

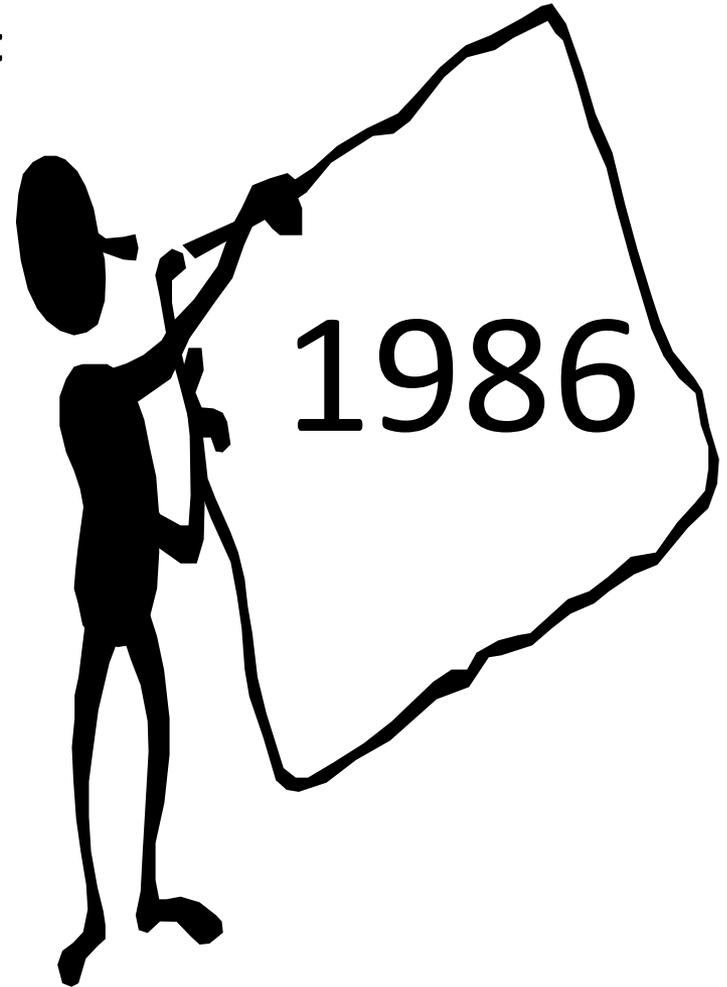
How can we **Bridge** the gap between families and services?

**Through a  
System of Care  
Approach**



# System of Care History

- ❖ In 1984 CASSP was launched to assist in building services targeted for children with serious emotional disturbances and their families
- ❖ The first definition of a System of Care was published in 1986
- ❖ 2005 SOC definition: *A broad array of services and supports that is organized into a coordinated network, integrates care planning and management across multiple levels, is culturally and linguistically competent, and builds meaningful partnerships with families and youth at service delivery, management, and policy levels.*



# System of Care refers to:

A nationally recognized, proven framework/approach for:

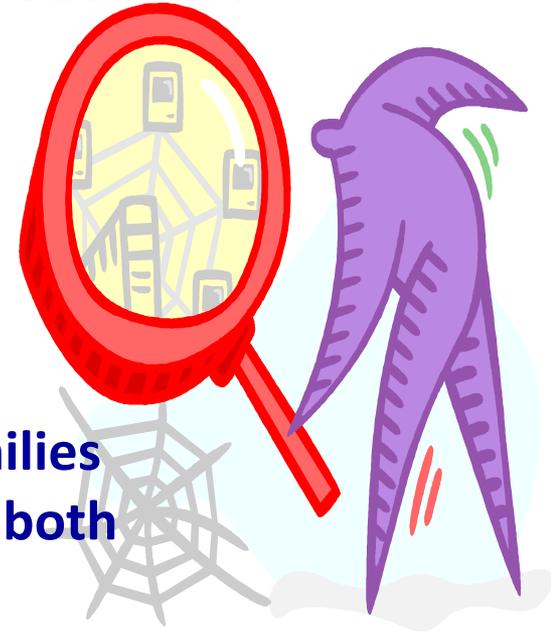
Organizing and coordinating services and resources at the agency, community, and state level into a comprehensive and interconnected network

BY:

- developing **PARTNERSHIPS** with individuals and families who need services or resources and all the agencies, both formal and informal, who serve them.

- building on individual and community **STRENGTHS** and making the most of existing resources to help children and their families achieve better outcomes.

- Improving the skills, knowledge, and attitudes of service providers toward to reflect the **SOC PRINCIPLES**



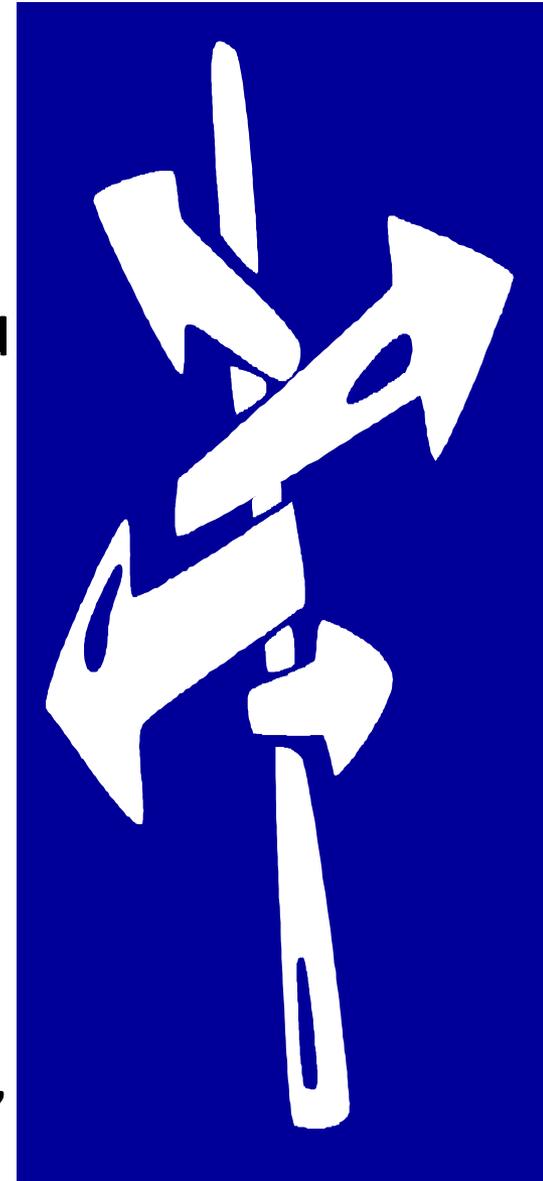
# System of Care Core Values

- **Child Centered and Family Focused**
- **Community Based**
- **Culturally Competent**



# System of Care Guiding Principles

- **Array of Services**
- **Individualized Services**
- **Least Restrictive, more Normalized Environment**
- **Families are Full Participants of Service Planning and Delivery**
- **Services are Integrated**
- **Services are Coordinated and Delivered with Changing Needs**
- **Access to Early Identification and Intervention of Needs**
- **Smooth Transition to the Adult Service System**
- **Access to Advocacy**
- **Services are sensitive and responsive to culture, sex, disability or other characteristics**



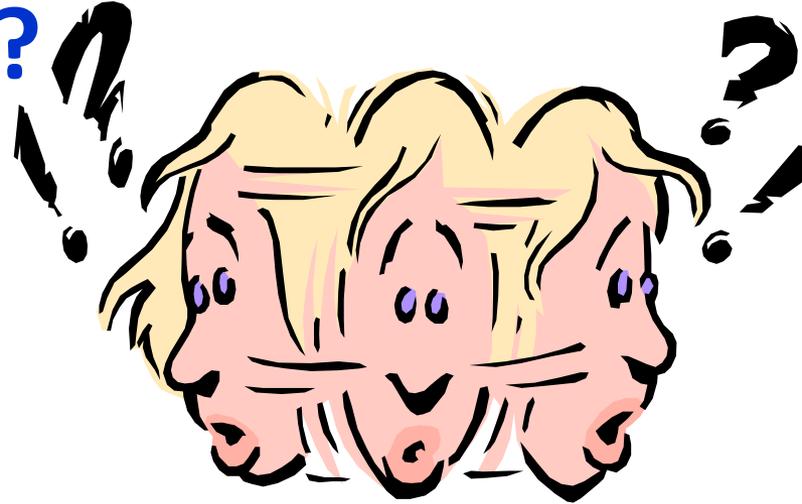
# SYSTEM OF CARE FRAMEWORK



**System of Care Framework**

# Why Did We Need to Transform Services?

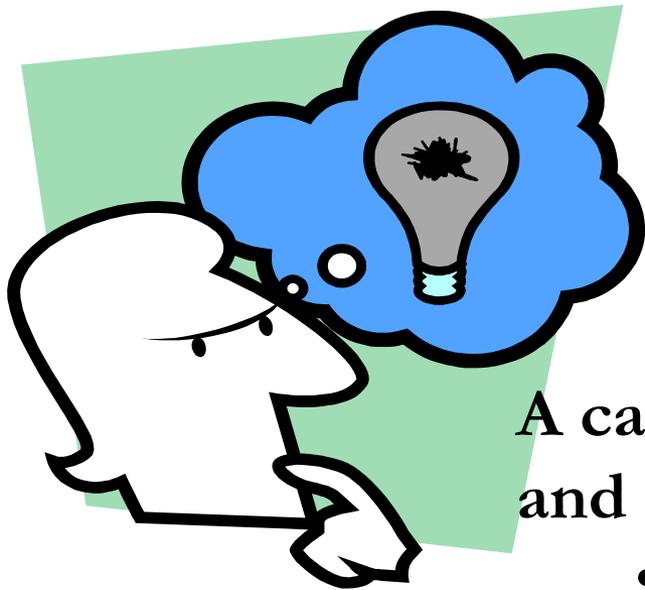
- Youth and Families were not receiving mental health services
- Youth were being placed in restrictive settings
- Services were limited to outpatient, inpatient and residential Treatment
- No collaboration between child serving agencies
- Families were blamed and not involved in decision making
- Little cultural competency within services and agencies



# System Of Care is NOT:

- A new initiative
- A new “program”
- A “practice” model
- New or additional  
work





# System of Care IS :

A catalyst for changing the way child and family service agencies:

- organize,
- fund,
- purchase; and
- provide services

for children and families with multiple needs.

**A way to work more efficiently and effectively with families and agencies within the community**

# What does System of Care infrastructure look like?

Three main areas:

- **State**
- **Community**
- **Family**



# Interagency Collaboration Is Essential!



**When one hand does not know what the other is doing, inefficiencies, frustration, and ultimately poor outcomes result at both the system and service levels. Building systems of care requires resources that span across agencies and among partners. Without collaboration, effective system building cannot occur” (Stroul & Blau, 2008, p. 98-99).**

# SOC Must Be Family Driven!

- **Child and Family Teams**
- **Partnership**
- **Advocacy**



# Why System of Care?



To support the development of children to learn, work, and participate in their families, schools, and communities, and become independent adults with a high quality of life.

## Duplication is reduced by:

- pooling resources & unifying services
- encouraging private/public partnerships

## Establishes a system that promotes :

- family strengths,
- greater self-reliance, and
- children who will grow up experiencing success



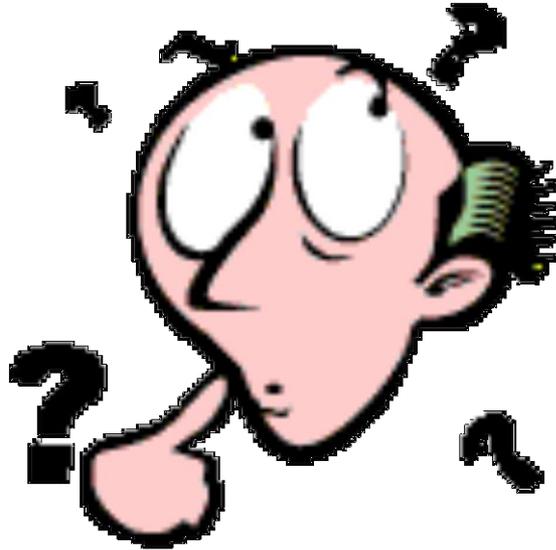
# More Results

**Keeps children and families together and provides incentives for communities to embrace positive change by:**

- **increasing school attendance and performance**
- **decreasing instances of abuse, neglect, and juvenile justice involvement**
- **increasing family involvement and satisfaction in the behavioral, mental, physical, educational and safety needs of their children**
- **reducing costly out-of-home placement for treatment or detention, unnecessary custody relinquishment**
- **reducing trauma to child and their family due to separation**
- **reducing the number of moves a child in placement experiences**

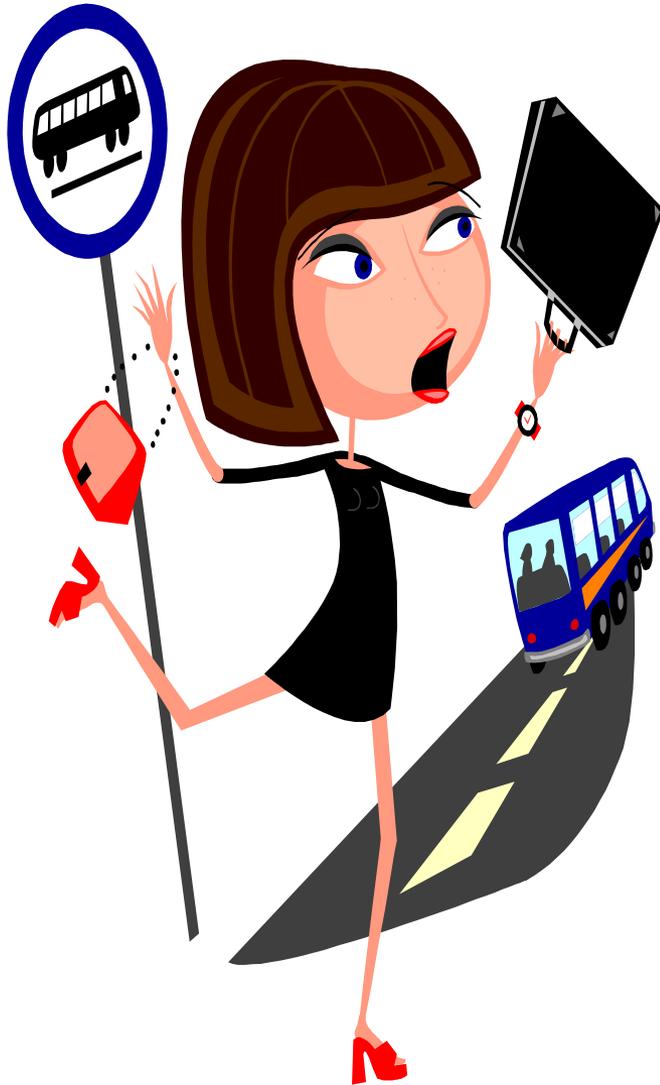


# True or False?



**Less than 20% of the estimated 14 million children and adolescents with mental health challenges actually receive the treatment they need.**

# Don't miss the bus!!!!



**You are a CRITICAL part of  
System of Care development  
and success in your  
community and state!**

# System of Care Resources

- Burns B.J. & Hoagwood, K. (2002). *Community treatment for youth*. New York, NY, Oxford University Press.
- Stroul, B.A. & Blau, G.M. (2008). *The system of care handbook*. Baltimore, MD: Paul H. Brooks Publishing Co
- Stroul, B. A., & Friedman, R. M. (1986). *A system of care for children and youth with severe emotional disturbances* (Rev ed.). Washington, DC: Georgetown University Child Development Center, CASSP Technical Assistance Center.
- Research and Training Center for Children's Mental Health University of South Florida (<http://rtckids.fmhi.usf.edu>)