

# Call for Nominations



*The Research and Training Center for Children's Mental Health at USF is seeking communities to participate in a study of System of Care Implementation*

For information about this study or to nominate a community for participation, please contact:

Sharon Hodges, Ph.D. or  
Kathleen Ferreira, MSE

Research & Training Center for  
Children's Mental Health  
Department of Child & Family Studies,  
Louis de la Parte Florida  
Mental Health Institute, 13301 Bruce  
B. Downs Blvd., Tampa, FL 33612  
813-974-4651 [hodges@fmhi.usf.edu](mailto:hodges@fmhi.usf.edu)  
or [kferreira@fmhi.usf.edu](mailto:kferreira@fmhi.usf.edu)

## Case Studies of System Implementation

### *Holistic Approaches to Studying Community-Based Systems of Care*

Holistic Approaches to Studying Community-Based Systems of Care is 5-year case study to identify strategies that local communities undertake in implementing community-based systems of care and provide greater understanding of how factors affecting system implementation contribute to the development of local service systems for children with serious emotional disturbance and their families.

### Purpose

This study will investigate:

- Fundamental mechanisms of system implementation
- How factors contributing to system implementation interact to produce well-functioning systems serving children with serious emotional disturbance and their families
- How system implementation factors are used in specific or unique combinations to develop local systems of care
- How local context influences systems-of-care development
- What structures and processes contribute to the implementation of systems of care
- If system of care implementation is marked by identifiable change agents or triggering conditions
- What conditions support or impede the development of systems of care

### Anticipated Results

It is expected that the results of this study will help both established and potential systems of care to identify strategies for successful system implementation within their local communities.

### Site Selection

Two established systems of care will be selected to participate in Year 1 of this study. A total of ten sites will be selected across the five years of this study.

A site selection process involving key informant interviews and document review will be used to identify established systems for children with serious emotional disturbance. ***Nominated sites do not have to be grant communities.***

### Data Collection

Data Collection will include semi-structured key informant interviews, document review, site-based observation, and documented aggregate outcome data related to system implementation in communities with established service systems and communities seeking to implement service systems.

### *Established System of Care*

For the purpose of this study, an established system of care is defined as:

*A network of structures and processes grounded in system-of-care values and principles that effectively provides children and youth with serious emotional disturbance and their families with access to and availability of necessary services and supports across administrative and funding jurisdictions.*

### *Site Selection Criteria*

- ✓ Identified needs for local population of children with serious emotional disturbance
- ✓ Goals for identified population of children with serious emotional disturbance that are consistent with system-of-care values and principles
- ✓ Actively implementing strategies to achieve expressed goals for identified population
- ✓ Outcome information that demonstrates progress toward these goals
- ✓ Ability to reflect on key transitions in development of system over time
- ✓ Sustainability over time



For more information about the Research & Training Center for Children's Mental Health, see <http://rtckids.fmhi.usf.edu>

Study 2: Case Studies of System Implementation is a study of the Research and Training Center of Children's Mental Health. The Center is jointly funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, U.S. Department of Education and the Center for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration under grant number H133B040024.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
Center for Mental Health Services  
[www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)