

Children's Behavioral Health Policy Advisory Committee

The Board of Directors establishes a Children's Behavioral Health Policy Advisory Committee pursuant to Article IV, Section 13 of the Bylaws consisting of no more than twelve (12) members. There shall be no fewer than one (1) Board member, nominated by the Board Chairperson and approved by the Board, (3) members of the field, (1) individual with lived experience and one (1) member of the public serving on the committee. No more than one individual may be appointed to the committee per entity/organization and no individual with a conflict of interest, perceived or otherwise, shall be a listed as a voting member of the committee.

A majority of the Committee members, present and voting, shall constitute a quorum. The Committee shall meet no fewer than six (6) times per year at the call of the Chair of the Committee or the Chairperson of the Board to carry out its responsibilities and shall maintain minutes of all its meetings, which shall be approved by the committee and made available for distribution by the Board. The Chairperson of the Board shall appoint a Committee Chair, which may be designated New Futures' staff, and may appoint a Vice Chair. The Children's Behavioral Health Policy Coordinator shall serve as staff to the Committee.

Committee Charter

New Futures is an advocacy organization with staff and other resources committed to the following responsibilities:

- Establishing the focus and prioritization of New Futures' children's behavioral health advocacy resources each year by identifying short- and long-term policy priorities according to New Futures' mission, goals and capacity to include the following:
 - State legislative and public policy initiatives
 - Federal legislative and public policy initiatives
 - Other policy and advocacy opportunities such as those involving Executive Branch agencies; the Judicial Branch; local and county government groups; non-profit entities (including advocacy organizations); business, insurance, and other for-profit sectors; other commissions and task forces.
- Developing and coordinating processes to guide New Futures' children's behavioral health policy and advocacy work, including but not limited to the role of New Futures staff, sub-contractors, advocates, the Policy Advisory Committee and the Board of Directors.

- Examining opportunities for an affirmative legislative agenda:
 - Evaluate all bills relevant to New Futures' mission, policy and advocacy priorities to determine New Futures' position and level of involvement for each bill
 - Identify, prioritize, and strategize New Futures' role for specific legislative and public policy issues consistent with New Futures' mission, vision and values

To support the work of New Futures' staff and sub-contractors, the New Futures' Board of Directors' Children's Behavioral Health Policy Advisory Committee has the following responsibilities:

Children's Behavioral Health Policy Advisory Committee Responsibilities:

- Review periodic updates from New Futures' staff regarding the progress of the session and the impact of ongoing legislative and public policy activity on identified priorities;
- Provide consultation to staff on legislative and public policy activities;
- Assist New Futures' in the development of relationships with legislators, members of the business and nonprofit communities, and the public;
- Advocate directly on behalf of identified legislative and public policy priorities when appropriate, through participation in the legislative or other public policy processes;
- Leverage professional relationships and networks to support identified legislative and public policy work;
- Work with New Futures' staff to plan for and host an annual Children's Behavioral Health Symposium.