



Barrier Submission Form

Statewide System of Care Steering Committee



Regional Executive Council Information

Council name:	Lane County System of Care Executive Council
Date submitted:	June 11, 2020
Region:	Lane County
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Barrier Information



Barrier description:

In Lane County there is currently a lack of a sufficient respite care systems, to support families and youth with complex mental health needs and/or mental health and developmental needs. This includes youth living at home with their families, as well as youth who are already in foster care.

The lack of sufficient respite care leads to more mental health Crisis and Crisis calls, youth being placed in residential programs outside Lane County or involuntary FC care placements. These out of county placements maybe preventable by providing these youth and families scheduled and crisis respite services within Lane County.



Actions Taken to Address Barrier



Summary of Practice Level Work Group action steps:

Practice level work group reviewed these issues two years ago. This was in response to an emergency work group that was called by PeaceHealth, and the County to look at why children were being boarded for long periods of time at the ER. This barrier was again brought to the PLW in September 2019.



Summary of Advisory Committee action steps:

The Advisory Committee (AC) met and reviewed respite care needs barrier, reviewed historical work done by several organizations, and researched other programs (Linn County) that provide working planned respite models of care.



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The AC presented their work to the Executive Council to move to the State SOC Steering Committee.

Summary of Executive Council action steps:

LCO SOC Executive Council unanimously approved the recommendations from the AC June 3, 2020. The Executive Council discussed further reconfirming that this an issue for many youth and families especially with the COVID pandemic. No changes to recommendations.

Request of Statewide SOC Steering Committee

What policy changes or funding investments would ameliorate the identified barrier?

The original barrier submission recommendations were:

- Access to planned respite as well as crisis respite for youth, allowing children to make connections with a therapeutic figure is preferred
- Giving parents a break and tools for working with their children (parent education/skill building component). The outcomes include preventing children from possibly entering residential treatment & maintain and strengthen family relationships.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the review and success of respite programs in other communities, Lane County SOC is recommending the development of respite infrastructures in Lane County. The development of this infrastructure would come from a variety of approaches designed to enhance or improve access to and receipt of respite services. Some of these activities may include:

- Environmental scanning to understand available respite programs and family caregiver needs;
- Marketing and outreach campaigns to educate family caregivers about respite and how to access services;
- Development and promotion of recruitment and retention strategies for new or existing respite provider/services
- Training of volunteer and paid respite providers to increase the availability of respite services;
- Partnering with communities of faith to develop respite programs;
- Developing or enhancing statewide databases of respite care programs, services, and information to improve access for family caregivers; and
- Developing and implementing person-centered respite service options, such as vouchers.



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FUNDING and POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Support and development of blended funding at the State level as well as providing downward pressure with State, County, Coordinated Care Organizations, and behavioral health crisis providers. Blend funds with DD, DHS, OYA.
- Startup grant funds with incentives for those programs/agencies that create sustainable, scalable, and replicable models of care.
- Utilize IIBHT funding is possible.

We think this is not an isolated barrier to only Lane County and would like the State SOC Steering Committee to take an active role in the support and development of (how to involve State agencies) blending funds. Investments in recruitment, retention, training, and support of families and caregivers could have an impact on cost savings with reduction of crisis services/ED utilization, foster placement, and/or acute, sub-acute, residential treatment placements. Instead of reacting to the moment, we should be planning for prevention. Educated and skilled caregivers with ability to access meaningful respite when needed should create a more cohesive and healthy family unit. Thank you for consideration and suggestions as to what the State SOC Steering Committee is able to do to help Lane County resolve this barrier. Please see attached for narrative.
