

**GREATER BRIDGEPORT
JOINT COMMUNITY RESOURCE
COLLABORTIVE**

BYLAWS

Approved February 28, 2012

1. Name of Organization

Greater Bridgeport Joint Community Resource Collaborative

2. Vision

Children and adolescents with behavioral health and child welfare needs will have access to a broad array of services which are easily accessible, culturally competent, parent-driven, effective, and that promote a community without stigma.

3. Mission

The Joint Community Resource Committee will convene a collaborative of service providers and parents to promote, develop and sustain the Greater Bridgeport System of Care, that will empower parents of children/adolescent with behavioral health child welfare needs, improve service delivery and functioning, improve respect for families, and create a seamless network of service providers and families at different levels of behavioral health and child welfare need.

4. Membership

The Greater Bridgeport Joint Community Resource Collaborative shall be comprised of broad community representatives including traditional and nontraditional providers, parents/caregivers of children with child welfare, behavioral and/or mental health needs, and others interested in the welfare of children. The Collaborative is committed to actively pursuing parent involvement.

This is an open collaborative that encourages community participation. In order to be considered an active member with voting privileges, the agency representative must sign a letter of agreement and attend meetings regularly. Active agencies shall submit one letter of agreement and have one vote. Parents are automatically members of the collaborative.

5. Officers

The officers shall consist of two Co-Chairpersons who are active members of the JCRC and one of whom shall be a parent/caregiver of a child with behavioral and/or mental health needs. The current co-chairs shall appoint an Ad-hoc Nominating Committee that will solicit nominations for incoming Co-chairs to be presented to the JCRC for a vote of approval. Co-chairs shall serve a two-year term that will change on a rotating basis. Appointment of Co-chairs will be staggered so that both co-chairs will not vacate their position at the same time.

The Chairpersons shall preside at Collaborative meetings, act as the official spokespersons for the Collaborative, appoint committees as needed, and act as a liaison between the Collaborative and other entities.

6. Resignation

If a Co-chair resigns, the remaining Co-chair shall appoint an Ad-hoc Nominating Committee for the purpose of selecting a new Co-chair.

7. Meetings

The Collaborative shall meet monthly from September to June. The Co-Chairperson(s) may call additional meetings as needed. A quorum shall be fifty-one percent of the active members present with a minimum of 6

8. Steering Committee

The Steering Committee shall consist of the Co-Chairpersons of the Collaborative who will chair the meeting, the designated Child Guidance Clinic representative, the designated DCF representative, significant entities within the mental health delivery system, others designated by the Co-chairs such as the chairpersons of various Committees.

The Steering Committee shall have the authority to act on behalf of the Collaborative between meetings assuring timely response to the requirements and business of the Greater Bridgeport Community Resource Collaborative.

Decisions and/or actions of the Steering Committee shall be reported to the Collaborative at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

9. Amendment of the Bylaws

All proposed amendments to the bylaws shall be submitted in writing to the Co-Chairs at least two weeks prior to a meeting to be discussed at that meeting. Upon notification of the membership, a vote will be taken at the following meeting. Any amendment to the bylaws requires a quorum to be present, and that a two-thirds majority of those present be cast in favor to pass.

10. Committees

Committee chairs are appointed by the JCRC Chairperson(s) for a two year term to achieve the tasks identified by the Collaborative. Participation on a committee does not require membership on the Collaborative. Committees may be time-limited or ongoing. The Steering Committee and/or the Collaborative must approve recommendations proposed by the Committees for action. The JCRC may develop Standing and/or Ad Hoc Committees to address issues as may arise from time to time.