

Board Emerging Priorities and Initiatives -
Strategies and Action Items

Southern Region Behavioral Health

Policy Board Meeting

January 2024

Overview of Priorities and Strategies

1. Strive for good execution of initiatives and follow-up.
2. Implementing a direct impact and sustainable culture of concrete action and communication that leads to tangible results.
3. Continue understanding and addressing highlights and strengths, opportunities, and needs (gaps and barriers).
4. Continuing to develop strategies, priorities, and initiatives in rural behavioral health.

Behavioral Health Issues in Rural-Frontier Areas

- Youth programs and parenting support; family systems and engagement including community-based, residential, and transition in care.
- Courts and Justice: specialty courts, deflection and diversion
- Transportation and transport – resources and funding for rural outreach
- Crisis stabilization and response: hospitals, facilities and community

Additional Behavioral Health Issues

- Workforce and economic development (GOED): CHWs, peers, clinical, certifications, training and continuing education, licensure
- Training and Education
- Access to Services and Care - barriers to insurance and other.
- Data Assessment, collection, and reporting: issues, availability, barriers, and complexity.

Awareness, Outreach, and Education

1. Value-added benefit of a policy board for the public.
2. Accessibility - social media, feedback, inform and educate.
3. Earning public trust and communications.
4. Ways to remove barriers and increase presence.
5. Provided updates at behavioral health and other groups.
6. Examine historical context, communication, trust issues, and impact in communities before moving into policy.

Legislative Process (BDR)

- Education and follow-up with legislative process and Bill Draft Request (BDR)
- Staying updated on statewide and rural issues and initiatives
- Communicate and track bills and interfacing with state, human services, insurance, commission, and Interim Health Committee (IFC or HHS)
- Utilizing LCB, legislators, governor's office, policy and legal consult