# 1. Welcome and Attendees

**Goal of the Grant:** to improve behavioral health outcomes for children and youth (birth through age 21) who meet criteria for SED and their families and who have child welfare involvement. For this project, child welfare-involved families are those for whom a child abuse and/or neglect investigation results in a substantiation or services-needed finding and for whom DCBS does not have custody. The population of focus also includes children and youth who have a planned reunification date within 60 days, as well as post adoptive families who are seeking behavioral health services for youth they have adopted.

**Purpose of the GMIT:** interagency team responsible for management of the grant, oversight of state and local implementation activities, and ongoing communication with the system of care governing bodies.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Amanda Metcalf |  | Jenny Thornhill |  | Mary Carpenter |  | Jess Clouser |
|  | Barb Greene |  | Jessica Ware |  | Michelle Niehaus |  | Felicity Krueger |
|  | Chris Cordell |  | John Broadus |  | Maxine Reid |  | Ashley Peercy |
|  | Beth Jordan |  | Josh Swetnam |  | Melinda Vise |  | Natasha Ulrich |
|  | Carmilla Ratliff |  | Kenneth Fletcher |  | Micah Blevins |  |  |
|  | Carol Cecil |  | Katie Kirkland |  | Michelle Sawyers |  | Kaz Mohammed |
|  | Clarissa Allen |  | Katy Mullins |  | Randa Bush |  | Maggie Groeber |
|  | Dakota Simmons |  | Kelli Root |  | Sherri Staley |  | Rashmi Adi-Brown |
|  | David Lohr |  | Kelly Bradshaw |  | Tammi Taylor |  |  |
|  | Dee Dee Ward |  | Kelly Dorman |  | Tracy DeSimone |  |  |
|  | Dyzz Cooper |  | Leslie Hughes Burgess |  | Tevis Duncan |  |  |
|  | Jennifer Warren |  | Lizzie Minton |  | Vestena Robbins |  |  |

= Present  = Absent

# 1. Action Plan Goal: Policy Recommendation to SIAC

## **Objective 1:** The State Grant Management and Implementation Team (S-GMIT) will submit a minimum of one policy recommendation per year to Kentucky’s State Interagency Council (SIAC) for inclusion in the Annual Report to the Governor and Legislative Research Commission that will support the System of Care for the population of focus.

Dee Dee invited Dr. Robbins, a Principal Investigator for SOC FIVE, to share why the above objective was included in the grant. Dr. Robbins provided further context:

* Policy is part of the SOC infrastructure and needs to be in place to support the services at the core of the work we do.
* Because we are fortunate to have a governing body of the System of Care in KY (SIAC); we have an obligation to make policy efforts for the population we are serving.
* SIAC recommendations are legislative in nature. Regardless of if they are added to statute or not; they make a lasting impact in the direct work with youth and families.
* Past three years of recommendations from SOC FIVE were focused on reducing unnecessary custody relinquishment. SIAC created an ad hoc subcommittee that addressed the issue holistically across agencies that included a recommendation to amend KRS 600.050 which outlines the “designation and documentation of commitment of children needing protection or needing extraordinary services.”
* An example of previous SOC Grant recommendations was focusing on children under the age of 10 with criminal charges. It didn’t get much traction years ago but there is a workgroup currently discussing this issue with the goal of enacting legislation and policy change.
* Sometimes the recommendations that are made become revisions and some might be new policy initiatives. For example: The legislation that created the SIAC has seen revisions that created changes to membership, changes to regional interagency council, etc.

As members of SGMIT, we have an opportunity to play an active role in policy creation and revision. This is a great opportunity for all of our partners to create or revise policy to eliminate barriers experienced in service provision for families and youth.

How can we make best use of this opportunity? Please share what is going on in your agency.

## Current struggles

## New and recent initiatives

## Any legislation we need to know about?

**LEAD KY**

LEAD KY is accepting proposals for pilot projects which will assist two agencies in taking the initial steps in moving toward becoming family and youth driven. This project is open to any System of Care organization who provides services to youth with, or at risk for, behavioral health or other challenges and their families. This pilot and the work with LEAD KY might elicit some policy changes.

* Technical Assistance will be provided to selected organizations for a minimum of six months to strengthen the involvement of youth and parents within an organization’s infrastructure to include consultation and staff training.
* Limited funds are available through this application to assist with consultation funds for parent and youth with lived expertise through Kentucky Partnership for Families and Children, Inc. (KPFC) and the System of Care FIVE grant.
* Applications are due Friday, February 3, 2023

**Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)**

Kentucky has been identified as an Upstream pilot site by the National Center for State Courts. During the state visit by the National Center for State Courts, the Judicial Engagement Workgroup was identified to initiate these efforts. AOC is working on the Upstream Model with the National Center for State Courts. We are in the beginning phase with another training scheduled in February.

* Upstream is a community-based approach that leverages court resources, judicial leadership, and child welfare agency partnerships to enhance community collaboration through state and local coordination, community mapping, and action planning. This collaboration aims to strengthen communities, prevent child maltreatment and out-of-home placement, reduce court involvement, and support safe and healthy families.

**KY Judicial Commission on Mental health**

Juvenile justice workgroup focused on everyday interactions; strength based and family friendly paperwork, switching from a punitive lens to a rehabilitation lens. Workgroups have been developed and some State GMIT members sit on these workgroups. Stay tuned for more information.

**Consent to Treatment/Threat Assessments**

[KRS 214.185](https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=50969) allows for16-year-old to consent for diagnosis and treatment of a medical condition, addiction, or outpatient mental health counseling by a **physician only**. Mental Health Providers in schools are not physicians and can be a barrier for youth that want services. Other members pointed out that this issue is complex, for example a 16-year-old can also deny treatment which is problematic; hospitalization might differ, we’d have to examine level of care and nuances in service provision.

[KRS 158.4412](https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=49795) requires the appointment of a school district school safety coordinator that will designate a school safety and security threat assessment team at each school.

**Youth Peer Support Training limitations**

KPFC reviews Youth Peer Support Training Applications and one of things that has kept people from qualifying for training is that their family did not agree/allow person to receive treatment. So, even though they experienced symptoms and challenges, until they were 18 or older and on their own, they were not able to receive those services. Many young people seek help once they are in college or college-age. A change to this policy would allow more people to be trained as Youth Peer Support Specialists.

**Inclusivity Plan**

DBHDID Planning Council has developed an Inclusivity Plan, looking at racial representation, inclusion of outside groups, and language access. Would SIAC benefit from a similar plan?

* We don’t get a say in who is appointed although this would be worth exploring for SIAC

**Medicaid Changes**

A Medicaid change went into effect 1/1/23 disallowing extended codes that once allowed for more services in-home. Sherri S., DMS, offered some clarification:

* This change was not KY Medicaid, it came from AMA and is impacting every state.
* In KY we are working on some intensive in-home models to see how we can pay for some services
* MST still a pilot—intensive model
* Intercept/Inspire proposed and met with Children’s Alliance/KVC
* Other type of services

## Action Items

Task Description Person Responsible Deadline

Provide updates on above listed topics Carol Cecil, Michelle Sawyer, Monthly

Michelle Niehaus, Carmilla Ratliff,

Sherry Staley

Please continue to share ideas SGMIT ongoing

# 2. KY Building Bridges Initiative – Rashmi Adi-Brown & Maggie Groeber

Rashmi and Maggie provided a report out of the 2nd SOC FIVE funded Quality Improvement Collaborative. Building Bridges is a national initiative working to identify and promote practice and policy that will create strong and closely coordinated partnerships and collaborations between families, youth, advocates, community and residential service providers, and oversight agencies.

* 2022 did not go exactly as planned, COVID interfered with site visits, higher levels of trauma and behaviors and high staff turnover all had an impact on the work with residential facilities over the year.
* 2022 collaborative included **4 mentors** (The Life Connection, Holly Hill Child and Family Solutions, Home of the Innocents and Bellewood & Brookelawn) and **4 mentees** (St. Joseph Children’s Home, Gateway Children’s Services, Ramey Estep and Boys and Girls Haven)
* Monthly meetings focused on brainstorming goals and tasks from a self-assessment tool. Meetings were an opportunity for meaningful dialogue; facilities faced similar challenges and residential staff were relieved to know that they were not alone.
* The Self-assessment tool (SAT) was administered through Qualtrics. The purpose of the tool is to stimulate, guide and direct quality improvement efforts geared towards improving the immediate and long-term outcomes of residential interventions. A summary of the findings was shared in an infographic

Please check your email for the infographic with detailed outcomes.

**Discussion**

What was Kaz’s [The Life Connection] take on going from mentee to mentor

* Kaz is a natural leader and seemed to enjoy being a mentor. The Life Connection got a large amount of feedback and took on all the changes. The Life Connection also serves a unique/challenging population, and they were still able to mentor facilities that don’t have that specialized population.

## Action Items

Task Description Person Responsible Deadline

Please share the information SGMIT ongoing

With others

# 3. SOC FIVE Updates

**RIAC Community Survey**

* Please share with parents and youth, the survey closes **January 31, 2023**. A Spanish version is also available, please reach out to Maxine with any questions
* 301 Responses have been received across the state, please continue to promote the survey with the youth and families you serve (Results anticipated in Spring 2023)

**Next SOC Grant Application**

* Has not been released by SAMSHA yet, Dee Dee will keep the team informed.

**SOC Summit, Better Together: Building Systems that Care** <https://nttacmentalhealth.org/soc-summit-2023/>

May 10-11, 2023, virtual.

**Due 1/24/23**, proposals are enthusiastically welcomed from everyone with experience in:

* implementing, evaluating, or sustaining a System of Care approach.
* addressing the mental health needs of children and their families, especially those with diverse cultural backgrounds and/or with lived experience

The summit will highlight best practices, successful collaborations and innovations, lessons learned, and solutions to challenges in these specific focus areas:

* Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in System of Care
* Cross-Sector Partnerships (Schools, Juvenile Justice, Child Welfare, Community Organizations, and Primary Care Settings)
* Youth Partnership in Practice, Evaluation, and Policy (youth engagement, leadership, shared power, governance structures, etc.)
* Family Partnership in Practice, Evaluation, and Policy (engagement, leadership, shared power, etc.)
* Emerging Topics

**Children Welfare League of America National Conference**

The CWLA 2023 National Conference, Stronger Together: Uniting to Advance Change, will be held April 26-28, 2023, at the Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. (KY will be presenting!) for more information please follow the link: <https://www.cwla.org/cwla2023/#workshops>

## Action Items

Task Description Person Responsible Deadline

Please share the information with others SGMIT ongoing

# 4. Agency Updates

DCBS

* Finalizing the regional primary prevention plans in the service regions. Reach out if you have any questions about that.
* Amanda Body will be the new director of the Division of Prevention and Community & Well-Being starting on 1/17
* Lesa Dennis is now the acting Commissioner of DCBS.

DBHDID

* SOC FIVE Family Engagement Coordinator position interviews completed.
* Change in leadership, DBHDID Commissioner has tendered resignation and is taking a job at the federal level, awaiting the announcement of acting commissioner

KPFC

* Kentucky Family Leaders Academy – Jan 30-Feb 1. Virtual March 13-17 certification training
* Conducted Youth Leadership training for DJJ Youth in residential placement. There is interest in offering that training again.
* DCBS office in Perry County sharing office space with KPFC

Screener/Assessments, Lizzie M.

* U of L conducted focus groups with BHP and DCBS workers (related to screening/barriers/things going well), learning themes alongside administrative data will be helpful for making considerations in expanding screening and assessments statewide

HDI

* Definition of IPP measures Changed on Dec. 15th
* working to adjust metrics with minimal impact to BHP and DCBS staff.
* SOC FIVE goals need to be updated Jan 31st

## Action Items

Task Description Person Responsible Deadline

n/a

**Next Meeting: February 10, 2023**, 10:00am – 12:00pmvia Zoom: [State GMIT Meeting](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82154195143?pwd=anYrVjlJRXQ4ejgxaDRYeDFCQ0IrUT09)

**Reminder:** You can find notes for all GMIT meetings as well as the CQI Dashboards and Interactive Map on the SOC FIVE Website**:** [**https://socv.hdiuky.net/**](https://socv.hdiuky.net/)

Family & Youth Reps complete for meeting time reimbursement: [**https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Attend\_Meeting**](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Attend_Meeting)