

SYSTEM OF CARE HISTORY

- ◆ 1996: Providers began meeting.
- ◆ Held community meetings with families and providers.
- ◆ Identified that the systems are not easy to navigate and families often get “bounced” from system to system.
- ◆ 1997: Planning group was established with providers and parents. Gaps and barriers were identified.
- ◆ Group began working on finding new ways to make it easier for kids and families to get help.
- ◆ 1998: Group worked together for one year developing grant application.
- ◆ 1999: Submitted a System of Care grant titled “One Family, One Plan”.
- ◆ 1998-2002: Parents and professionals partnered; Family Centered Practice Pilot.
- ◆ Parents participated in surveying the community about Family Centered Practices.
- ◆ Focused on partnership with families and staff through modeling and trainings.
- ◆ 2000: Two parents joined the Multi-Purpose Collaborative Body as equal partners.
- ◆ 2003: Integrative Action Team was established to continue making changes in the System of Care regardless of money. “What can we do without new money?”
- ◆ Community Center of Excellence Plan was developed to continue coordinating services across all agencies. This plan strives to demonstrate the System of Care values throughout all systems in Kalamazoo County.
- ◆ April 2005: Integrative Action Team and Multi-Purpose Collaborative Body endorsed another application for a System of Care grant to continue the work already begun in developing a System of Care that is user-friendly, responsive and simplified.
- ◆ October 1, 2005: Kalamazoo Community receives a six-year grant to continue the work through ***Kalamazoo Wraps!***
- ◆ First Year of the grant is a planning year.