



Placer County Children's Systems of Care S.A.M.H.S.A.* Grant

(*Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)



What it is

Placer County Children's System of Care received a 6-year, \$5 million grant to improve outreach to children and youth with mental and/or emotional health challenges. It is part of SAMHSA's "Caring for Every Child's Mental Health" campaign with goals to:

- Increase public awareness about the importance of protecting and nurturing the mental health of young people.
- Foster recognition that many children have mental health problems that are real, painful, and sometimes severe.
- Encourage caregivers to seek early, appropriate treatment and services.

Why it is important

Studies show that at least one in five children and adolescents have a mental health disorder. (Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (1999).

System-wide Solutions Key to Success

Placer County CSOC is working at every level to make changes to policies, systems, agencies, and the workforce to insure that services are welcoming, accessible, recovery-oriented, culturally fluid, and co-occurring competent.

Additionally, at the State level, there is great interest in learning from counties how to address health issues for children. One of the three pillars of the California Healthcare Foundation's Strategic focus is to "Follow the Leader":

"Follow the Leader" means building future state efforts on the successes of innovative coverage initiatives at the county and regional levels. These initiatives have been particularly effective at forming collaboratives with multiple stakeholders to understand and meet local children's coverage needs in creative and effective ways.

Consumer Voice Key to Success

The campaign is mandated by SAMHSA and driven by CSOC passion to be family-driven and youth-guided. For that reason, we have family members and youth involved in each committee and subcommittee.

Action Teams Key to Success

The three populations of focus in Placer County SOC for the SAMHSA grant are:

- A. Latinos
- B. Native Americans
- C. Transition-age youth, including those in foster care and juvenile justice system

For information on Children's System of Care in Placer County, please contact Cindy Brundage, Program Director at (530) 889-6701

Transforming the Mental Health System in Placer County