



## **SOCCEED, Systems of Care in Community Emergent Events and Disasters**

### **Meeting Summary for 2-17-26**

**Next Meeting is: 3-17-26**

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.

The following is a summary of today's meeting:

The theme for the SOC's 2026, "Create Don't Wait" emanated from a sense of need, a need to look past all of the seemingly endless problems, and a need to see that there are solutions, there is hope. With what often feels like a continuous bombardment of negative news, shootings, drugs, robberies, and the like, it is so easy to get lost in all of that and to think, solutions are neither realistic nor even possible. That kind of thinking while to an extent, understandable creates a cycle of helplessness that ensures, the spiral downward continues, locking people in the very thing they desire to escape. In the midst though of what may seem to be insurmountable problems, can come people, often ordinary people who take a different path and decide to spend their time and energy on making things better.

Our February meeting in keeping with the theme for 2026, "Create Don't Wait" focused on some of the most impactful, life-changing, and supportive services right here in our very own communities. Arguments often end in guns being used all too often thus forever changing lives. The following was our first presentation:

- Michelle Norris, President and Co-founder of Corey's Network
  - 816-834-9161
  - [coreysnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:coreysnetwork@gmail.com)
  - Coreysnetwork.org
  - Michelle's slide deck from her presentation will be posted to the SOC's website once available.

- Michelle talked about the plethora of services that Corey's Network provides to survivors of homicide and suicide. They partner with a multitude of organizations to support children and families often during the very worst times of their lives. Michelle shared her personal story of her son's murder who is the namesake of the organization.

Somebody knows something is often heard after a crime, but people with information may be fearful of coming forward and fear retaliation. With no tips, many cases go unsolved. Our second presenter was:

- Christina Ludwig, Coordinator of the Greater Kansas City Crime Stoppers Program.
  - 816-960-6800 Extension 226
  - [cludwig@kc-crime.org](mailto:cludwig@kc-crime.org)
  - <https://www.kccrimestoppers.com/sitemenu.aspx?ID=452&>
  - Christina's slide deck from her presentation will be posted to the SOC's website once available.
  - Crime Stoppers is a program that helps youth and has established a Campus Crime Stoppers unit in many schools. Stats were shared with how these anonymous tips helped to solve crime and prevent further tragedy. Because it is guaranteed anonymous, more people feel they can come forward. One such person that came forward, a student was able to prevent the successful suicide of a child just 7 years old.

Research is clear that there is a strong link between crime and early childhood trauma. Early intervention and supportive relationships are a prominent way to mitigate risks. Our third presenter was:

- Diana Perry, Region Area 5 Director for Missouri First Steps.
  - 816-363-1078 Office
  - [dperry@firststepsmo.com](mailto:dperry@firststepsmo.com)
  - <https://www.mofirststeps.com/>
  - Dianna's slide deck from her presentation will be posted to the SOC's website once available.
  - Dianna presented on the impact that early intervention can have on the developmental trajectory and often circumvent the violence that has become all too common in society.

The following resources were shared during or after the meeting:

1. Children's Mercy Hospital has a day treatment program for youth. The contact number is: 816-234-3674.
2. On March 6<sup>th</sup>, there will be a quarterly provider's meeting and as a part of that, a presentation from Hawthorn State Hospital will be given. This is the only state hospital for youth and the focus will be on the admissions process.
3. [https://nlihc.org/resource/join-next-training-institute-tenants-residents-webinar-226?utm\\_source=NLIHC+All+Subscribers&utm\\_campaign=d435b3ad14-Connection\\_010926\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0-de94e8e2a4-293640051&ct=t\(Connection\\_010926\\_COPY\\_01\)](https://nlihc.org/resource/join-next-training-institute-tenants-residents-webinar-226?utm_source=NLIHC+All+Subscribers&utm_campaign=d435b3ad14-Connection_010926_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0-de94e8e2a4-293640051&ct=t(Connection_010926_COPY_01))
4. <https://hazards.colorado.edu/workshop/2026/registration>
5. [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_SwbSW9x1SHS-QHHH3if0eg#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_SwbSW9x1SHS-QHHH3if0eg#/registration) (This is Understanding SNAP in Missouri: Today's Program and Upcoming Changes).
6. [VA moves to improve dental care access for eligible Veterans - VA News](#)
7. [https://uic.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_wXSj6-DUQHmdnloZFCedEQ#/registration](https://uic.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_wXSj6-DUQHmdnloZFCedEQ#/registration) (This is for Thriving in Families of People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities).

The next SOC meeting is scheduled for March 17<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m. on Webex.

Thank you for everything that you do and have done for the SOC. Please never hesitate to reach out if we may be of assistance!

Sincerely,

Jennifer L. L'Heureux, Ph.D.

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