

Are You N? The Youth Perspective

Lakicha Jernigan, Ed.S, CMHT

Carnette Hudson, CPP

NFusion Model

MS SOC BACKGROUND



SYSTEM OF CARE PRINCIPLES



SERVICES OVERVIEW



MS SOC BACKGROUND

A System of Care (SOC) is...

An organizational philosophy and framework that involves collaboration across agencies, families, and youth for the purpose of improving access and expanding the array of coordinated community-based services and supports that helps children, youth and families function better at home, in school, in the community and throughout life

What is NFusion?

- NFusion is an initiative aimed at linking youth and young adults, ages 14-21, with resources in their communities to help them navigate transitions.
- NFusion offers a variety of supports including assistance with living skills, educational support, cultural enrichment, employment skills, mental health wellness, and countless others.
- NFusion offers youth, families, and community members the opportunity to have a voice and support one another.
- VISION: Empowering Young Adults, Inspiring Families, and Creating New Communities

SYSTEM OF CARE PRINCIPLES

- Ensure availability and access to a broad, flexible array of effective, community-based services and supports for children and their families that address their emotional, social, educational, and physical needs, including traditional and nontraditional services as well as natural and informal supports.
- Provide individualized services in accordance with the unique potentials and needs of each child and family, guided by a strengths-based, wraparound service planning process and an individualized service plan developed in true partnership with the child and family.
- Ensure that services and supports include evidence-informed and promising practices, as well as interventions supported by practice-based evidence, to ensure the effectiveness of services and improve outcomes for children and their families.
- Deliver services and supports within the least restrictive, most normative environments that are clinically appropriate.
- Ensure that families, other caregivers, and youth are full partners in all aspects of the planning and delivery of their own services and in the policies and procedures that govern care for all children and youth in their community, state, territory, tribe, and nation.



SYSTEM OF CARE PRINCIPLES

- Ensure that services are integrated at the system level, with linkages between child-serving agencies and programs across administrative and funding boundaries and mechanisms for system-level management, coordination, and integrated care management.
- Provide care management or similar mechanisms at the practice level to ensure that multiple services are delivered in a coordinated and therapeutic manner and that children and their families can move through the system of services in accordance with their changing needs.
- Provide developmentally appropriate mental health services and supports that promote optimal social-emotional outcomes for young children and their families in their homes and community settings.
- Provide developmentally appropriate services and supports to facilitate the transition of youth to adulthood and to the adult service system as needed.

SYSTEM OF CARE PRINCIPLES



- Incorporate or link with mental health promotion, prevention, and early identification and intervention in order to improve long-term outcomes, including mechanisms to identify problems at an earlier stage and mental health promotion and prevention activities directed at all children and adolescents.
- Incorporate continuous accountability and quality improvement mechanisms to track, monitor, and manage the achievement of system of care goals; fidelity to the system of care philosophy; and quality, effectiveness, and outcomes at the system level, practice level, and child and family level.
- Protect the rights of children and families and promote effective advocacy efforts.
- Provide services and supports without regard to race, religion, national origin, gender, gender expression, sexual orientation, physical disability, socio-economic status, geography, language, immigration status, or other characteristics, and ensure that services are sensitive and responsive to these differences.

¹Stroul, B., Blau, G., & Friedman, R. (2010). *Updating the system of care concept and philosophy*. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development, National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health.

SERVICES OVERVIEW

- “Develop a foundation for empowering families to become interdependent, inspire families to become the cornerstone of service delivery, and create new communities that seek to find solutions that are culturally competent, innovative, and inclusive of everyone.”

Services

GED ASSISTANCE	YOUTH ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES
COMPUTER & INTERNET ACCESS	TRANSITIONAL ADVISOR SUPPORT SERVICES
RESOURCES BROKERING	CULTURAL LINGUISTIC COMPETENCE
SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMS	LGBT AWARENESS & SENSITIVITY
COMMUNITY SERVICE	PEER SUPPORT SERVICES
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES	FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES
TECH ASSISTANCE & TRAININGS	GIRL'S SUPPORT GROUP
SELF-ESTEEM BUILDING	RESUME BUILDING
SOCIAL INTERACTIONS	CAREER DEVELOPMENT
GAME NIGHTS	EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE
MOVIE NIGHTS	TUTORING

UNIQUENESS OF NFUSION SITES

Service Delivery

- Family driven and youth guided, with the strengths and needs of the child and family determining the types and mix of services and supports provided.
- Community based, with the locus of services as well as system management resting within a supportive, adaptive infrastructure of structures, processes, and relationships at the community level.
- Culturally and linguistically competent, with agencies, programs, and services that reflect the cultural, racial, ethnic, and linguistic differences of the populations they serve to facilitate access to and utilization of appropriate services and supports and to eliminate disparities in care.

NFusion's Process

- Needs Assessment is conducted to determine eligibility for the program, what services the youth and/or family are interested in, and provides a brief introduction to what NFusion offers and how they can help the individuals reach their own goals.
- If eligible, appointment for intake is made with Transitional Advisor II/Therapist.
- After the intake is completed the youth and/or family meets with a Transitional Advisor to develop a plan for how they want NFusion to work for them.
- Following the Intake and TA Plan development a youth will begin participating in services.

Environment - Youth Friendly



Stigma Free

- Bully-free zone
 - Culturally aware and responsive
 - Non-judgmental
 - Help without fear of being labeled “mental”

The “Voice and Choice” Concept at NFusion

“My Voice Is Heard”

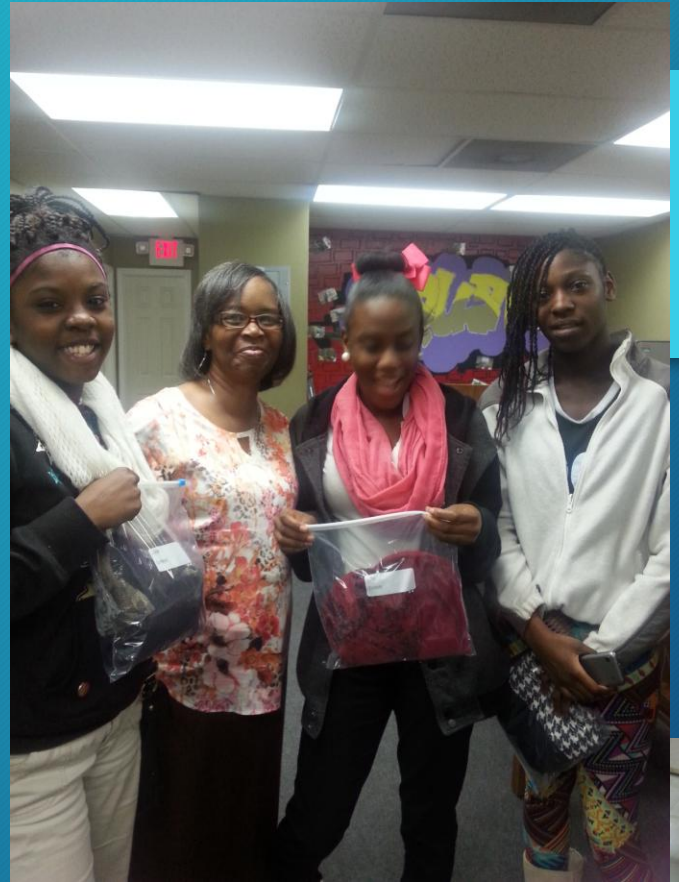


“I Choose What’s Best For Me.”



Benefits of NFusion





Contact Information:

190 West College Street

Louisville, MS 39339

Nfusionmsvii.com

Lakicha@nfusionms.org or

Carnette@nfusionms.org

662-773-2600