Announcement! The NYS System of Care team at the NYS Office of Mental Health is pleased to announce that we have been awarded a second System of Care Expansion Grant from SAMHSA! The new grant will begin in September 2020 through August 2024. We are so excited about the opportunity to work closely with two rural counties – Yates and Essex – to build/augment their Systems of Care, and expand System of Care Action Planning, Peer Readiness Training and High Fidelity Wraparound training/implementation statewide. We will expand the target population to younger children 5-11, as well as continue serving the existing target population of 12-21. There are many other details to come over the summer, so stay tuned!

Congratulations! The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene also received word regarding the award of a four-year SAMHSA System of Care grant. They will partner with the NYS SOC to expand their current Wraparound demonstration. The State team is excited to continue to support and collaborate with New York City, as well as current grantees from Onondaga, Cayuga, Chautauqua, Otsego, Herkimer, and Rockland Counties.

SOC Virtual Learning Community Quarterly Webinar: Our next webinar will be held on July 16, 11:00-12:00. Chuck Allan, Education Liaison with the Monroe County Department of Human Services, will be the guest presenter this quarter. Collaborating with Schools: One County’s Experience will be Mr. Allan’s topic. Having implemented an ongoing practice of effective collaboration with schools, a focus on techniques, suggestions and practices for collaborating with school districts from a County systems perspective will be discussed. Mr. Allan will draw on effective collaborative experiences between county agencies (mental health, social services, family court and juvenile justice) and local school districts. Primary goal will be to help educate audience members in effective tools for working with school districts to improve outcomes for their clients. Go to https://meetny.webex.com/meetny/j.php?MTID=m51065932be4fe0f4b7a8f6bd3b7b7a49 on the day of the presentation, if you did not receive the meeting invite.

What’s Great in Our State: Join the planning committee on-line to recognize the 2020 What’s Great in Our State honorees – October 15, 2020. More information to come as we get closer to the date. We hope to resume our annual in-person celebration on Tuesday, May 4, 2021. Hold this date in your calendars!

Systems of Care Action Planning Workshops: Forty new facilitators began a virtual train-the-trainer series at the end of June. They will complete their training by the end of July and join the 25 previously trained facilitators to be available to assist counties with System of Care planning. The county workshops will be virtual for the foreseeable future. The NYS SOC team will be reaching to counties that previously expressed an interest to begin planning for a workshop. If you wish to consider this, please consult the attached flyer for more information.

Second System of Care Summit: We have made the difficult decision to cancel the Summit and will work to reschedule it at a time when a 400-person gathering is more prudent. Thank you to the many individuals who submitted proposals for presentations and posters. We may tap you to share your valuable information in other venues in the meantime!

Wraparound Training and Implementation Institute: While the training team misses traveling across our beautiful state to visit our participating pilot counties in person, the team is using this time to revise the training materials both in response to user feedback, and in preparation to offer the classes virtually. Transitioning from an all in-person training delivery to an all virtual delivery has presented some challenges, but also some great
opportunities for more customized interactions along the way. The team’s main goal is to provide participants with the best possible learning experience. Please do not hesitate to contact your coach who can provide additional support! If you have questions about Wraparound training, please contact Kim Heffner at Kimberly.Heffner@omh.ny.gov.

**Wraparound Evaluation Report:** The NYS SOC pilot has prioritized the incorporation of peer services within the wraparound process. Peers are likely beneficial to the wraparound process in many ways, including engaging families. As part of the discharge administrative record, Care Managers answer several items about the family at discharge. Some of those items address how the Parent and Youth Peer participated with the family (1 = full participation, 0 = less than full participation) as well as how engaged the youth and caregiver were with wraparound at discharge (ranging from 1 = very disengaged to 5 = very engaged). These items were analyzed to measure the extent to which Peer participation is associated with family engagement.

Full Youth Peer participation was associated with higher youth engagement $F(85, 1) = 7.33$, $p < .01$. A positive association between Parent Peer participation and with caregiver engagement was also significant $F(88, 1) = 6.77$, $p < .05$. The graphs below display the mean scores on youth and caregiver engagement depending on if the Peer participated fully or not. Those with full Peer participation also tended to have higher engagement ratings.

![Mean Youth Engagement](image)

![Mean Caregiver Engagement](image)

*Note: Difference is significant, $F(85, 1) = 7.33$, $p < .01*  
*Note: Difference is significant, $F(88, 1) = 6.77$, $p < .05*

These findings suggest that Peer participation is associated with the corresponding youth and caregiver engagement at discharge. These findings are compelling given that additional analyses suggest youth and caregiver engagement at discharge are positively associated with positive outcomes such as phase of wraparound at discharge (youth engagement only), graduation from wraparound, and Care Manager designation of successful discharge. While further analysis would be needed to examine the extent to which peer services facilitate key family and youth outcomes through engagement, these findings provide encouraging evidence to support the efficacy of peer support services.

If you have questions regarding the NYS System of Care Pilot evaluation, please contact Camille Barnes at cbarnes@albany.edu.

**Did You Know?**
- The NYS Trauma Informed Network (TIN) has posted new COVID-19 Resources for Educators. The pdf can be accessed on [https://resources.traumainformedny.org/resources/179](https://resources.traumainformedny.org/resources/179) compiles resources for both supporting the students and families schools serve and for school staff. The need for social isolation during this health pandemic may be elevating feelings of worry, fear and depression. Being in a state of uncertainty may trigger increased stress as we find different or new ways to cope adaptively. Remember, when you are at your best, you are better able to support those you serve. Resources
include tip sheets, web links to news articles, and strategies for coping and adjusting to the new “normal” of everyday life.

- A coalition led by the National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health, in partnership with the Center on Addiction, C4 Innovations, SAFE Project, and Boston University has been awarded SAMHSA's first National Family Support Technical Assistance Center (NFSTAC).

- **OMH Emotional Support Line: 1-844-863-9314**
  The Emotional Support Line provides free and confidential support, helping callers experiencing increased anxiety due to the coronavirus emergency. The Help Line is staffed by volunteers, including mental health professionals, who have received training in crisis counseling.

Subscribe to (or unsubscribe from) the NYS Systems of Care Listserv by emailing Angela Keller at angela.keller@omh.ny.gov.