



SOCCEED, Systems of Care in Community Emergent Events and Disasters

Meeting Summary for 9-15-26

Next Meeting is: 10-20-26

Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting and/or provided information before, during, or after. The information shared today will have a positive impact on all our communities. Thank you also for the many great questions and comments that generated some excellent discussions.

The following is a summary of today's meeting and information shared after the meeting:

- Our guest speaker today was unable to attend so I (Jennifer) subbed in with a slide show on Children in Disasters. This slide deck will be posted to the SOC's website along with some additional resources.

In general, we discussed the unique needs of children in disasters and emergencies. This included things like (but not limited to) how to incorporate these specific needs into our emergency planning efforts, different types of vulnerabilities, and more. We also shared information about building more resilient children and communities.

I (Jennifer) also presented on the specific topic of school safety and resources related to that (will also be posted to the website).

- The following resources were shared during or after the meeting:
 - The SOC will again be helping with holiday needs. Please email Jennifer at: Jennifer.LHeureux@dmh.mo.gov with what is needed. Reiterated was the fact that there are fewer resources available to help individuals and families

in need this holiday season. Also reiterated that the Ray Way Resource Directory is an initiative of the SOC and is a weekly directory with 24+ categories of help including “Holiday Help.” This is updated weekly and uploaded on Sunday evenings.

- Natali Cordova, Easter Seals Midwest discussed many program offerings in Jackson County that have NO waiting lists. They serve youth 3-19 and have a program that serves youth with Autism. Her contact information is: natali.medinacordova@esmw.org.
- Tamara Griddine with MPACT mentioned that she would like to connect with Natali from Easter Seals. Another great example of the power of bringing people together at the SOC, new partnerships are formed, resource sharing happens, and people get phenomenal services!
- I (Jennifer) provided an update about the SOC and its having a new Chair as I am needed on other projects. I will remain an active SOC member to support the new Chair and organization. The initiatives will continue separately but still be fully available to any SOC member!

Our next SOC meeting is on October 20th at 1 p.m. on Webex.

Thank you everyone for your time today and please never hesitate to reach out if the SOC may assist you!

Sincerely,

Jennifer L. L’Heureux, Ph.D.

Systems of Care in Community Emergent Events and Disasters-Chair
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