

## **Positive Behavior Support Statewide PBS Snapshot**

June 21, 2005  
Learning Center  
Topeka Kansas

### **Examples of those present today**

Children and family services; child welfare  
Community Supports and Services  
Health care policy/Medicaid  
Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE)  
Statewide Technical Assistance Resource System (K-STARS) including Project STAY  
and Kansas Neurologic Disabilities Support Project (NDSP)  
Higher Education (University of Kansas- Juniper Gardens, Beach Center, Kansas  
University Center for Developmental Disabilities)  
Parson's State Hospital Dual Diagnosis Treatment & Training Services  
Early childhood professionals and PBS trainers  
Creative Community Living  
Community Living Opportunities  
Johnson County Developmental Supports  
Self Advocates  
Parents  
Professionals supporting children with traumatic brain injury  
School-wide PBS trainers  
Kansas Institute for Positive Behavior Support  
Families Together  
Autism specialists

### **What is PBS?**

A strengths-based approach  
Set of strategies for problem solving and teaching social skills  
Pedagogy for social development  
Building skills for community living  
Communication approaches  
Intended to enhance quality of life  
Not cookbook method  
Research based approaches  
Based upon the principles of behavior  
Framework for teaching and building practitioners' skills  
Environmental supports  
Not a quick fix, not rigid  
Relationship development is emphasized  
Family empowerment  
Family as change agents  
Changing problem behavior  
Including mental health issues as well as environment

Nonaversive practices  
Includes systems change  
Data based practices  
Evaluate efforts and success  
Teaches social skills  
Proactive and prevention focused  
Team-driven approach  
Plans must have good contextual fit (works well for the team implementing the plan)  
Flexible and proactive as opposed to reactive  
Values driven (family, person, etc)  
Person centered  
Foundation is functional behavioral assessment  
Functional behavioral assessments are based upon a hypothesis about the function of a problem behavior (understanding the reasons why problem behavior occurs)  
Foundation is applied behavior analysis  
Supports individuals across the life span

Note from meeting: some differences between school-wide and community-based are due to systems change but processes are similar. Both schools and other organizations emphasize primary prevention (all children or adults within system), secondary prevention (children or adults at risk for serious problem behavior, tertiary prevention (comprehensive positive behavior support plans)

### **Are there models of best practice?**

#### *PBS and Schools*

School-wide PBS efforts are now meeting to share resources and collaborate  
The KCK area has school-wide PBS demonstrations in place  
Kansas state improvement grant funds focus on overall school improvement but include PBS as one option  
Project Stay (KSTARS project funded by the KS State Dept. of Ed.)  
Kansas Neurologic Disabilities Support Project (NDSP)  
Other related KSTARS projects (Inclusive Network of Kansas, Student Improvement Team Training)

#### *PBS Models and Adults with Disabilities*

Extended Family Living/CLO  
Parson's State Hospital/ Dual Diagnosis Treatment & Training Services  
Family teaching model with adults CLO  
Person centered planning model is embedded within state (Smull, GAP, etc.)  
Qualified individuals in mental health

#### *PBS Modules and Early Intervention and Children*

Southeast Kansas has a Head Start systems change project that includes primary, secondary, and tertiary levels of support  
Urban early childhood projects in KCK

Project Eagle/early childhood in Wyandotte county  
Kansas institute for PBS (training developmental disability, child welfare, and mental health professionals; family systems change project)  
Kansas Neurologic Disabilities Support Project KSTARS project includes PBS  
Tertiary support system exist within some agencies (JCDS for example)

*There are no model demonstration projects for:*

No model demos in KS focused on PBS & specifically related to supporting diversity (Native American, ESL, cultural sensitivity)

No PBS models specifically for seniors exist-Strategic plan for SRS DD services identified this as an important area

PBS and school to work transition

### **What are the barriers to implementing PBS?**

Funding for adults with disabilities

Those not Medicaid eligible

Funding across the board is an issue

Geography and travel issues: east/west; urban/rural; university centers

Families on waiting list for services

Families needing support

Access to training for many groups

Resistance to supports when they are offered

Awareness of PBS as a possible approach

Effective team building skills and training

Changing demographics

English as a second language and diversity issues

Values barrier...not all individual hold the same values as those implementing PBS

Departmental and turf battles

Lack of coordination/operating in silos

Fragmentation of services

Rapidly changing demographics

Staff shortages and turnover

School funds for traveling

Barrier between medical model versus behavioral models

Common language across team members

Insurance is a barrier

It can be challenging to set up communication systems and training projects statewide

Tension between applied behavior analysis and positive behavior support at times

Politics are a barrier to implementing PBS

More funding is moving towards schools rather than other human services

Seniors supports needed as aging of population grows

Training in PBS for professionals supporting adults with disabilities is needed

Access to trainers/experienced practitioners

Ongoing support & mentoring

Ability to access inclusive programs/access to quality child care

Problems with public awareness of disability issues

Living versus being part of community  
Working with local law enforcement and problem behaviors  
Consensus of what PBS is; what it involves; quality concerns  
Teaching preparation training in PBS  
Lack of resources to prepare teachers in general education

*Positives that came up during discussion*

We've come a long way!!!!  
Defined services such that flexibility across services and age (good thing)

**What resources are available?**

Pat and Karlease are great Kansas resources! (Kansas Institute for Positive Behavior  
Support staff who helped organize the Snapshot meeting)  
University of MN direct care training  
KSTARS projects  
KIPBS.org resources on web and training  
People who really care  
Large provider base for choices  
TA Center resources (pbis.org)  
State leadership DOE/ KSDE—shifting to include behavior  
Increasingly knowledgeable parents  
State improvement grant (education)  
Regulatory language is flexible  
Free community places to meet across state  
Consistent with strategic plan....  
TBI waiver across state...school training since 90's  
Systems change from health resources and services administration  
Families Together advocacy resource  
University of Kansas Beach/Juniper  
Child welfare professionals attending KIPBS training  
State level network for childcare  
SRS supports  
Diverse folks are interested in PBS across the state  
Respite care is going well  
Possibility of building on training networks that are already in place  
There is an interest in collaboration across projects across services and organizations  
KUMed is a great resource  
KCK school district urban applications  
Potential to build on existing training networks across schools and human services

**Themes and Priorities**

R Resources  
N Networking  
T Access to training  
A Application of elements

### **Priorities?**

- What about people who know nothing about PBS? This should be a priority
- People need to understand general concepts of PBS and how it directly relates to their job (for this meeting as well as for a future goal)
- Policy issues not necessarily resource, training, etc (lobbying efforts, participation in policy making, getting school districts involved)
- Making sure there is no duplication of services

### **Whose voice is missing?**

Mental health representatives

Regional representation for Families Together

Keys for Networking

Direct service child welfare providers

Foster families and adoptive families

Law enforcement

Juvenile justice

Dept. of Aging

Community DD organizations CDDOs

Adults with DD (Alliance)

Self advocacy

DRC Disability Rights Center

Superintendents, principals, coaches

General Ed state level

Teacher preparation personnel

Early childhood state level folks

Direct practitioners

Higher ed. Beyond KU (for instance, Emporia state and other universities)

Haskell

Infant/Toddler systems

Developmental Disabilities Council

Geographical areas (southwest, more central Kansas folks)

Sedgwick county and central Kansas

Garden city CDDO, schools

Medical professionals, nursing, doctors, dentists, etc.

Psychiatrists

Social workers

Families not receiving services

Community government professionals

### **Our vision**

Comprehensive

Coordinated

Getting enough support when you need it

Competent

Responsive

Well funded  
Sympathetic  
Accessible  
Data based and empirically driven  
Flexible  
Representative of all Kansans  
Continuity across lifespan  
Individualized  
Family awareness  
Culturally sensitive

### **How do we increase our statewide representation?**

Create easy to access awareness level general information  
Build website information  
Public information, radio spots, case studies, show results  
Community forums on PBS same presentation across the state we at this meeting build interest  
Get on meeting agendas of other organizations  
Attend local coordinating councils  
Make accessible stories that show case examples of PBS including, parent models, school models, early childhood, etc.  
Change the way this group meets....We should not expect everyone to meet in the same place with always the same people....instead of one big meeting, consider regular distributed meetings for equal access  
Send emissaries to invite new people to join planning process  
Set up a pre-meeting time to introduce folks to PBS and to describe the action plan process

### **Next Steps**

We will meet either July 21 or 22nd to develop strategic action plan  
Possible places to meet: Wichita, Salina  
We will decide specifics about time/place and send information with a smaller group and disseminate information to everyone  
We will send information on case studies for people interested in more examples of PBS  
We need some guidelines/information about PBS/talking points for emissaries  
We will provide a description of strategic action plan

Those volunteering at the meeting on June 21 include:

- Michael Deegan
- Susan Jack
- Linda Geier
- Susan Slothower
- Katie Hine
- Rachel Freeman

Rachel Freeman will print up information from today and disseminate to everyone at this meeting. We will invite about the same number of people as today (35-40 or so people).