



State of Connecticut Children's Behavioral Health Plan An Overview

History of the Plan

At the end of the 2013 legislative session, the General Assembly passed Public Act 13-178, "An Act Concerning the Mental, Emotional and Behavioral Health of Youths." The Public Act called for DCF to produce a statewide children's behavioral health plan.

What the Plan will Address

The Act requires that the plan be "comprehensive and integrated and meet the behavioral health needs of all children in the state and prevent or reduce the long-term negative impact for children of mental, emotional, and behavioral health issues."

Oversight of the Planning Process

An Advisory Committee is guiding this project. That committee is comprised of family members, family advocates, state agency representatives, and other system stakeholders. It is co-led by Judith Meyers, CEO of the Child Health and Development Institute, and Doriana Vicedomini, parent advocate.

Management of the Planning Process

DCF has contracted with the Child Health and Development Institute (CHDI) to help develop this plan by:

- Obtaining input from consumers, families, content experts, and other state and local stakeholders through family focus groups, facilitated discussions on specific topics and public forums;
- Collecting, analyzing, and synthesizing data and information about the strengths and weaknesses of the current system and current services;
- Developing a written plan for the State that will guide the ongoing development of a comprehensive and effective children's mental health system.

Timeline for the Plan

A draft plan will be completed by August and will be made available for public comment. The final plan is due to the legislature in October 2014.

Submitting Written Information: Whether or not you can attend one of the meetings about the plan, you can submit written comments on this topic. A form for submitting written feedback can be accessed at: www.plan4children.org. You can submit the form through the website, email the form to: info@plan4children.org or mail the form to the Child Health and Development Institute, 270 Farmington Ave., Suite 367, Farmington, CT 06032.

Further Information: Visit the plan website at: www.plan4children.org. If you have additional questions please contact CHDI at: info@plan4children.org.

