



Making connections. Informing solutions.

Transforming Children's Behavioral Health Policy and Planning Committee

April 16th, 2025

ZOOM

2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

Scan to submit your attendance



Meeting Facilitation

Mute on Zoom

- Participants must remain muted on Zoom unless speaking

Hand Raising

- Virtual attendees should use the Hand Raise feature on Zoom for questions and comments

Questions at the End

- Hold questions and comments until the presenters have finished speaking

TCB only

- Only TCB members may ask questions and make comments

Recording

- This meeting is being recorded

Agenda

Welcoming, Opening Remarks

TCB Tri Chairs; Senator Ceci Maher, Representative Tammy Exum & Claudio Gualtieri, Senior Policy Advisor to the Secretary, OPM

Review and Acceptance of March Minutes

Legislative Updates

TCB Tri Chairs; Senator Ceci Maher, Representative Tammy Exum & Claudio Gualtieri, Senior Policy Advisor to the Secretary, OPM

Transformative Community Engagement

Taylor Tucker, Director of Social Enterprise, Health Equity Solutions

Community Voices Workgroup; Introduction and Draft Workplan

Janeen Reid, CEO Full Circle Youth Empowerment & Jenny Bridges, Executive Director of FAVOR

Transformative Community Engagement Scope of Work

Taylor Tucker, Director of Social Enterprise, Health Equity Solutions

Community Voice

Strategic Plan Updates

TYJI

Voting for the Adoption of the Strategic Plan

TCB Committee

Closing Remarks

TCB Tri Chairs; Senator Ceci Maher, Representative Tammy Exum & Claudio Gualtieri, Senior Policy Advisor to the Secretary, OPM

Community Voices Workgroup

Community Voices Workgroup Introduction

The Community Voices Workgroup consists of providers from organizations including Love146, FAVOR, Full Circle and CTFN. We are working on adding more providers to the group.

The Workgroup similarly to the other TCB workgroups meets once a month. The workgroup members bring their expertise to the group and provides insight from the families and children within their networks. This workgroup will work to ensure that family and children's voice is embedded and apart of **all TCB's work**. TYJI has contracted Health Equity Solutions to help facilitate a CVW Summit in July of 2025, and will level-set the importance of **transformative** engagement with the communities.

Current Members of the CVW include:

Joe Drane, FAVOR

Jenny Bridges, FAVOR

Roberta Senter, Love146

Janeen Reid, Full Circle

Adriana Rameriez, CTFN

Health Equity Solutions

*Transformative Community Engagement
Introduction & Project Overview*



Vision

For every Connecticut resident to attain optimal health regardless of race, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status.



Taylor Tucker, LMSW (he/him)
Director of Social Enterprise

ttucker@hesct.org 

Mission

To advance health equity through anti-racist policies and practices

Transformative Community Engagement Introduction & Project Overview

- Transformational community engagement centers on shared power, trust, transparency, and mutual accountability. It ensures communities can safely and meaningfully participate, influence priorities, and drive lasting change.
- Sharing power with communities involves decision-making and access to the information that informs those decisions.

- Actively addresses power imbalances
- Community as experts and leaders
- Collaborative idea formation
- Institutional support
- Shared ownership and accountability
- Equitable access to knowledge
- Ongoing relational partnerships

Common formats include:

- Community-based participatory research (CBPR)
- Participatory budgeting
- Democratic decision-making processes

Community Voices Workgroup Workplan

CVW Co-Chairs: Janeen Reid & Jenny Bridges

Suggested Purpose Statement: This workgroup authentically engages parents and youth with lived experience to gain insight on needs, gaps in services, and their priorities and suggestions for improvising specific behavioral health issues and policies. The members of this workgroup practice receptive listening by providing support and feedback to the parents and youth on the importance of their insight when they provide their expertise to the committee.

Draft Priorities:

- Evaluate what is happening in schools, what services and supports are provided for children and families across CT from a youth and family perspective
- Identifying what resources are available for children and families after receiving behavioral health treatment or services
- Evaluating family and youth support options and initiatives in CT
- Promote culturally competent care (peer to peer services, Community Health Workers (CHWs)) and distribute their resources to the community
- Engage children and their families in TCB work; transformational engagement with the community

Short-Term Goals: Operationalize the workgroup (meeting frequency, level-setting, finalize workplan)

Medium-Term Goals:

- Collect data on children's behavioral health needs and supports in CT by disseminating a survey to youth and family organizations across the State
- Identify ways to engage our communities; promote resources and programs, and network with a diverse array of organizations throughout the State
- Develop a youth report with input from youth organizations across the state to identify their supports and needs
- Develop a set of 2026 draft recommendations with the workgroup (if applicable)

Long-Term Goal: Utilize information from the survey, CVW Summit and Youth Report to establish workplans for the subsequent years.

Transformative Community Engagement Introduction & Project Overview

Pre-Summit Engagement:

- Single focus group engagement with TCB members
 - Understanding current knowledge and skills in equitable community engagement & clarifying short-term goals for the summit.
- Short level-setting transformative community engagement training for all TCB members.
- Lead a prep discussion with CVW

Summit:

- Facilitated a full-day summit focused on building transformative community engagement.
 - Engage community members of the CVW network.

Community Voice

2025-2028 Draft Strategic Plan

Feedback Received

The deadline for submitting feedback was April 7th. The TYJI received feedback from a variety of people including committee members, workgroup members, and different advisory bodies and tracked the feedback within an excel sheet.

Updates Made to the Plan

Organizational & System Infrastructure Diagrams

Labeled the charts to ensure clarity. The organizational chart portrays all the workgroups within the TCB. The Services and System Infrastructure Charts show the Priorities of the group. Not all Priorities are workgroups within the TCB

Partners

Based on feedback from the committee, State agencies such as the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMAHS), Office of Early Childhood (OEC) and Department of Developmental Disabilities (DDS) were added as partners throughout our work.

Expanding Goals Within the Priorities

Goals such as the goal for School Based were expanded upon to ensure they reflect the scope of work for the workgroup.

Added Terms to the Glossary:

- The term 'all children' was added to the glossary as the term is referenced various times within the strategic plan. The definition for this term in the glossary reads *"All children refers to every child, regardless of their abilities, backgrounds, or circumstances from birth to twenty-two. This term includes children with developmental disabilities, ensuring they have equal access to the same resources as their peers."*
- The term "data infrastructure" was added to the glossary. The definition in the glossary reads *"Data Infrastructure encompasses the systems, technologies, and processes involved in collecting, storing, managing, processing, and analyzing data. An effective data infrastructure should be efficient, safeguard sensitive information, comply with security protocols, adapt to evolving data needs, and support decision-making and collaboration."*

Updates Made to the Plan

Note within Services

We had added a note within the Services section of the document that reads **Throughout the TCB's work in Services, there are multiple task forces that the TCB can collaborate and learn from and ensure non-duplicative work across the behavioral health continuum. This statement is to ensure that we work closely with advisory bodies such as the State Advisory Council for Special Education and Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council to ensure that we are not duplicating work.*

Measures of Success

Measures of success were condensed a bit and rephrased. Within the TCB workgroups, the workgroup members will rank the priority measures to identify the ones the committee should focus on throughout 2025.

Community Voices Workgroup

The Community Voices workgroup was added to the workgroup section of the document, with the purpose statement and intent of the workgroup. The intent reads, "The Community Voices Workgroup engages families and children from across the State to foster partnerships between the TCB and the community and prioritize children and family voice into TCB initiatives and legislative recommendations, underscoring a firm commitment to equity and meaningful youth engagement." This was included, as family and children will be partners within all of our work.

Advisory Body Document

The document was restructured for clarity. This document includes both advisory bodies who have legislative priorities, and some that do not. Therefore, some of the diagrams represent a broader array of the advisory bodies' priorities – this document will continue to be updated following each legislative session.

Voting to Adopt the Plan

Please remember this is a living document, and the information within the plan is reflective of the input from the various strategic planning sessions held throughout 2024. This plan can be updated throughout the year(s) to reflect current needs and priorities. Hard copies of the Strategic Plan will be printed out and given to the committee at the May TCB meeting.

If you are an appointed member or a designee of the TCB, please vote to adopt the 2025-2028 TCB Strategic Plan.



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Next Meeting

TCB May Meeting: May 14th, 2025