

Summary of The SOC/CYID Meeting on 4-16-24

*****Please note that the attachments referenced in this summary can still be sent. Please reach out to me at: Jennifer.LHeureux@dmh.mo.gov**

Good afternoon,

What an incredibly powerful meeting with such great collaboration, support, and information! A HUGE thank you to our guest speakers, **Malinda Barnett, Jennifer Seidel, Nicole Noblet, Jemima Nesthant, Sam Stepp, Sarah Albin, and Latrisha Phillips**. Thank you to everyone who attended and/or provided input for today's meeting. These meetings would not be what they are without each and every one of you.

This month's meeting was predicated on Earth Day on April 22nd that focuses on natural resources such as air and water. The SOC/CYID took a bit of a different position and instead focused on **people** as being our greatest natural resource. This ties in well with our theme this year of not being able to have community without unity. Today, we focused on people with disabilities as it relates to employment and related issues. We learned about what it is like for grandparents that are raising their grandchildren and the challenges for all involved and resources. We further learned about the importance of early intervention regarding symptoms of psychosis in youth and a new program to treat that here in Missouri. Many of us are privileged to work with people from very diverse backgrounds and under some very difficult circumstances. The information presented today will equip us to serve them even better! The full link to today's meeting will be on our website at: <https://www.jacksoncountysoc.com> sometime Wednesday, late morning-early afternoon. In the meantime, the following is a summary of today's meeting:

1. Malinda A. Barnett: Community Outreach Supervisor-Eitas, MBarnett@eitas.org

Jennifer Seidel: Benefits Specialist-Eitas

Nicole Noblet: Peer Resource Specialist-Eitas

Jemima Nesthant: Community Outreach Specialist-Eitas

Sam Stepp: Community Resources Coordinator-Eitas

Website: <https://www.eitas.org/>

Phone: 816-363-2000

- The panelists spoke about issues pertaining to people with disabilities and issues they may face related to employment.
- Specific questions discussed included but were not limited to
 - What are some of the disability misconceptions you have encountered and how did you deal with them?
 - What are some barriers to employment and promotion of people with disabilities?
 - What should you tell a potential employer about your disability? Should you hide it so they don't pre-judge you?
 - What do you wish people knew most about a person with disabilities?
 - What can organizations and agencies do to make for a more inclusive environment?
 - What can we do to combat stereotypes and work towards more inclusion? What's lacking?
- Also discussed were resources based on the discussion today. These will be sent under

separate cover once received along with a link to a survey.

- Pointed out were the different experiences that people with disabilities may have depending on the situation and other factors.
- Impactful testimony was given from people that have lived experiences with disabilities.

**2. Sarah Albin: Integrated Care Specialist III-MARC or Mid-America Regional Council, salbin@MARC.ORG
Website: <https://www.marc.org/aging-health/integrated-care>**

- Discussed were issues pertaining to grandparents raising their grandchildren and how different parenting the second time around can be.
- Kinship navigator was discussed as an amazing resource for grandparents. For more information please go to: <https://cehd.missouri.edu/navigators/>
- The slides for this presentation and the Grandpass program will be sent after this summary.
- How can we best support grandparents was discussed as well as the challenges that they face.
- Specific numbers pointed out were that 29,452 grandparents are raising their grandchildren just in Missouri alone. 33,000 children are being raised by kin with no parent present.
- Strengths of grandchildren being raised by their grandparents were also discussed such as the preservation of cultural identity and stronger feelings of safety.
- Challenges were also reviewed such as financial strains, needing legal assistance, and housing help.
- Ways we can help were discussed.
- The Grand Pass program was discussed and how it can provide respite over the summer to grandparents. A flyer for this will be sent separately. Please contact Sarah with any questions.
- A powerful quote from a grandparent raising grandchildren was presented: "We just feel like it's no man's land because we can't relate to the younger parents, but we're not on the same page as the older folks either."
- Discussed was how some grandparents raising their grandchildren feel some shame or guilt and question their abilities with their grandchildren given what happened with their parents.
- Additional resources can be found towards the end of the slide deck that will be sent.

3. Latrisha L.D. Phillips: First Episode Psychosis Team Lead-Compass Health, lphillips@compasshn.org

- Discussed was "Student Mental Health: First Episode Psychosis." A brochure and flyer about this program will be sent under separate cover.
- Signs and symptoms of FEP or First Episode Psychosis were reviewed.
- How to identify a student that might be experiencing FEP was discussed.
- To learn more about this program and other resources please refer to: epcmisouri.org, samhsa.gov, or nami.org

- Latrisha can answer any referral questions that you may have! You can email her at the above email or call at: 816-406-4023. Another referral email is: cscteams@compasshn.org
- Nathan Hayward is the Program Manager for the local KC Metro FEP program. His number is: 816-404-2690. Email: nathan.hayward@uhkc.org

4. Additional Resources Based on Today's Topics:

- People with Disabilities and Employment Related Issues
 - <https://starkloff.org/>
 - <https://www.eeoc.gov/disability-discrimination-and-employment-decisions>
 - <https://www.eeoc.gov/publications/ada-your-employment-rights-individual-disability>
- Grandparents Raising Their Grandchildren
 - https://www.aamft.org/Consumer_Updates/grandparents.aspx#:~:text=Grandfamilies.org%20Provides%20legal%20resources,guid%20related%20to%20seeking%20services.
 - <https://ncrc.org/resources-for-grandparents-raising-grandchildren/>
 - <https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/for-families/grandparents/>
 - <https://www.grandfamilies.org/Portals/0/State%20Fact%20Sheets/Missouri%20GrandFacts%20State%20Fact%20Sheet%202021%20Update.pdf>
- Youth and Adolescent Mental Wellness
 - <https://www.nami.org/Your-Journey/Kids-Teens-and-Young-Adults>
 - <https://www.childrensmercy.org/in-the-community/supporting-parents-and-families/>
 - <https://www.childrensmercy.org/departments-and-clinics/developmental-and-behavioral-health/learning-opportunities/prepped-and-ready/>
 - <https://dmh.mo.gov/children-services>

5. My updates on:

- Summer programming: Please let me know if you know of a child that would like to attend a camp or other great summer fun activity but his/her/their family cannot afford it. The SOC/CYID has funding to assist in these situations. Please email ASAP and we can talk more about how that works.
- AFNC: Meeting is on May 1st at 10 a.m. on Webex. Featured will again be the panel from Eitas but it will not be a repeat of today and will take a deeper dive into people with disabilities and employment related issues. Also speaking will be the Starkloff Disability Institute who was the recent recipient of a two million dollar grant to assist people with disabilities.
- FEMA Training is now full. This is the training being sponsored by the SOC/CYID that focuses on the unique needs of children in disaster and emergency planning. If you would like to be added to a waitlist, please do not hesitate to contact me!

6. Kristin Slocum with Children's Mercy Hospital shared after the meeting some important resources:

The Infectious Disease Domain of the Pediatric Pandemic Network has created

this **toolbox of resources for use in all communities**. The toolkit has been endorsed by the SMEs of the PPN, to provide accurate, peer-reviewed, literature-based information. Please let us know if there is additional information that you feel would be helpful to your community, and we are happy to connect you with resources.

Toolkit

Information for Parents and Families

[Measles FAQ for Parents and Families](#) (web-based)

[Parents & Families FAQ](#) (PDF)

[Measles: What Parents Need to Know - HealthyChildren.org](#)

7. Byra Nicodemus brought up the pertinent topic of obtaining needed medications during emergencies and disasters. Dante Gliniecki, Emergency Manager for the City of Independence agreed to look into it and get back with us. I also have a few resources that will be sent with Dante's information.

8. Wendy Moore with the Health Department sent some materials after the meeting pertaining to a seminar this weekend for survivors and families of people with brain injuries. [A flyer with registration and other information will be sent after this email with other information!](#)

Our next meeting will be on **May 21st, 1 p.m., on Webex**. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if there is ever anything that I and/or the SOC/CYID can do to help you help others!

Have a great rest of your week and thank you for everything that you do!!!

Jennifer L. L'Heureux, Ph.D.

Program Specialist II

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