



NE Family Youth System Partner Meeting Minutes NE FYSPRT June 12, 2025

Introduction

Increasing Tribal/Diverse Community/Family/Youth Involvement Becky Hammill, Convener

The NE FYSPRT met on June 12, 2025. Becky Hammill convened the meeting via Zoom and welcomed 12 participants with 4 family, tribal, diverse and youth members, and 8 system partners. Ashley James, Youth Tri Lead and Gail Kogle, System Partner Co-Tri Lead were present. Ashley began the meeting by sharing the acknowledgement that we are living and working on land that originally belonged to the Tribes.

Ashley reviewed the purpose of the regional FYSPRTs

The NE FYSPRT serves as a platform for bringing the voice of youth, families, and system partners together to identify the strengths, challenges, and gaps that exist in the regional behavioral health system of care.

And the NE FYSPRT Values Statement

We work continuously to provide a welcoming meeting environment for all attendees. Questions about the content or process of the NE FYSPRT meetings are welcomed. All who attend are treated with respect and dignity. We value improvement and innovation in publicly funded behavioral health for children, youth, and families.

General NE FYSPRT Business

A. Contract/Compliance – Community Education/Regional Issues/Work Plan Office of Behavioral Health Advocacy – Gail Kogle

Gail provided an overview of the Office of Behavioral Health Advocacy (formerly known as Ombuds). In 2022, the OBHA was officially created and there are 10 regions throughout the state with dedicated OBHA staff. Functions of the program include education for community and service providers regarding OBHA, ensure behavioral health advocacy services are available to all individuals, and provide recommendations regarding changes needed in laws, rules and regulations to improve behavioral health services. Advocacy is provided to youth, adults, and families and includes providing information on resources, education about advocacy efforts, and individual support with complaints, grievances, appeals, or administrative hearings. OBHA staff are not therapists or case managers. All information shared with the staff is protected and considered confidential. They do not



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give legal advice or have responsibility to enforce recommendations. OBHA conducts monthly forums open to all with a variety of topics, including gaps in behavioral health services, especially for youth.

Gail then offered an educational program on mental health advance directives. Any individual age 13 and above can implement a mental health advance directive. OBHA may be contacted for additional information/assistance.

Annual Self-Care and Resource Fair

Ashley thanked everyone for participating in the Self-Care and Resource Fair. There were over 200 attendees.

Standing Reports

A. Regional Ombuds

Gail Kogle reported that the Ombuds forum occurs on the 2nd Wednesday of every month in a virtual format. The discussion last month focused on individuals who lose their psychiatric medication prescribers and the difficulty of finding new prescribers.

NE FYSPRT Regional Issues

A. Regional Issues

Becky indicated that she did forward the concerns of the group regarding the gap in services for youth/children inpatient services. The Statewide FYSPRT group is aware of the issue and discussion at the statewide level will occur at their next meeting.

The next meeting will be July 17, 2025.