanish)

You must register for this event. Please call (860)263-2442 or email CTBHP@BeaconHealthOptions.com.

Back to School Rallies

- ♦ WYBC Sam Tilery Back to School Rally **Aug. 6th**, 10am-2pm at Floyd Little Athletic Center at James Hillhouse High School.
- ♦ Back to School Rally on **Aug. 20th** 9am-1pm on the East Hartford Town Green. For more information contact: 860-622-5103.
- ♦ Back to School Summer Jam on **Aug. 20th** from 10am-2pm at 180 Boston Ave. in Bridgeport. Contact Janet Ortiz for more information at 203-330-1676.
- ♦ Waterbury Back To School Rally, **Aug. 24th**, 1pm-4pm at Library Park. Contact Glenis Vialva at Waterbury Youth Services 203-573-0264 for further information.



Check your local areas for similar back to school events.





CONNECTing

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WHAT IS CONNECT?

The Connecticut Network of Care Transformation (CONNECT) is a statewide initiative to create a partnership among families, state agencies, and service providers at the local, regional and state levels to develop a "No Wrong Door" approach to the delivery of children's services within Connecticut.

iCAN Conference
Pictured left to right: Scott
Semple and Mike Lawlor
presenting on Second
Chance Society.



CONNECT was one of many sponsors for the Second Annual iCAN Conference held on September 22, 2016. The Consumer and Family Committee of the CT Behavioral Health Partnership hosted the Conference which had as its theme, "Demonstrating True Partnerships." The event was a true partnership and a coming together of family members, provider organizations and community partners. The agenda included a young adult panel discussion, remarks from Kristina Stevens representing the Department of Children and Families and Nancy Navaretta representing the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. The Department of Corrections Commissioner Scott Semple and the Office of Policy Management's Mike Lawlor presented on Second Chance Society and Juvenile Justice. Breakout sessions included, "Eliminating Racial Disparities with CLAS standards," "Family Engagement Action Team Partnerships," "From Inpatient Detox to Medication Assisted Recovery," and "Building Stronger Families in the Spanish Speaking Community." Over 170 families, providers and community members attended this year's conference.

iCAN Conference Community

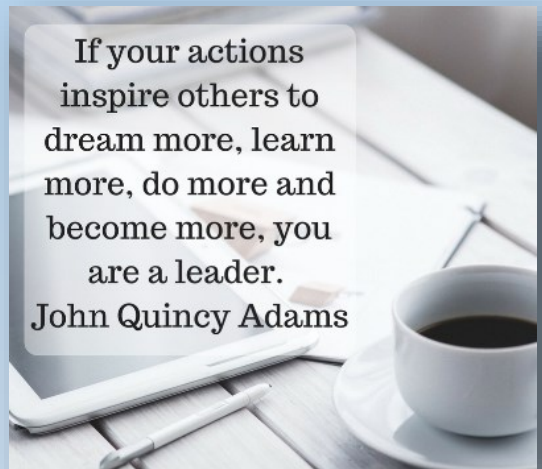


CONNECT Statewide Transformation Team Updates

CONNECT Transformation Teams: Family Engagement Action Team, Cultural and Linguistic Competency Development Team, Communication & Social Marketing, Network of Care Analysis, Data Integration, and Workforce Development.

Family Engagement Action Team (FEAT)

“Community Conversation” Forums will be held between October and January to gain family feedback and guidance on system development. Six Community Conversations will be held in each region of the state during the next few months, including forums in Spanish. If you know of a group of families who would like to be involved, contact your regional Family Systems Manager (FSM) at FAVOR, Inc. at 860-563-3232.



Cultural and Linguistic Competency Development Team

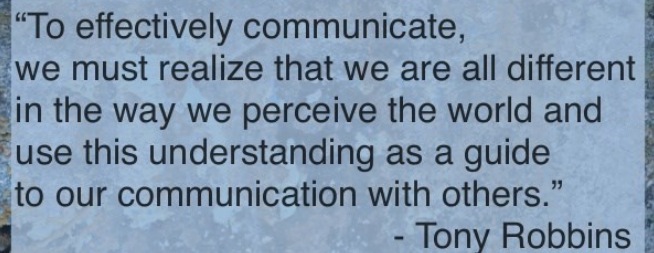


The Cultural and Linguistic Development Team is currently developing a second cohort of agencies to survey and implement the Enhanced Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) Standards. Selected agencies are asked to identify areas for improvement related to health disparities. Based on the results, a workgroup of families and providers will be tasked with developing, planning, and implementing a statewide process for incorporating CLAS standards. The CLAS standards help to ensure that care is provided in an effective, equitable, understandable, and respectful way to diverse cultures. Link to: <https://www.thinkculturalhealth.hhs.gov/content/clas.asp> for more information on the national standards.

CONNECT Statewide Transformation Teams

Communication and Social Marketing Team

The Communication and Social Marketing Team will be sending a representative speaker to the National Federation for Children's Mental Health Conference in Phoenix, AZ this coming November. The presentation entitled, "Engaging Youth and Families through Social Media Efforts and Lessons Learned" will share social media strategies for increasing awareness and promoting social change. Also coming soon: new updates to the wrapct.org website. If you are interested in guiding social change, the Team meets the 4th Monday of every month in the Community Room at the New Britain Public Library at 11:30 a.m.



"To effectively communicate, we must realize that we are all different in the way we perceive the world and use this understanding as a guide to our communication with others."
- Tony Robbins



Like us on
Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/CT.CONNECT.champions/?fref=ts> .



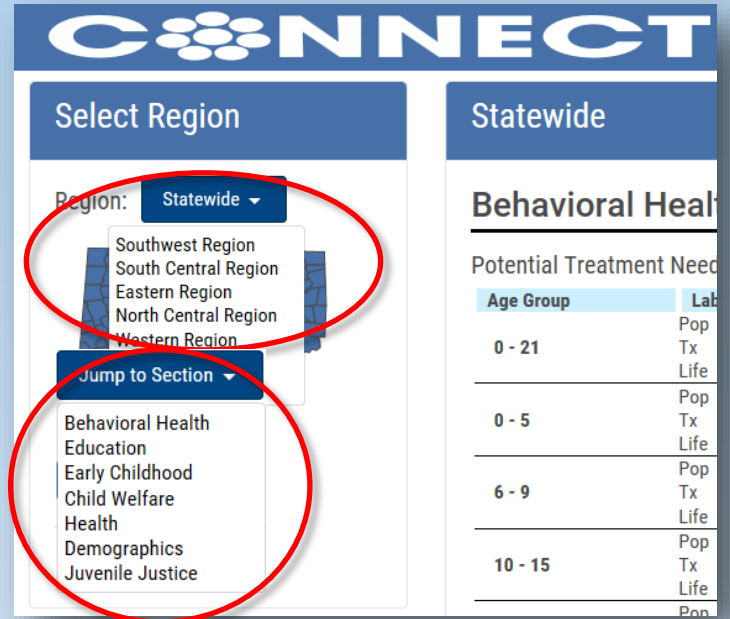
Network Analysis Team

Legislation PA 13-178 and CONNECT Network Analysis workgroup supports the goal of gaining a better understanding of partners in the child-serving systems and how these systems coordinate and integrate their efforts. Surveys for behavioral health providers have been distributed statewide. The results are rolling in and will be available in early 2017. A separate collaboration survey for pediatric providers will be sent out soon. Community Forums are being scheduled statewide to gain family feedback and guidance on system development and change.

CONNECT Statewide Transformation Teams

Data Integration Team

Child-serving state agencies participating in this workgroup continue to closely review the data they collect while also considering how soon they can make this data available to the general public. The Office of Policy and Management and FAVOR, Inc. came together in this unique collaboration to help families have increased access to data. Data 101 trainings are being held for families throughout the state to demonstrate the site and show how data can be used. Visit the site at <http://connect.ctdata.org>.



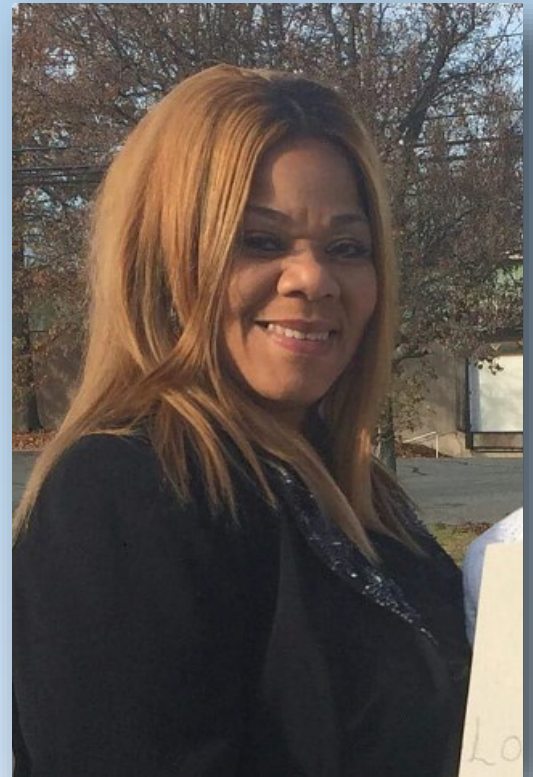
Workforce Development Team

The Workforce Development Team held a gathering of Family Champions and family Network of Care – Agents of Transformation trainers (NOC-AOT) on September 28, 2016. The families met to discuss NOC-AOT training updates and upcoming opportunities. A new training flyer and family pledge were introduced. If you are interested in attending or hosting a training, including NOC-AOT, Persuasive Storytelling and Data 101, contact FAVOR, Inc. at 860-563-3232.



Family Champion Spotlight

Cathy Flippen is a wife, a mother, a motivational speaker, a television host producer, a trainer/facilitator and as she likes to say, “a woman with a PHD (Passion, Heart, and Desire).” With 30 years experience working in her community and 18 years as a foster parent, she has a great desire to help others. Cathy was introduced to the NOC-AOT training through FAVOR, Inc. She defines a family champion as one who “brings change into her community.” She uses her experiences to empower families to make policy changes that will better serve society. After attending many meetings, she decided to start her own group called Destiny Outreach Support Group, which is held weekly on Tuesdays (6 p.m.to 8 p.m.) at the East Hartford Cultural Center at 50 Chapman Place, room 101, in East Hartford. In the future, she plans to introduce the NOC-AOT to community organizations, support groups, churches and even hopes to start NOC-AOT parties! Of the NOC-AOT training, she says, “It was a great experience and I look forward to help push the curriculum to the next level and develop new Family Champions in the community.”



Family members held a panel discussion at the iCAN Conference entitled, “Family Engagement Action Team Partnerships.” The families spoke about family engagement and partnering with providers and their community. Panelists discussed their stories, their successes and struggles, their community projects and the need to come together to meet the needs of all children in Connecticut.

Family Champion Panel Presenters: (front row, left to right: Susan Graham, Myke Halpin; back row, left to right: Cathy Flippen, Natine Haley, Debbie McCusker, Renee Wright, and Reann Sahadeo.)

Community Corner

Upcoming Events:

Community Conversations will be held throughout the state. Contact your FAVOR, Inc. Family Systems Manager at 860-563-3232 for more information on dates, times and locations.



Regional Drug Free Schools Committee Annual Legislative Breakfast

*Medical and Recreational Marijuana Laws-
What's on the horizon for CT?*

Wednesday, October 26th, 2016
8:30 am to 10 am
Ethan Allen Hotel
21 Lake Avenue Extension
Danbury, CT

Guests include John Daviau, MACP, President of CAPP (CT Association of Prevention Practitioners) & Connecticut SAM (Smart Approaches to Marijuana) and Brian Sullivan, Esq.

Seating is Limited, Please **RSVP**- no later than Oct 21st
[203.743.7741](tel:2037437741)
hvcasa@yahoo.com

The Housatonic Valley Coalition Against Substance Abuse is holding a Legislative Breakfast on October 28th at the Ethan Allen Inn in Danbury. RSVP by Oct.21st by calling 203-743-7741 or email hvcasa@yahoo.com.

'r kids Family Center is presenting on "The Effects of Domestic Violence on Children" on October 20th at the Fair Haven Library in New Haven. RSVP by calling Blanca Torres at 203-865-5437, ext. 206.




'r kids Family Center
rhobart.org

Presents...

"La Charla"
"An Event"

The Effects of Domestic Violence on Children
October 20th at 10am
Fair Haven Library 182 Grand Ave, New Haven
*RSVP by: Oct 14th-Blanca Torres 203-865-5437 x206

IF THERE'S VIOLENCE IN THE HOME, OUR KIDS GET THE PICTURE.

Community Presenters
Raffles, Free Giveaways and Light Refreshments

October is Domestic Violence Awareness



**Breathe and
Enjoy Autumn**

