

January

2026

SOCCEED

(Systems of Care in Community Emergent Events and Disasters)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 Monthly meeting at 1 p.m. on Webex	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

In January, we will kick off our new theme for the year, "Create Don't Wait." This focus is on creating solutions where issues exist instead of waiting for someone or something else to come along. People, ordinary people have tremendous power to effect incredible changes and build stronger communities. This month will focus on some of those people. Marsha Wiard, Executive Director of OPALS's Embrace will be speaking about the nonprofit that she created to fill a void in the community surrounding intensive services for younger children. While services for that population and their families do exist, there are often waiting lists and so much red tape that make accessing services, difficult. OPALS Embrace takes a unique approach to strengthening families and communities. Robert Williams, Executive Director of Co-Parenting Ikigai will be talking about this newer nonprofit in the Kansas City area. Co-Parenting Ikigai is helping to also fill a gap in critically needed services in our

communities by helping to break generational trends that can decimate families such as incarceration, hopelessness, poverty, and so much more. This is a grass roots organization that is growing into a powerful community resource that will benefit so many! The SOC is also pleased to welcome back, Diana Perry, MOAIMH-EC. The Missouri Association of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health is an invaluable resource that gets children and families off to a healthy and strong beginning. This alone, support from the very beginning can intercept major issues from hopefully ever occurring.

After our featured presentations, there will be time for updates and announcements from the group. More to come also about exciting new SOC initiatives and expansion of existing ones in addition to some very powerful presentations in 2026. There will also be discussion about how the SOC is joining with a partner organization to create safer communities!

We look forward to seeing you at the January meeting. Please do not hesitate to reach out if the SOC can do anything for you in assisting others!