

**PENNSYLVANIA CARE PARTNERSHIP
EXPANSION AND SUSTAINABILITY COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT
ANNOUNCEMENT**

Released August 8, 2018

The PA Care Partnership (The Partnership) grant is embedded in the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS), Bureau of Children's Behavioral (CB) Health. The Partnership/CB was awarded a new Cooperative Agreement Grant, which will enable continued expansion of our efforts thru September of 2021. This award has given us the opportunity to engage and work with counties who want to add or build on their work with youth and young adults (Birth to 21) and their families within the parameters of the grant goals detailed below. There is no single model or predetermined approach to build your System of Care.

The Partnership is seeking applications from counties to be part of this grant. In this competitive process, we are pursuing counties to work in partnership with us to implement system of care values and principles. Our goal will be to incorporate experience from previous work into a technical assistance approach by utilizing two (2) current grant counties (Crawford and York) as learning communities. We will also utilize lessons learned from our existing network of System of Care counties to provide support on a variety of topics.

The development and plans to expand [System of Care](#) (Additional Information in [Attachment A](#)) statewide are funded through a cooperative agreement with SAMHSA, which has awarded funding to the Commonwealth to implement sustainable systems of care. This opportunity funds two counties per grant year. The initial year of grant funding for each county is up to \$100,000.00 and subsequent years of funding are available to the awarded county through September 29, 2021. [Click here to see a funding chart for each year of the grant.](#)

Advantages of joining the PA Care Partnership include the following:

- A. Build and enhance collaboration between systems, providers, youth, and family in your community.
- B. Collaborate with and develop relationships with the Partnership and local Learning Communities to provide support, guidance, individualized technical assistance and examples on how to build and sustain a System of Care (SOC) through county to county learning opportunities.
- C. Be part of a statewide learning community that promotes a county approach to mental and behavioral health supports. The learning community and its County Leadership Team; fosters shared knowledge, expertise, resources, and networking opportunities to advance and sustain the implementation of SOC for all counties and schools participating in the Network.
- D. Build an enhanced commitment to the community through county leadership to implement services or planning process focusing on youth and family driven decision-making, thereby communicating to stakeholders a serious intent to initiate system changes to improve retention of youth in their home community and youth and family satisfaction in services.
- E. Using one or more planning process or service, data collection and evaluation, counties can work to retain youth and family in their community with the goal of reducing restrictive care.
- F. Access to research-supported grants endorsed by OMHSAS, which can be used as models for activities in your county including: Garrett Lee Smith Suicide Prevention, Safe Schools/Healthy Students, Project LAUNCH, Healthy Transitions and previous System of Care grants to work with our grant and the counties implementing System of Care values, principles and key requirements of the grant.

- G. Learn about creative approaches to engage your community, enhance your community's culture, and build lasting and valued relationships with youth and families who have received services.
- H. Data collection staff is provided for the grant study by the Youth and Family Training Institute.
- I. Training on data collection and analysis of data for efficient and informed decision-making.
- J. Access to an online data dashboard for member counties including training, as part of the state grant.
- K. Availability of professional development and technical support to the county by the Partnership, the Youth and Family Training Institute, Youth M.O.V.E. PA, and Learning Communities.
- L. Access to the Partnership's website, www.pacarepartnership.org, which serves as a repository for additional materials, resources, and tools.
- M. Work with exciting and proven programs to build community and family resilience including The Open Table ([Jessica's Story](#) and [The Open Table Michigan](#)), [Youth M.O.V.E. PA](#), [High Fidelity Wraparound](#), and Family Member Road Map Training, Family Peer and working with Family Organizations.

CURRENT OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

Counties are being sought to start System of Care or build upon current System of Care approaches. Counties must have the ability to accept funding to support the efforts. The Partnership/CB is currently seeking one or two counties at this time to participate with an anticipate start on October 1, 2018. Other opportunities will be announced in late summer of each year with a start date on October 1, 2019, and October 1, 2020. There will be a total of eight (8) new counties and the two learning communities as part of this grant opportunity.

Counties will be eligible for targeted funding and support provided by the PASOC staff, the Youth and Family Training Institute (YFTI), evaluation team, and the two learning communities. The support will include training, technical assistance, marketing, cultural, and linguistic competence, training for local youth and family partners/leaders, and guidance on matters related to state, federal regulations and throughout the process of System of Care development.

The county will need to identify and develop family and youth planning processes and other approved programs for the evaluation component related to the funding requirement. These planning processes/programs utilized should have the ability to assure multiple contacts with the youth/family over time. The planning approach for youth with complex behavioral health needs and multisystem involvement and their families should be team based. The planning process and other approved programs include High Fidelity Wraparound (HFW), Family Group Decision Making, The Open Table, MST- Multi-systemic Therapy, Case Management, Blended Case Management, Psych Rehabilitation, and Mobile Psych Rehabilitation.

Collection of data for all of the youth/families participating in the selected planning process(es) or program(s) associated with the grant is required. Youth and families also will be asked to participate in two longitudinal studies that will provide a variety of outcomes for each county to utilize. Family's and youth **will be compensated for their time**. Funding/compensation for the families time will not come out of the allotted county funding. An evaluation team provided through the grant will provide training, consultation, and support for the collection of descriptive, process, and outcome data as well as for implementing a continuous quality improvement process in each county.

As counties become engaged in System of Care, barriers and challenges may arise where additional help may be needed. Counties will have the support of the State Leadership and Management Team

(SLMT), comprised of youth and family leaders, as well as OMHSAS, the Office of Children, Youth and Families, Bureau of Autism, Department of Drug and Alcohol Services, Office of Child Development and Early Learning, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, PA Training and Technical Assistance Network, the Office Children and Families in the Courts, and the Juvenile Court Judges Commission. The SLMT is committed to working with counties to address all of the systems change issues faced by counties, including policy, regulatory, and funding options.

Additional information on what to expect from the Partnership and what is expected from the county is located in [Attachment B](#).

The Partnership along with our valued partners will work with counties to help them establish sustainable financing for planning processes and continuation of System of Care values and principles in your county after the completion of the grant.

FUNDING AND COMPENSATION

1. Services and funds provided are subject to the availability and appropriation of Federal funds and the terms and conditions of this agreement.
2. County compensation under the agreement shall not exceed \$100,000.00 in year one (1). The grant calendar starts on September 30th and ends September 29th.
3. Subsequent years of funding for previously approved Expansion and Sustainability grant counties can receive up to \$50,000.00 for the continuation of System of Care activities.
4. The county shall submit a quarterly invoice detailing all staff time and expenses to the PASOC designee for reimbursement.
5. Funds will be distributed quarterly, upon receipt of invoice and associated documentation.
6. Along with funding reimbursement, counties will need to submit in kind and fiscal match, in accordance with SAMHSA requirements.

TIMELINE

- The announcement for the opportunity to become a System of Care county will be sent out the week of August 6, 2018.
- Youth, family and system leaders in counties across the State will have the opportunity to watch and participate in a System of Care Grant Learning Opportunity through a virtual meeting provided by PASOC, State Leadership and Management Team (SLMT) members, Learning Communities, Youth M.O.V.E. PA, and the Youth and Family Training Institute on Monday, August 20, 2018 from 10:30 am – 12:00 pm EST.
 - It is not mandatory to attend the information session to apply, but is encouraged.
 - To register for the webinar click the link or go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SOCSRVPWEBOCT2018>. Register by Thursday, August 16, 2018.
- Counties can submit applications by Friday, September 7, 2018, by 11:59 pm EST.
- Applications will be reviewed by the PASOC team. One or two counties will be selected for this round of the grant.
- Newly awarded System of Care partner counties will be announced on Friday, September 14, 2018.
- The Partnership will work with the awardee after September 14, 2018 on the county contract agreement and budgeting. (Sample contracts and budgets can be requested at anytime by emailing Mark Durgin, Director of the PA Care Partnership. Contact information below.)
- The awarded county can begin on October 1, 2018 and invoice for payment after October 1, 2018.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

Counties should apply to become a System of Care partner county. Applications should detail the following:

- County Name
- Designated Contact Person with Contact Information
 - Response to questions about the planning process and technical assistance needs
- A brief description (between one and three pages) about why your county may be interested in becoming a System of Care County. **It is recommended that you complete this before starting the application and upload directly into the online application. (Attachment D)**
This can include, but not limited to the following topics or areas a county may want to address:
 - Family and youth/young adult voice
 - Planning Process/Services
 - Evaluation
 - Reduction in out of home/increased community based and natural supports.
 - System Integration
 - Cultural and Linguistic Competence
- Completed applications must be sent electronically on or before September 7, 2018, at 11:59 pm EST, through the following link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SOCAPPOCT2018> or email the word document version as detailed in the application.

*If you are unable to complete and submit the brief description with your survey, please email to Mark Durgin, PA System of Care Partnership, Project Director, durginm@upmc.edu on or before September 7, 2018.

To mail a hard copy, send to attention to Mark Durgin and postmarked on or before September 7, 2018.

Mark Durgin
PA Care Partnership
Commonwealth Tower
303 Walnut Street, 11th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment A: What is System of Care ([Click Here](#))
- Attachment B: Expectations of the County and Commitment of System of Care ([Click Here](#))
- Attachment C: Full application ([Click Here](#)) to complete the online application or ([Click Here](#)) for the PDF version.
- Attachment D: Supplemental for the completion and submission to the online application or mailed application ([Click Here](#))

Questions that come up at any point in this process should be emailed to Mark Durgin at durginm@upmc.edu. Responses to all question will be posted at the following address: <http://www.pasocpartnership.org/about-us/pasoc-partnership-expansion-and-sustainability-grant/about-us-frequently-asked-questions/>

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