

## **Special Committee Report**

### **Recommendations**

#### ***Opportunities for Coordination and Collaboration***

The Committee recognizes the important recent and ongoing work of commissions, committees, councils, groups, and task forces focused on issues, ideas, and improvements that impact the behavioral health system, its capacity and workforce, and its financing and sustainability. The Committee acknowledges the connections and opportunities to collaborate on common goals and interests associated with the interim work of the Kansas Criminal Justice Reform Commission, the Special Committee on Foster Care Oversight, and the Robert G. (Bob) Bethell Joint Committee on Home and Community Based Services and KanCare Oversight. The Committee highlights two areas where coordination and meaningful collaboration can and is occurring – specialty courts (KCJRC) and integrated care (Bethell Joint Committee).

- The Committee submits for the record, the crosswalk of recommendations serving as the foundation for the review of its three working group that detailed the relevant recommendations and study considerations submitted by the Child Welfare System Task Force (2017 preliminary, 2018 final reports); the Crossover Youth Working Group (2019 report); the Governor’s Behavioral Health Planning Council and its subcommittees (2018, 2019 reports); the Governor’s Substance Use Disorder Task Force (2018 report); and the Kansas Mental Health Task Force (2018, 2019 reports).

#### ***Data as a Decisionmaking Tool for Modernization and Reform***

The Committee notes the identification of a variety data sources in the working group report and its committee process and strongly encourages clear, connected data systems and quality reporting to provide decisionmakers across the system with measurable and easily tracked results. This will prove essential for the next steps toward implementation and provide measurable outcomes to drive decisionmaking, particularly for the evaluation of the data reported and financing of system goals and programming.

#### ***Distribution of Special Committee Report***

Given the breadth and complexity of the topics associated with mental health and transformation of the system, its capacity and workforce; the policy and treatments options and outcomes for individual’s with behavioral health needs; and the sustainability and finance for the delivery of behavioral health services and resources, the Committee requests its complete report be transmitted to the following standing and joint committees of the Kansas Legislature: Robert G. (Bob) Bethell Joint Committee on Home and Community Based Services and KanCare Oversight; House Committee on Children and Seniors; House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice; House Committee on Health and Human Services; House Committee on K-12 Education Budget; House Committee on Social Services Budget; Senate Committee on Judiciary; Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare; Senate Committee on Ways and Means (agency subcommittees).

- The Committee requests the staff of the Kansas Legislative Research Department compile a new crosswalk to reflect the adopted Special Committee working group recommendations and the other interim groups issuing relevant considerations and recommendations during the 2020 Interim.

### ***Recognition of Participants and Expert Information***

The Special Committee acknowledges and appreciates the unique structure and support needed to conduct its broad review of mental health modernization and reform in Kansas and meet and exceed the charge issued by the Legislative Coordinating Council (LCC). The Committee especially recognizes the support of its Committee staff from the Kansas Legislative Research Department and the Office of the Revisor of Statutes and the working group facilitation support provided by the Kansas Health Institute.

- The Committee commends the work of the roundtable participants and their contributions not only to the work of the Special Committee, but also to the information, direction, expertise, and passion to the review and formulation of recommendations of the individual working groups.
- The Committee further recognizes meetings occurred under COVID-19 conditions; the public was asked to access its meetings and those of the working groups through audio or video stream.

The Special Committee encourages all the above entities to continue this spirit of collaboration and welcomes continued participation and information on these important topics and issues.

### ***Request to Legislative Leaders***

The Special Committee requests the LCC and the Legislature consider formation of a formal standing or joint committee to consider, address, and continue with the effort to address the longer-term goals and strategies incorporated in both this Committee and the adopted working groups' reports. The Committee recognizes that additional time is needed to continue not only this significant discussion but to work towards implementation strategies and longer-term system direction and transformation. The Committee also recommends leadership from each of the identified committees receiving the report commit to planning and discussion on this report and more formal assignment of topics and individual recommendations and priorities for review and consideration by the individual committees.