

System Table Group: **Southeast Mental Health System of Care**

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System Table Communication Form

Briefly describe or list the major concerns/themes that have been discussed in your meeting. What are the factors influencing these specific concerns/themes and how are individuals, families, and communities being impacted?

Themes or Major Concerns:

- Children and youth with commercial insurance are not able to access the same services that are covered for children and youth with Husky Medicaid insurance or if covered, are charged cost prohibitive co-pays for these services
- Gap in services for children and youth who are in need of a higher level or different service than those that are available
- Specialty services that are not available for kids with autism and other kids who are not “group ready”
- Youth who are not involved with DCF do not have access to therapeutic support staff (TSS) or support staff (SS)
- Overall scarcity of mentoring services and ongoing funding sources for same in New London County
- Parents with cognitive limitations who are open in/connected to DDS and need assistance with parenting but DDS says they cannot provide this or work with child

What are the possible actions, on a local or state level, that could affect positive change on these concerns/themes?

- Find means to connect with local municipalities to offer training to Parks and Recreation staff to be able to work with kids with behavioral challenges, provide program “slots” and normalized, integrated activities for kids with disabilities
- More flexibility with Medicaid to reimburse providers to be able create more flexible services –e.g. home visits for families in outpatient or more behavioral based 1:1 services and therapeutic support

Briefly describe or list any current service provisions or programs that have been successful in addressing these concerns/themes?

- Westerly RI YMCA that created a mentoring program and have expanded to also offer through Mystic YMCA. Program is at capacity with wait list
- Project Genesis
- Groton Parks and Recreation has program offerings for kids with special needs
- Griswold uses instructional assistants from schools for summer recreation program
- ‘Around the Town’ program at Ledyard school system