

MH/DS OF THE EAST CENTRAL REGION

**CHILDREN'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES
IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

PREPARED BY:

MH/DS OF THE ECR

SUBMITTED

4/20/20

GEOGRAPHIC AREA: Benton, Bremer, Buchanan, Delaware, Dubuque, Iowa, Johnson,
Jones, Linn

APPROVED BY GOVERNING BOARD: 4/17/20

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CHILDREN’S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The Mental Health/Disability Services of the East Central Region (ECR) submits this plan to implement the children’s behavioral health services described under section 331.397A, as enacted in HF690. ECR intends to embed children’s behavioral health planning and funding into the Region’s Annual Service and Budget Plan as well as Policies and Procedures management plan in order to conceptualize a comprehensive array of services for brain health support across the lifespan. Full service implementation will be contingent on available funding appropriated by the Iowa Legislature.

A. Creating A Regional Children’s Advisory Committee

The Region values community stakeholder input and has been actively soliciting input to develop this implementation plan as well as convene a Regional Children’s Behavioral Health Services Advisory Committee.

1. Process and Time Frames

Targeted Completion Date	Activity
1/31/20	Regional staff complete service mapping to determine gaps and needs across the Region.
2/15/20	Stakeholder input is solicited via Survey Monkey.
2/15/20	Survey also measures stakeholder interest in serving on Advisory committee.
3/15/20	More detailed stakeholder input is solicited via in-person visits to each county’s children’s committees.
5/1/20–6/15/20	Regional staff will personally reach out to interested parties to discuss Advisory committee participation.
6/25/20	Upon recommendation from regional staff, the Regional Governing Board will appoint members to the Children’s Behavioral Health Services Advisory committee, ensuring there is at least one member representing the following: (a) a parent/actively involved relative of a child who utilizes children’s behavioral health services; (b) the educational system; and (c) a regional Children’s Behavioral Health services provider and other stakeholder groups listed below.

2. Regional Children’s Advisory Committee

Member	Representing
7/1/20	Parents/Actively Involved Relatives of a Child who Utilizes Children’s Behavioral Health Services
7/1/20	The Education System
7/1/20	Early Childhood Advocates
7/1/20	Child Welfare Advocates
7/1/20	Children’s Behavioral Health Service Providers
7/1/20	The Juvenile Court System
7/1/20	Pediatricians
7/1/20	Child Care Providers
7/1/20	Local Law Enforcement
7/1/20	Regional Governing Board

B. Regional Governance Board Changes

The Regional Governing Board is ultimately responsible for: (a) the advancement of a regional management plan; (b) the development of access to a regional service system for adults with mental illness, intellectual disabilities, developmental disabilities and brain injuries with the FY21 addition of children with serious emotional disturbances; and (c) the administration of the non-Medicaid funded Mental Health Disability Services (MHDS) and children’s behavioral health services as outlined in Iowa Code. The Region is in the planning stages of identifying the time frames to change the Regional Governance Board composition.

1. Process and Time Frames

Targeted Completion Date	Activity
7/30/20	Regional staff will provide technical assistance to Children’s Behavioral Services Advisory Committee regarding Regional Governing Board participation.
7/30/20	The regional Children’s Behavioral Health Services Advisory committee will designate Governing Board representation for: (a) a parent/actively involved relative of a child who utilizes children’s behavioral health services; (b) the educational system; and (c) a regional Children’s Behavioral Health services provider.

2. Regional Governing Board

Member	Representing	Voting Member
1/1/20	Gary Bierschenk, Benton County Board of Supervisors	Yes
1/1/20	Duane Hildebrandt, Bremer County Board of Supervisors	Yes
1/1/20	Gary Gissel, Buchanan County Board of Supervisors	Yes
1/1/20	Shirley Helmrichs, Delaware County Board of Supervisors	Yes
1/1/20	Ann McDonough, Dubuque County Board of Supervisors	Yes
1/1/20	John Gahring, Iowa County Board of Supervisors	Yes
1/1/20	Pat Heiden, Johnson County Board of Supervisors	Yes
1/1/20	Wayne Manternach, Jones County Board of Supervisors	Yes
1/1/20	Ben Rogers, Linn County Board of Supervisors	Yes
1/1/20	Jenn Day, Designated by ECR Adult Advisory Committee	Yes
7/1/20	Parents/Actively Involved Relatives of a Child who Utilizes Children’s Behavioral Health Services (designated by the regional Children’s Behavioral Health Services Advisory Committee)	Yes
7/1/20	The Regional Education System (designated by the regional Children’s Behavioral Health Services Advisory Committee)	Yes
1/1/20	Diane Brecht, Designated by ECR Adult Advisory Committee (provider)	No
7/1/20	Regional Children’s Behavioral Health Service Providers (designated by the regional Children’s Behavioral Health Services Advisory Committee)	No

C. Regional 28E Agreement Amendment

There is an existing regional 28E agreement between the nine counties in the Region. ECR is updating the 28E agreement to reflect the additions of a Children’s Advisory Committee and representatives on the Regional Governing Board.

1. Process and Time Frames

Targeted Completion Date	Activity
3/1/20	ECR’s Operation Committee will update the 28E Agreement to reflect the following changes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated list of Regional Governing Board members, including children’s representatives, term definitions, and voting responsibilities • Clarification on regional staff responsibilities to individual counties as well as to Region • Inclusion of a Children’s Advisory Committee • Removed language regarding regional start-up • Clarification for counties wishing to join Region
4/17/20	Provide advance notice to all counties for Board of Supervisor and County Attorney review
6/25/20	Obtain required approvals/signatures
7/1/20	File the Regional 28E Agreement with the Secretary of State.

D. Regional Staff Changes

ECR is in the planning stages of identifying staffing needs for the Region to implement the new Children’s Behavioral Health Services Coordinator requirements and other anticipated staffing needs, including timeframes.

1. Process and Time Frames

Targeted Completion Date	Activity
2/6/20	Identification of regional Children’s Behavioral Health Coordinator
7/1/20	Transition current Coordinator to children’s role in addition to other responsibilities
6/30/21	Assess and identify need for additional regional staff in order to provide service coordination and provider outreach

E. Regional Management Plan Changes

The Region is in the planning stages of identifying the timelines and integration of the new Children’s Behavioral Health Services requirements into the Regional Policies and Procedures Manual and the Regional Annual Service and Budget Plan.

1. Process and Time Frames – Regional Policies and Procedures Manual

<u>Targeted Completion Date</u>	<u>Activity</u>
5/15/20	Amend the Regional Policies and Procedures Manual to include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application and enrollment procedures delineating diagnostic and financial eligibility (including copayments) for children requesting behavioral health services. • Changes in the information technology and data management system to incorporate children. • Updates on regional intake and service authorization procedures. • Updates on process for review and approval of Exceptions to Policy. • Inclusion of language regarding regional administration. • Update of service planning, provision, and quality assurance practices. • Review and update regional waiting list policy.
5/5/20	Solicit input from regional Advisory Board
5/15/20	Submit Amended Regional Policies and Procedures to DHS for approval. (Rules require Regions to submit the amendments to DHS 45 days prior to implementation.)
5/28/20	Submit Amended Regional Policies and Procedures to Advisory Boards for approval. Draft sent 5/15/20
5/28/20	Submit Amended Regional Policies and Procedures to Governing Board for approval. Draft sent 5/15/20

2. Process and Time Frames – Annual Service and Budget Plan

Targeted Completion Date	Activity	Resources (Low–Medium–High Staff Time, Funding, Etc.)
4/17/20	Submit to Regional Governing Board for review and approval	No funding and low staff time
4/17/20	Submit to Regional Advisory Board for approval	No funding and low staff time
5/1/20	Update the Annual Service and Budget Plan framework to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of the local access points for the Children’s Behavioral Health Services. • Identification of service coordination entities for children seeking services regardless of funding source. • Identification of Regional Children’s Behavioral Health core services as well as additional services identified by the Region within the planned implementation time frames. • Identification of budget line items for required core Children’s Behavioral Health Services. 	Funding has been conservatively estimated and will be increased upon legislative appropriation. Moderate level of staff time will be needed to conduct outreach and awareness with new and existing providers in the network.