



## Child and Adolescent Services System Program (CASSP) Care Coordinating Council – Region 7

### Why does this Council exist?

**MISSION** is to " Identify and develop a cooperative, collaborative internal and external network of people who care about empowering and encouraging children and families to reach their fullest potential by keeping their family together and intact."

**VISION** is to "Create a community to meet the changing needs of children and families."

**PURPOSE** is to "Facilitate the development of expanded communication cooperation, collaboration, and coordination through a system of care and it's local community members."

### When does this Council meet?

The **Council** meets on the 4th Friday at 11:00 am every other month in Batesville unless this is a holiday weekend and then it is usually rescheduled to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday. The Council is presently scheduled in 2011 to meet on November 18<sup>th</sup> at the Health Resources of Arkansas Corporate Office in Batesville (25 Gap Rd., Batesville, AR 72501). Phone conferencing is available for these calls. The **Governance & Finance Committee** meets monthly at 9:30 am on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month in Batesville and by phone conference. The **Family & Youth Outreach Workgroup** meets monthly in Searcy usually on Fridays.

### Who are the Council Members?

The **Council** is made up of Steering and Advisory Members from the 10 counties of CASSP Region 7 (Cleburne, Fulton, Independence, Izard, Jackson, Sharp, Stone, Van Buren, White, and Woodruff). Together, Steering and Advisory members represent a cross-section of persons from the 10 counties who represent families, youths, mental health agencies (both public and private), Juvenile Justice, Child-Serving Divisions of the AR Department of Human Services, AR Department of Health, local schools, early childhood programs, substance abuse service providers, and non-profit and other community agencies that provide services to children and families. The meetings of the Council are open to the public and the Council is currently recruiting additional Steering and Advisory Members. We welcome you to participate.

### What does this Council Offer the Community?

The **Council** serves as a regional planning team for developing improved services and supports that children and families need to keep their children in their home, local schools, and in their local communities. The council works together to strategically plan ways to increase coordination between those agencies or persons that provide services and supports to children and families, identify gaps in current service system, develop new or improved services and supports that are needed, and communicate to local and state government officials the stumbling blocks, barriers, and successes of the regional community in meeting the needs of our families.

The **Council** also serves as the governing body of community funding allocated for purchasing critical individualized services and supports for those children who are involved in Wraparound (or person-centered planning) to prevent or reduce placements of the referred child or adolescent into a psychiatric hospital, residential setting, foster care system, or juvenile detention center.

### Who do I Contact to Learn More About the Council or About Wraparound Services?

Please contact **Staci Ringwald, M.S., Director of Children's Systems of Care - Health Resources of Arkansas**; 1800 Myers Street, Batesville, AR 72501; (Office Phone): 870.793.8925 Ext. 1018 or (Cell Phone) 870/834-9942; (Email) [sringwald@hra-health.org](mailto:sringwald@hra-health.org)