

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 85th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2005
4
5 By: Senator J. Jeffress
6
7

A Bill

SENATE BILL 972

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO EXPAND AND DIVERSIFY THE MEMBERSHIP OF
10 THE CHILD AND ADOLESCENT SERVICE SYSTEM PROGRAM
11 COORDINATING COUNCIL; TO UPDATE PROGRAMS FOR
12 CHILDREN WITH EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCES; AND FOR
13 OTHER PURPOSES.
14

Subtitle

15 AN ACT TO EXPAND AND DIVERSIFY THE
16 MEMBERSHIP OF THE CHILD AND ADOLESCENT
17 SERVICE SYSTEM PROGRAM COORDINATING
18 COUNCIL.
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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
23

24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-47-502 is amended to read as follows:
25 20-47-502. Definitions.

26 As used in this subchapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

27 (1)(A) "Case management" means those efforts that ~~assure~~ ensure
28 that necessary services for the child and family are obtained and monitored.

29 (B) Such efforts shall include coordination across
30 agencies for evaluations, the provision of services based on assessments and
31 evaluations that result in the development of an interagency service plan,
32 the review for adequacy of services through client progress, and maintaining
33 cooperation among agencies;

34 (2)(A) "Case review" means a multiagency effort to design and
35 provide a service delivery plan for difficult-to-serve children who may
36 require unusual services or service configurations.



1 (B) When utilizing a group process for reaching service
2 delivery decisions, the group shall be composed of those who carry sufficient
3 authority to ~~assure~~ ensure timely provision of services;

4 (3) "CASSP" means the Child and Adolescent Service System
5 Program;

6 (4) "Child with emotional disturbance" means an individual under
7 the age of eighteen (18), or under the age of twenty-one (21) if program
8 services began ~~prior to~~ before the age of eighteen (18);

9 (A) ~~who~~ Who is exhibiting inappropriate emotional,
10 interpersonal, or behavioral problems within the home, preschool program,
11 school, or community given his or her age, intellectual level, and cultural
12 background;

13 (B) ~~whose~~ Whose degree of dysfunction is at least
14 disruptive and often disabling;

15 (C) ~~whose~~ Whose problems persist after efforts to deal
16 with the problems have been made by significant others in the child's social
17 environment; and

18 (D) ~~who~~ Who meets specific criteria established by the
19 Child and Adolescent Service System Program Coordinating Council;

20 (5)(A) "Collaborative evaluation" means an intensive appraisal
21 of a child that provides more of an in-depth analysis than a screening and
22 assessment.

23 (B) The evaluation shall be designed, obtained, and
24 utilized collaboratively by those agencies identifying a need for the
25 information;

26 ~~(6)~~(A) "Flexible funds" means a specific fiscal allocation
27 designated for atypical expenditures to meet extraordinary needs of a child
28 and family identified in the service plan.

29 (B) Decisions for expenditure of flexible funds shall be
30 made at the regional or local level and ~~must~~ shall be approved by all
31 involved service providers;

32 (7) "Interagency service plan" means the integrated plan of care
33 that is individualized for each child or adolescent receiving program
34 services and is developed through the collaboration of all agencies providing
35 services for that child;

36 (8)(A) "Regional plan" means a written strategy developed by

1 regional program teams that specifies the kind, mix, and priority of services
2 to be provided in each community mental health center catchment area.

3 (B) The regional plan shall:

4 (i) ~~address~~ Address all components of the system of
5 care;

6 (ii) ~~shall be~~ Be based on the principles for the
7 system of care provided in this section and on the service needs of the
8 children with emotional disturbance in the region;

9 (iii) ~~shall include~~ Include procedures for
10 evaluating services provided to children with emotional disturbance and their
11 families; and

12 (iv) ~~shall be~~ Be reviewed annually by the council;
13 and

14 (v) ~~upon~~ Upon approval ~~shall~~ be incorporated into
15 the statewide plan;

16 (9) "Screening and assessment" means an initial appraisal of a
17 child identified or suspected of having emotional disturbance that provides
18 sufficient information to make decisions about service needs;

19 (10) "Service array" means those services in the system of care
20 that address the varying areas of needs of children with emotional
21 disturbance and their families and shall include, but not be limited to:
22 mental health services, substance abuse services, social services, education
23 services, health services, vocational services, recreational services,
24 operational services, case management, advocacy, and other necessary
25 services;

26 ~~(11) "Single point of entry" means a unit, agency, or group~~
27 ~~designated as the gatekeeper for the service system for children with~~
28 ~~emotional disturbance and their families;~~

29 ~~(12)~~(11) "Statewide plan" means a comprehensive strategy that
30 identifies the procedures for developing and implementing the system of care
31 that is prepared by the council incorporating all regional plans; and

32 ~~(13)~~(12) "System of care" means a comprehensive spectrum of
33 mental health and other necessary services organized into a coordinated
34 network to meet the multiple and changing needs of children with emotional
35 disturbance, based on principles set forth in this subchapter.

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1 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 20-47-505 is amended to read as follows:
 2 20-47-505. Child and Adolescent Service System Program Coordinating
 3 Council.

4 (a)(1) There is ~~hereby~~ created a Child and Adolescent Service System
 5 Program Coordinating Council ~~which~~ that shall meet on a quarterly basis and
 6 at other times deemed necessary to perform its functions.

7 (2) The coordinating council shall include the following persons
 8 to be selected and appointed by the directors of the Department of Education,
 9 the Department of Health, and the Department of Human Services:

10 (A) At least three (3) parents, parent surrogates, or
 11 family members of a child or children with emotional disturbance;

12 (B) A member of an ethnic minority;

13 (C) A child advocate;

14 (D)(i) Fifteen (15) Child and Adolescent Service System
 15 Program coordinators from each of the certified community mental health
 16 centers to be selected by nomination and vote by the county Child and
 17 Adolescent Service System Program coordinators.

18 (ii) Three (3) Child and Adolescent Service System
 19 Program members shall be chosen from each of the five (5) Department of Human
 20 Services' catchment areas;

21 (E)(i) One (1) or more representatives from specific
 22 divisions or agencies in the Department of Human Services, the Department of
 23 Health, and the Department of Education.

24 (ii) Each representative shall have official duties
 25 related to the delivery of mental health services for children and
 26 adolescents with emotional disturbances.

27 (iii) Specific designations of membership of the
 28 coordinating council shall be determined through interdepartmental and
 29 intradepartmental agreements that will be renewed on an annual basis; and

30 (F)~~(1)~~ (i) At least two (2) representatives from private or
 31 public agencies or organizations that are stakeholders in mental health
 32 services for children and adolescents with emotional disturbances At least
 33 four (4) representatives from private providers who are not designated as
 34 community mental health centers.

35 (ii) At least two (2) from the four (4)
 36 representatives under subdivision (a)(2)(F)(i) shall be from the Arkansas

1 Hospital Association who are not already members under subdivision (a)(F) of
2 this section.

3 ~~(ii)~~(iii) The directors ~~will~~ shall jointly appoint
4 an appropriate number of ~~stakeholders~~ representatives.

5 (b) The coordinating council shall:

6 (1) Advise and report to the directors and to the Arkansas
7 Adolescent Mental Health Planning and Advisory Council on matters of policy
8 and programs related to children with emotional disturbance and their
9 families;

10 (2) Identify and recommend fiscal, policy, training, and program
11 initiatives and revisions based on needs identified in the planning process;

12 (3) Provide specific guidelines for the development of regional
13 services and plans based on the guiding principles of the system of care;

14 (4) Review and approve regional plans developed by regional
15 program teams and incorporate the regional plans into the statewide plan;

16 (5) Assure that mechanisms for accountability are developed and
17 implemented;

18 (6) Submit a statewide plan and budget recommendations to the
19 directors on or before March 15 of each even-numbered year thereafter
20 preceding the legislative session;

21 (7) Develop and recommend special projects to the directors;

22 (8) Provide a written report on a quarterly basis to the Senate
23 Interim Committee on Children and Youth that summarizes progress implementing
24 this subchapter;

25 (9) Establish guidelines and procedures for the voting
26 membership, officers, and annual planning of both the coordinating council
27 and the regional program planning teams which the coordinating council will
28 review and update on an annual basis; and

29 (10) Make recommendations for corrective action plans to the
30 directors in the event that a regional program planning team does not produce
31 a timely regional plan that meets a plan of care or fails to implement the
32 approved regional plan.

33

34 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 20-47-506 is amended to read as follows:

35 20-47-506. Regional Child and Adolescent Service System Program
36 Coordinating Council planning teams.

1 (a) A regional Child and Adolescent Service System Program planning
2 team shall be established in each ~~community mental health center catchment~~
3 area of the five (5) Department of Human Services' catchment areas.

4 (b)(1) Each team shall include individuals who are not state employees
5 and who are not providers of services to children with emotional disturbance
6 or their families but who are parents, parent surrogates, family members, or
7 consumers.

8 (2) Every effort shall be made to encourage and assist parents,
9 parent surrogates, family members, consumers, and advocates to participate in
10 program planning teams.

11 (c) The regional program planning teams shall include ~~agency~~
12 representatives from the community mental health centers, private providers
13 not designated as community mental health centers, if the providers are
14 providing services in the region, the Division of Developmental Disabilities
15 Services, the Division of Children and Family Services, the Department of
16 Health, and the local school districts or educational cooperatives.

17 (d) Additional representatives of other local services and programs
18 shall be added by the regional team and will include representatives from the
19 juvenile justice system or youth services providers and local preschool
20 programs, if possible.

21 (e) Each regional team member may appoint a single person to serve as
22 his or her proxy.

23 (f) The regional program planning team shall:

24 (1) Advise and report to the Child and Adolescent Service System
25 Program Coordinating Council and to the regional Arkansas Mental Health
26 Planning and Advisory Council on matters of policies, resources, programs,
27 and services relating to children with emotional disturbance and their
28 families;

29 (2) Identify and recommend program initiatives and revisions
30 based on area and community-based needs;

31 (3) Submit a regional plan and guidelines for interagency
32 service delivery teams to the coordinating council on or before February 15
33 of each even-numbered year preceding the legislative session;

34 (4) Develop and implement special projects for community-based
35 services; ~~and~~

36 (5)(A) Ensure that interagency service teams are established and

1 utilized in coordinating services for children and adolescents referred to
 2 the program.

3 (B) Each service delivery team shall have sufficient and
 4 appropriate representation from identified service providers and will
 5 complete an interagency service plan for each child or adolescent receiving
 6 program services.

7 (C) Every effort shall be made to assist parents, parent
 8 surrogates, family members, and consumers to participate as members of the
 9 interagency service delivery team; and

10 (6) Provide membership to the regional Arkansas Mental Health
 11 Planning and Advisory Council as delineated in the bylaws of the council.

12

13 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 20-47-507 is amended to read as follows:

14 20-47-507. Child and Adolescent Service System Program Coordinating
 15 Council staff.

16 (a) The staff for the Child and Adolescent Service System Program
 17 Coordinating Council shall be provided by the Child and Adolescent Service
 18 System Program project for the first two (2) years and subsequently by the
 19 Division of Mental Health Services.

20 (b) The division will serve as the coordinating agency and shall
 21 develop and support the ~~regional~~ county program team network and the
 22 coordinating council and shall provide training and technical assistance
 23 relevant to the system of care.

24 (c) Annual site reviews and program evaluations of ~~regional~~ county
 25 program teams will be coordinated by the division and will involve a
 26 multiagency team of professionals, family members, consumers, and advocates.

27 (d) The division's program staff shall provide an annual report
 28 summarizing program ~~regional~~ county and coordinating council activities,
 29 strategic plans, and outcomes to the directors of the Department of Human
 30 Services, the Department of Education, and the Department of Health each year
 31 on or before October 15.

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33 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 20-47-508 is amended to read as follows:

34 20-47-508. Evaluation and treatment.

35 (a) ~~Children~~ A child suspected of having emotional disturbance who ~~are~~
 36 is referred for Child and Adolescent Service System Program services shall be

1 given a screening and assessment ~~through the single point of entry by the~~
2 child's' current provider, after which an initial interagency service plan
3 shall be defined and developed.

4 (b) ~~The community mental health centers are hereby designated as the~~
5 ~~single point of entry~~ Entry into services designed by the Child and
6 Adolescent Service System Program team shall be obtained following existing
7 procedures in the Department of Human Services.

8 (c) ~~The assessment shall be conducted by the community mental health~~
9 ~~center serving the area in which the child or adolescent lives.~~

10 (d) ~~The community mental health center~~ Providers of Rehabilitative
11 Services for Persons with Mental Illness services shall be accessible on a
12 twenty-four-hour basis, shall accept referrals from multiple sources, have
13 interagency linkages, involve parents, ensure immediate access to crisis
14 intervention services, and have authority to seek needed services.

15 (e)(1) If after screening and assessment or collaborative evaluations
16 it is determined that a child with emotional disturbance needs multiagency
17 services, then initial and subsequent individualized multiagency service
18 plans for the child and the child's family shall be jointly developed by the
19 appropriate local or ~~regional~~ county representatives of ~~the community mental~~
20 ~~health centers~~ providers of mental health services, of the Department of
21 Human Services county office, of the Department of Health, of the Special
22 Education Division of the Department of Education, of the local school
23 district, and of any other service provider identified to meet the needs of
24 the child and his or her family.

25 (2) The individualized service plan shall reflect an integrated
26 service delivery that specifies services or programs with funding to be
27 provided by each agency.

28 (3) The service plan shall also designate responsibility for
29 case management.

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