



# Bridging Local Systems

Strategies for Mental Health and  
Social Services Collaboration

*Eastpointe*

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# Goals of Bridging Local Systems

- Strengthen communication and collaboration between LME/MCOS and DSSs
- Improve shared outcomes for two shared populations:
  - Children and families served by child welfare and behavioral health
  - Adults served by Adult Protective or Guardianship Services

# Overview and Introductions

- Introductions of participants
- Background and context
- Summary of previous meeting

# Topics for Today

- **Reset**: Purpose and Goals
- Are there new opportunities for DSS/LME-MCO collaboration?
- What are the highest priority issues that you are facing now?
- Are there projects we can work on to address some of our highest priority issues?

# Goals for Your Region

- Are there **new** opportunities for collaboration?
- What specific outcomes do **you** want to achieve by participating in this project?

# What are some other regions talking about? In Partners...

Burke, Catawba, Cleveland, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Surry Yadkin

## Transitions to Community Living

- Agreed that a focus on individuals that DSS believes can be successful would be a constructive step.
- Partners will convene a group of TLCL staff and DSS adult services managers to develop a process for working together to transition TLCL clients.
- Partners will arrange training for DSS on the TLCL regarding identification of people most likely to succeed and how DSS and Partners can move forward together on the initiative.

# What are some other regions talking about? In Sandhills...

Anson, Guilford, Harnett, Hoke, Lee, Montgomery, Moore, Randolph, Richmond

Is it possible to create a blended funding mechanism to expedite the referral/assessment/authorization process for DSS kids?

Can we begin to build more common vocabulary?

Is there value in DSS sharing lists of children in foster care with the LME-MCO each month?



# Goals for Your Region?

- Are there new opportunities for collaboration?
- What specific outcomes do **you** want to achieve by participating in this project?

# Possible areas of focus

- Enhance communication and cross training
- Create a protocol to trouble-shoot care coordination problems for shared clients
- Consider creative ways to strengthen the provider network
- Create a work group to solve a data entry problem in NC FAST to recover unreimbursed funds.

# What Are Your Challenges?

What are the highest priority challenges or issues that you are facing now?

# Priorities and Projects...

- Can we agree on projects to work on prior to our next meeting?

# LME-MCO: What can we accomplish?

- Can we continue to refine our understanding of DSS and LME-MCO roles and responsibilities?
- Can we resolve some issues related to guardianship evaluations and other complications with guardianship?
- Can we work together to improve care coordination and case management?
- Can we address issues related to therapeutic foster care and traditional foster care?

# DSS:What can we accomplish?

- How can we get a quicker response when there is an urgent need for placement? This usually requires quicker evaluations. \*\*
- Could county money be earmarked to take care of kids designated at risk--especially foster children?
- Is there a way to have preapproved services so that DSS kids can get help more quickly?
- How can we take better care of adults with dementia and wandering/violent behaviors but who don't actually need placement yet?
- How can we find appropriate placements for kids that are 13-17 years old?