

Attendance & Engagement System of Support & Professional Communities



Developed by the CSDE in collaboration with SERC

2/4/2025



Today's Agenda

Welcome

Christine Kuehlewind and Holli Ryan, State Education Resource Center (SERC)

What's New at CSDE and Partners

Kari Sullivan Custer, Attendance & Engagement Consultant, CSDE

Jay Brown, Bureau of Special Education Consultant (Academic Office), CSDE

Connecting to: Community Mental Health Resources and CONNECT IV

Sarah White, Project Coordinator, Child Health Development Institute (CHDI)

Lisa Palazzo, Region 4 Network Care, Carelon Behavioral Health

Meredith Tukey, Director of Mental Health, Student Wellness and Family Engagement, Killingly Public Schools

Upcoming Attendance & Engagement Meetings

Christine Kuehlewind, SERC



Welcome

January 21, 2025

- [CSDE Announces Study to Explore Rate Setting for Outplaced Special Education Services](#)
- [2024 Connecticut K-12 World Language Standards](#)

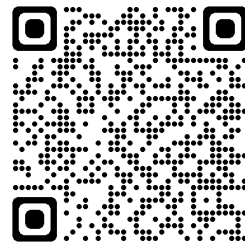
January 23, 2025

- [Profile and Performance Reports \(PPR\) for 2023-24](#)

January 30, 2025

- [Connecticut Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) in Education Pilot Program](#)
- Office of Fiscal Analysis Funding Infographics:
 - [01/2025: Board of Ed. Magnet FY 25 Funding – Infographic \(January 2025\)](#)
 - [01/2025: Education Finance Reform – Infographic \(January 2025\)](#)
 - [01/2025: RESC Magnet FY 25 Funding – Infographic \(January 2025\)](#)
 - [01/2025: State Charter School FY 25 Funding – Infographic \(January 2025\)](#)
 - [01/2025: Vocational Agriculture \(ASTE\) FY 25 Funding – Infographic \(January 2025\)](#)

[Superintendent's Digest](#)



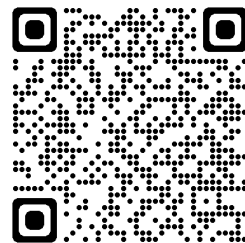


Welcome

January 31, 2025

- [Guidance to K-12 Public Schools Pertaining to Immigration Activities](#) now available in multiple languages:
- [Guidance to K-12 Public Schools Pertaining to Immigration Activities - Arabic](#)
- [Guidance to K-12 Public Schools Pertaining to Immigration Activities - Haitian Creole](#)
- [Guidance to K-12 Public Schools Pertaining to Immigration Activities - Mandarin](#)
- [Guidance to K-12 Public Schools Pertaining to Immigration Activities - Portuguese](#)
- [Guidance to K-12 Public Schools Pertaining to Immigration Activities - Spanish](#)

[Superintendent's Digest](#)





A UNIVERSE OF OPPORTUNITIES



CONNECTICUT
Education

2024-2025

Talk Tuesday

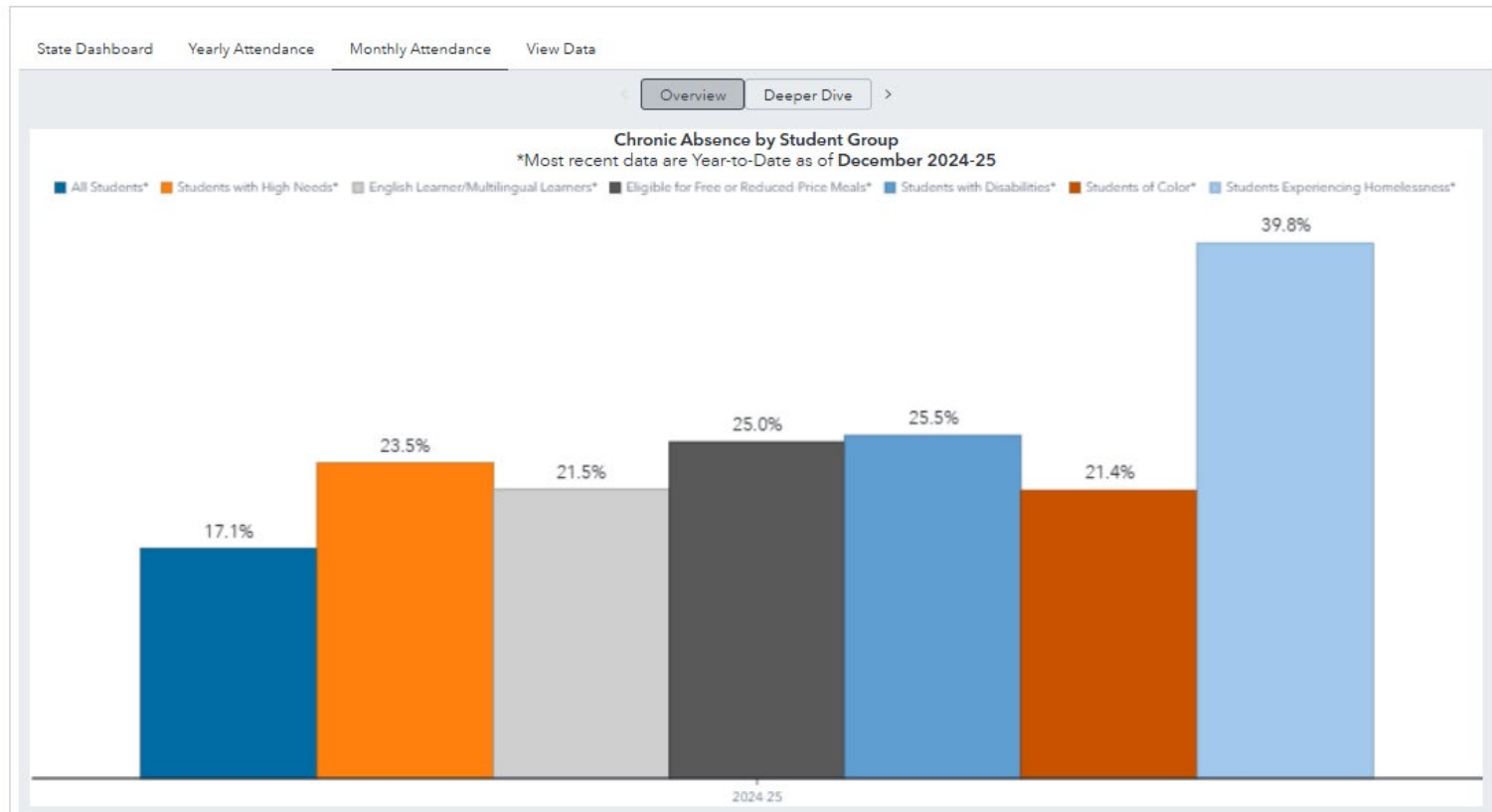
Kari Sullivan Custer
February 4, 2025

Connecticut State
Department of Education



EdSight Attendance Dashboard

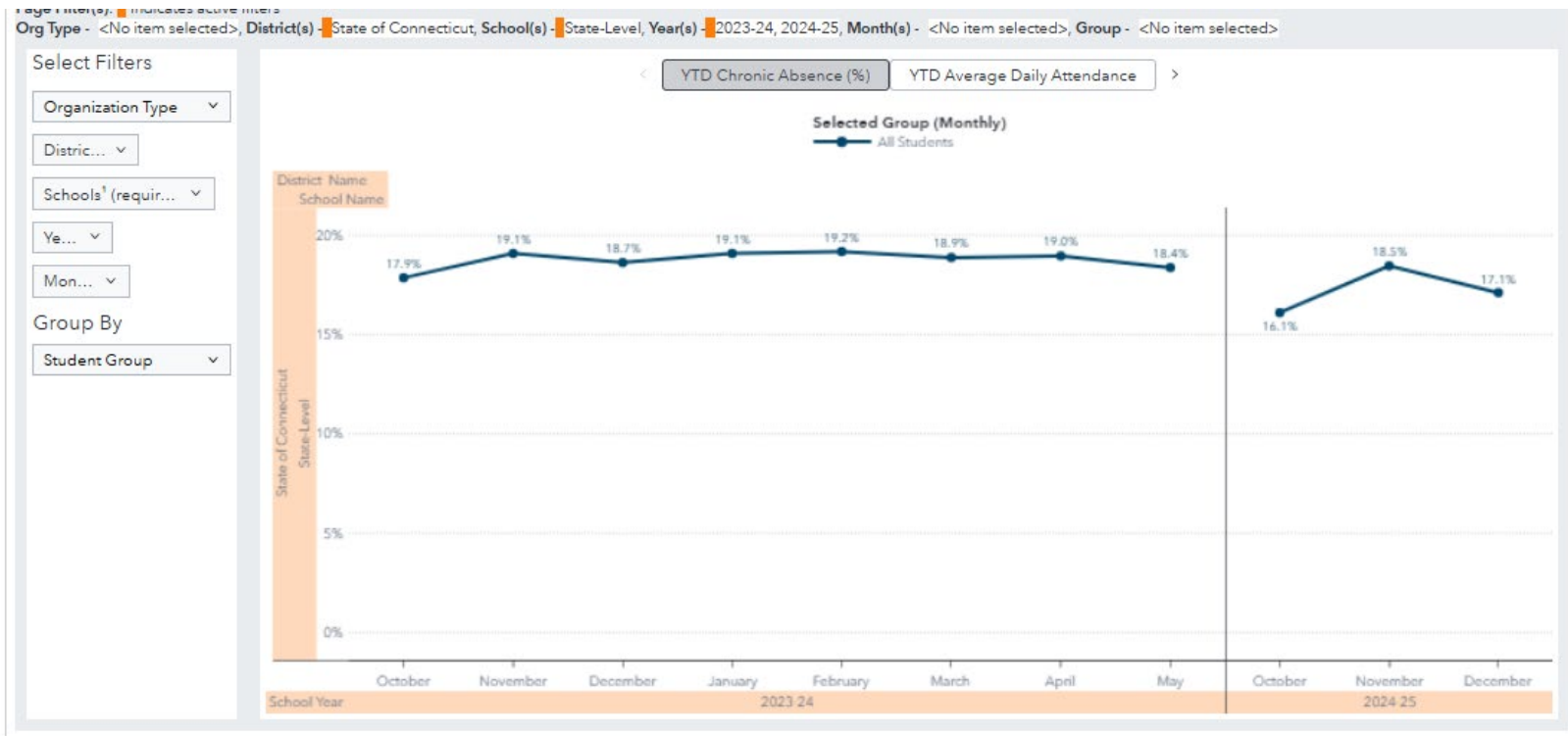
December 2024






A UNIVERSE OF
OPPORTUNITIES

Two Year Trend – December All Students





Guidance Pertaining to Immigration Activities



Guidance to K-12 Public Schools Pertaining to Immigration Activities

Connecticut is staunchly committed to providing safe and supportive school environments that foster learning and personal growth for *all* our students and their families.

We know that recent actions taken by the current federal administration have raised many questions from school districts, and fear among students and their families, about what to expect if federal immigration officials request information or come onto school grounds. While there is reason to believe the risk of such instances may remain low, circumstances can change rapidly, and it is important to be prepared and assure families that a plan is in place. Therefore, this guidance is being issued to assist school districts in identifying their rights and responsibilities, and those of students and families.

Note: This guidance is designed to ensure compliance with state and federal laws.

Review Rights and Responsibilities

Both Connecticut and federal law protect a student's right to attend public schools, regardless of their immigration status. Indeed, over 40 years ago, the United States Supreme Court recognized that this right is protected by the U.S. Constitution. As a result, Connecticut schools have no obligation to collect or maintain the immigration status of students or their family members.

The Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) also protects personally identifiable student information, including student and family names and addresses. Therefore, if a school district receives any requests for student information, they should consult guidance provided by the district's legal counsel and adhere to the scope of these protections.

Update and Adhere to District Procedures

School districts routinely restrict access to school grounds during the academic day for the protection of students and staff and to limit disruptions to the learning environment. Standard procedures should address restrictions on access by individuals who come onto school grounds, obtaining proper identification, and determining the purpose of a visit. Districts are encouraged to consult legal counsel to ensure that procedures are complete and up to date, and to review these procedures with staff. Such procedures should seek to maintain a learning environment that protects the safety and privacy of students and their families.

Given the heightened concern in our school communities about the possibility of immigration enforcement activities occurring on school grounds, districts are encouraged to include protocols, consistent with district policies and procedures regarding third party access to information and non-public areas, that address these situations specifically to provide assurance that plans are in place, laws will be adhered to, and rights will be protected. Such protocols may include the following:

continued ►

Guidance for K-12 Schools

January 31, 2025

- [Guidance to K-12 Public Schools Pertaining to Immigration Activities](#) now available in multiple languages:
- [Guidance to K-12 Public Schools Pertaining to Immigration Activities - Arabic](#)
- [Guidance to K-12 Public Schools Pertaining to Immigration Activities - Haitian Creole](#)
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- [Guidance to K-12 Public Schools Pertaining to Immigration Activities - Spanish](#)



[Immigration Resources: Family Preparedness Plan](#)

[Immigration | American Federation of Teachers](#)

Connecting to: Community Mental Health Resources and CONNECT IV

Grant funded partners include:





Funded by a Systems of Care Expansion and Sustainability Grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

Grant funded partners include:



Purpose

- **A system of care (SOC)** is a variety of effective, community-based services and supports for children and youth with/or at risk for mental health or other challenges and their families.
- **Purpose of CONNECT**
 - To blend and integrate all child-serving systems into a Network of Care which will equally and effectively serve all children and families.
 - Offer additional support to schools through expansion and integration of trauma-informed comprehensive school mental health supports with the existing community-based network of care.

Grant funded partners include:



Goals

1. **Expand the infrastructure for an integrated** school- and community-based behavioral health network of care.
2. **Expand school and family awareness, knowledge, and access to information about behavioral health, trauma, and crisis** response.
3. **Build capacity of Connecticut's schools** to access and utilize community-based behavioral health resources and supports for school mental health.
4. Implement and sustain **equitable and comprehensive school mental health supports.**

Grant funded partners include:



Community Mental Health Resources

Grant funded partners include:



ConnectingtoCareCT.org

Overview

SCAN HERE



Grant funded partners include:

Home Page: Quick Navigation links

The State of Connecticut is working on improving Children's Behavioral Health supports and services. On Connecting to Care CT you will find information that will help you better understand, navigate, and find children's behavioral health services near you.



**Assisted Intervention
Matching Tool**



**Understanding Supports
& Services**



**Learn About Care
Coordination**



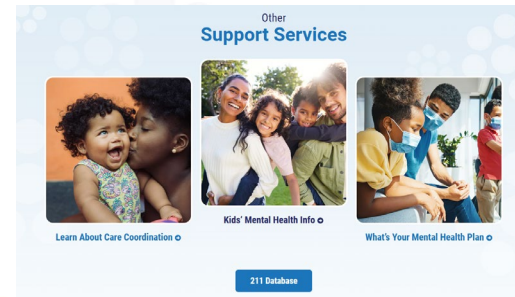
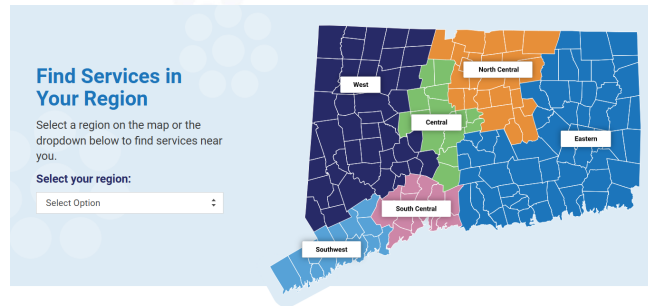
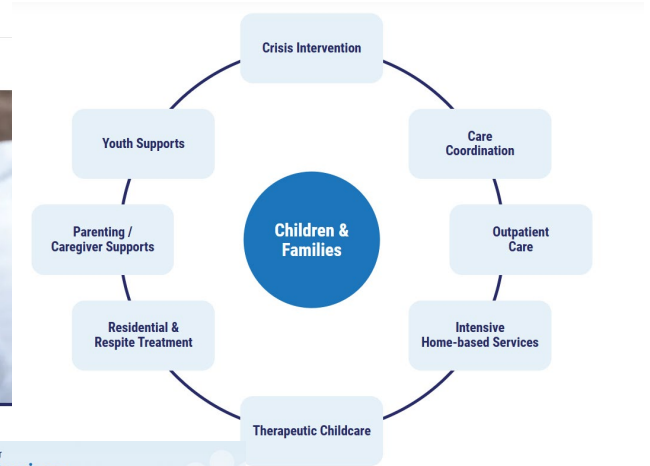
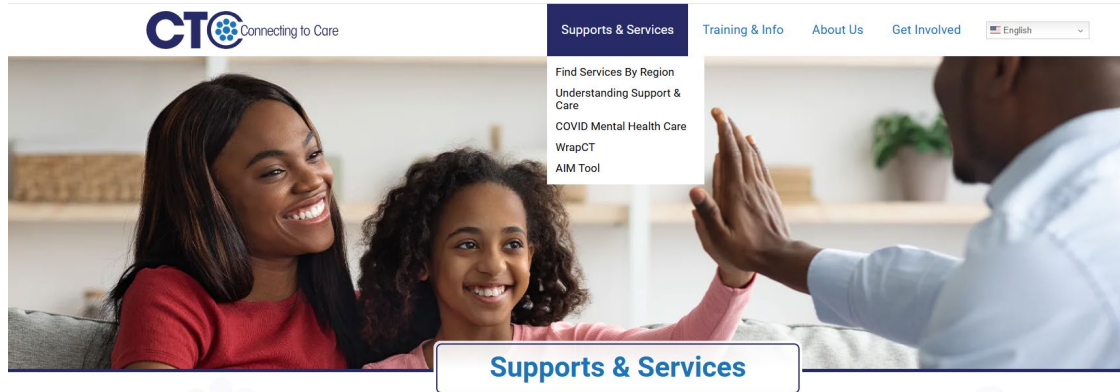
**Find Supports &
Services**



**What's Your Mental
Health Plan**

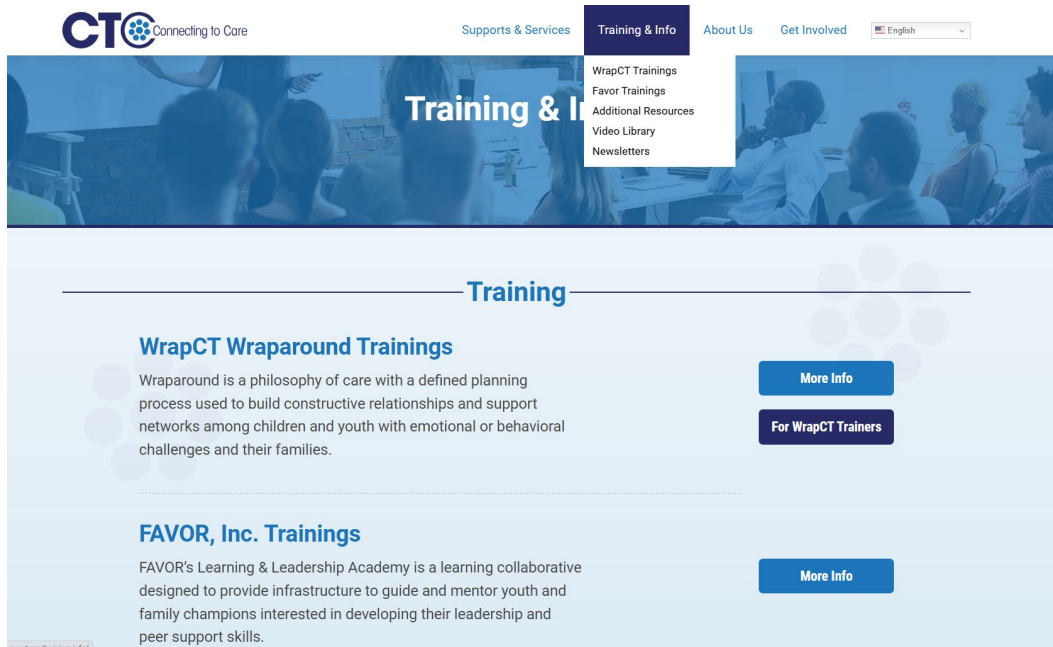
Grant funded partners include:

Supports and Services Page



Grant funded partners include:

Training and Information Page



The screenshot shows the CTC Connecting to Care website's Training & Information page. The header includes the CTC logo, navigation links for 'Supports & Services', 'Training & Info' (which is active), 'About Us', and 'Get Involved', along with a language dropdown set to 'English'. A dropdown menu under 'Training & Info' lists 'WrapCT Trainings', 'Favor Trainings', 'Additional Resources', 'Video Library', and 'Newsletters'. The main content area features a blue-tinted background image of people in a training session. A section titled 'Training' is highlighted with a horizontal line. Below this, there are two main content blocks. The first block is for 'WrapCT Wraparound Trainings', describing it as a philosophy of care used to build constructive relationships and support networks among children and youth with emotional or behavioral challenges and their families. It includes a 'More Info' button and a 'For WrapCT Trainers' button. The second block is for 'FAVOR, Inc. Trainings', describing FAVOR's Learning & Leadership Academy as a learning collaborative designed to provide infrastructure to guide and mentor youth and family champions interested in developing their leadership and peer support skills. It includes a 'More Info' button. The URL 'carect.org/training-info/' is visible in the bottom left corner of the page content.

CTC Connecting to Care

Supports & Services **Training & Info** About Us Get Involved English

WrapCT Trainings
Favor Trainings
Additional Resources
Video Library
Newsletters

Training & Information

Training

WrapCT Wraparound Trainings

Wraparound is a philosophy of care with a defined planning process used to build constructive relationships and support networks among children and youth with emotional or behavioral challenges and their families.

[More Info](#)

[For WrapCT Trainers](#)

FAVOR, Inc. Trainings

FAVOR's Learning & Leadership Academy is a learning collaborative designed to provide infrastructure to guide and mentor youth and family champions interested in developing their leadership and peer support skills.

[More Info](#)

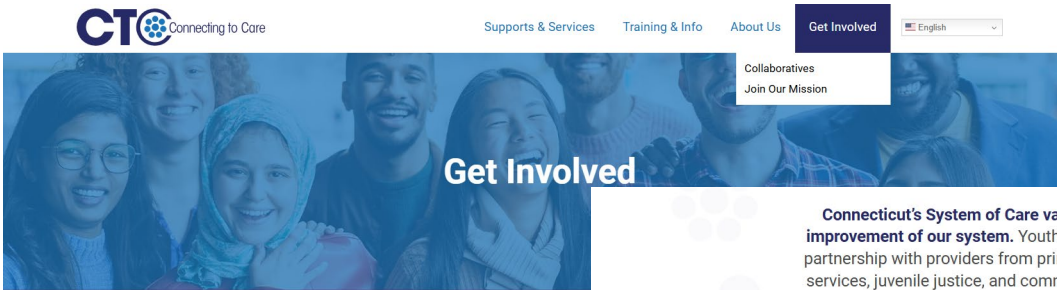
carect.org/training-info/

Grant funded partners include:

Get Involved

**Join the Mission for Children's
Behavioral Health !**

www.connectingtocarect.org/get-involved/join-our-mission/

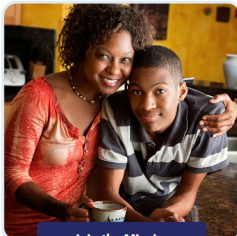
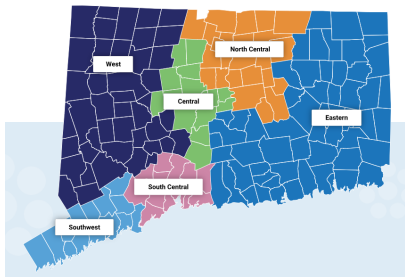


Find your local collaborative:

Select Option

or

select a region on the map to find services near you



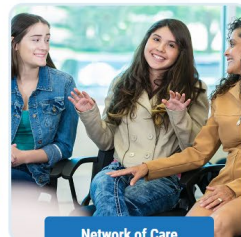
Join the Mission



Take a Training



**Join a Community
Collaborative**



**Network of Care
Meetings**

Connecticut's System of Care values the input and involvement from all sectors in the improvement of our system. Youth and family voice "are central" to system development in partnership with providers from primary care, schools, behavioral health, and substance use services, juvenile justice, and community members. There are many ways to get involved to support children's behavioral health.

Grant funded partners include:

How to Navigate Mental Health Supports

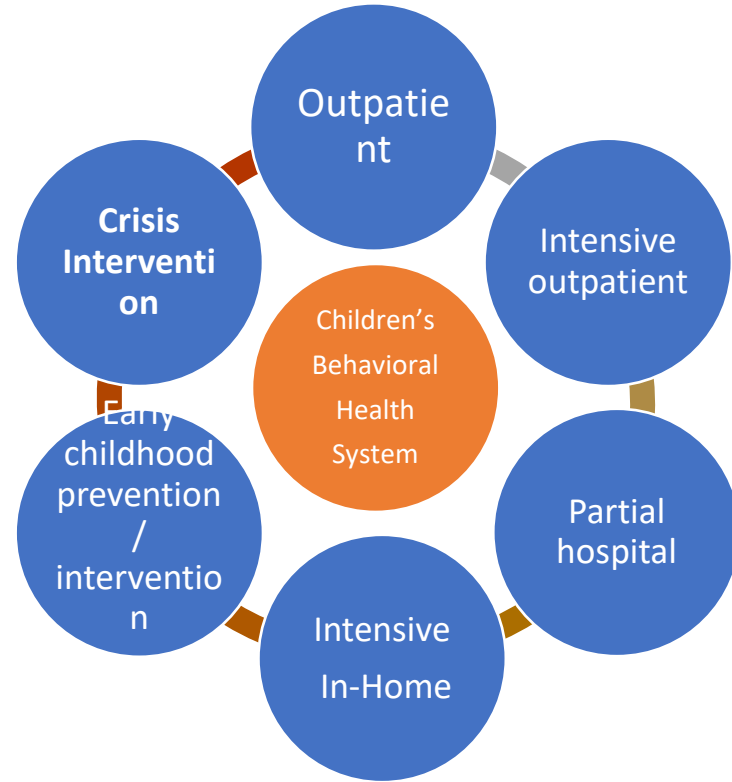
Grant funded partners include:





Getting Youth and Their Families MATCHED to Treatment

Connecticut has a robust (& complex) service array to address children's behavioral health needs



IS NOT INTENDED TO REPLACE expert consultation or circumvent the referral process



AIM: Offers guidance to help narrow in on service(s) best matched to specific needs of the family or child.

Still consult with others that are involved in providing support to the youth and family (DCF, Probation Officer, community provider).



AIM: Provides linkage to additional information about specific programs and services and/or where to seek additional information

Narrows in on well-matched levels of care, where possible, gives office-based and in-home options

Identifies resources for areas of specialized need



Regular use of the AIM may help the user develop questioning skills to aid in identifying specific child/family needs and in matching services best suited to address those needs

Three Decision Pathways

PARENT/CAREGIVER

- Programs and services focused on **CHILD'S** behavioral health need
- Resources and Supports for **PARENTS** of children with behavioral health needs

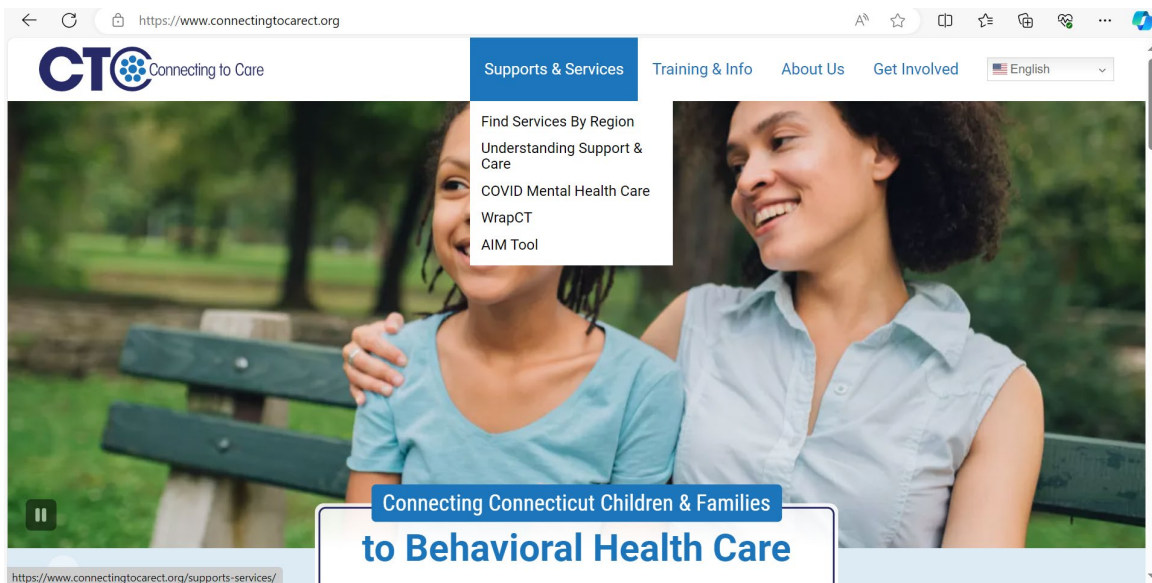
DCF WORKER

- Programs and services focused on **CHILD'S** behavioral health need
- Programs to strengthen families to promote child wellbeing
- In-home interventions for families where there are safety concerns

PROVIDER

Same as DCF Worker version, with expanded definitions of levels of family safety concern (some programs may require referral through DCF worker)

Located at: **connectingtocarect.org**



Accessing Mental Health Trainings

✓ **Training on Community Mental Health Resources and How to Utilize Them:**

- Overview of Connectingtocarect.org includes:
 - How to Navigate Mental Health Supports (Assisted Intervention Matching (AIM) tool, Types of treatment)
 - Urgent or Crisis Services (Urgent Crisis Centers, Mobile Crisis)
 - Collaboration (Community Collaboratives)

✓ **Connections to Your Local Mental Health Providers**

- Network of Care Manager can facilitate introductions to providers (meet and greet style) where you learn how to refer to various supports in your area.

✓ **Carelon Behavioral Health Child and Family Division Supports**

- Learn about Carelon Behavioral Health supports and services

✓ **Carelon Behavioral Health Child and Family Division Supports**

- Learn about Carelon Behavioral Health supports and services

✓ **How to Navigate Mental Health and Substance Use Services for HUSKY Members**

- Learn about services through CT Behavioral Health Partnership (CTBHP), how to find a provider, access peer support services and Autism Spectrum Disorder Services

✓ **What is a Behavioral Health Network of Care**

✓ **Connection to Suicide Prevention or Postvention Resources**

✓ **Connection to Substance Use Prevention and Treatment**

Grant funded partners include:

Community Based Resources

Community Pathways Program

- A warm line that helps families in navigating children's behavioral health services and community-based supports
- Community pathways offers live, knowledgeable, and supportive staff that assist families with referrals, resources, and tools
- The helpline assists with issues such as:
 - Where to go when children need support
 - Connection to mental health and substance use programs
 - Links to community resources
 - Information on services for children, parents and caregivers

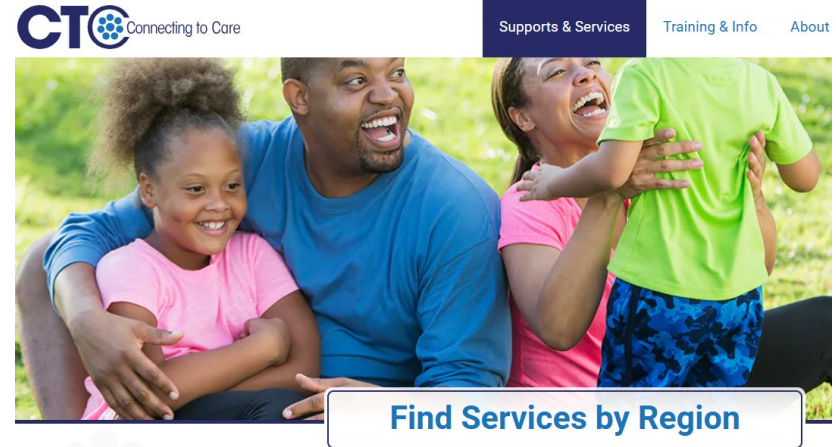
To get connected call **877-381-4193, option 1**



Grant funded partners include:

Resource Lists

- To ensure that children and youth in Connecticut are connected to the care they need, we've compiled a list of community-based supports and services.
- This list includes mental health evaluation and treatment resources along with related supports and services
- These lists are translated into eleven languages: English, Spanish, French, Creole, Chinese, Hindi, Arabic, Portuguese, Polish, Italian, Cantonese



Grant funded partners include:

Care Coordination

- Serving children up to the age of 18
- Provides high-fidelity Wraparound which is an intensive, individualized care planning process for youth with serious or complex needs
- The Plan of Care developed is designed to be culturally competent, strengths based and organized around a family's needs, goals, and vision
- Goal is to maintain youth in their home and community

Grant funded partners include:



Intensive Care Coordination

- Serves children and youth
 - Ages 0-18, with serious behavioral or mental health needs
 - Returning from congregate care, in-patient settings, or other restrictive treatment settings
- Team approach
 - Intensive Care Coordinators (ICCs) and Family Peer Specialists (FPS)
 - Use the evidence-based Wraparound approach to care
 - Child and Family Team process to develop a Plan of Care for each child and their family designed to meet the family's needs

To learn more about ICC and obtain the referral form, visit:

www.carelonbh.com/ctcfd

Follow Forms & Referrals/ICC Referral

Grant funded partners include:

Crisis Intervention and Prevention Resources

Crisis Intervention Services

Urgent Crisis Centers- UCCs

- Walk-in crisis and assessment

Suicide and Crisis Lifeline at **988** – call/text or go to **988lifeline.org** for more information or to chat online.

Crisis Text Line text ‘Home’ to **741-741**

Mobile Crisis call **211-1-1**

Trevor Project- Crisis line for LGBTQ+ young people who are struggling with issues such as coming out, LGBTQ+ identity, depression, and suicide. Call **1-866-488-7386**, Text **‘START’** to **678-678** or chat online at **thetrevorproject.org**

Contact 911 for immediate risk

Grant funded partners include:

Urgent Crisis Centers

▶ Operated by:

- ▶ [The Village for Families and Children](#) (Hartford)
- ▶ [Yale New Haven Hospital](#) (New Haven)
- ▶ [The Child and Family Agency](#) (New London)
- ▶ [Wellmore Behavioral Health](#) (Waterbury)



- ▶ Ambulance services will transport to licensed urgent crisis centers
- ▶ Parent or guardian consent is required
 - Parent or guardian must be present and participate in the process
- ▶ Most insurance companies accepted, including CT Medicaid (HUSKY)
 - Reduced fee/sliding scale for youth with no insurance (*contact UCCs for specific billing and insurance questions*)
- ▶ No appointment needed: UCCs are walk-in clinics that provide immediate access to resources
 - Referrals accepted but not required

Grant funded partners include:

Youth Mobile Crisis Intervention Services

- ▶ Mobile Crisis Intervention Services (Mobile Crisis), formerly EMPS
- ▶ To access: call/text 988 or call 211, press 1 for crisis and 1 for youth
- ▶ Available to all CT children and youth ages 17 or younger in a mental health or behavioral crisis (can serve 18 and older if still enrolled in high school)
- ▶ Statewide, community based and family supportive clinical intervention service for children & adolescents experiencing a behavioral or mental health crisis
- ▶ Mobile Crisis provides rapid emergency crisis stabilization for children and their families as well as short-term follow-up care and connection to other services
- ▶ Mobile Crisis is available for children in crisis, even if they are already receiving community based mental/behavioral health services such as individual or family therapy, day treatment, etc.
- ▶ May respond to home, school, work, ED, community settings. (Note: Residential Treatment Centers, Sub-Acute Units or Inpatient Units *are not* served by Mobile Crisis given their in-house clinical services).
- ▶ Anyone can call for Mobile Crisis services on behalf of a child or youth with a mental or behavioral health crisis
- ▶ Website: <https://www.mobilecrisisempsct.org>

Grant funded partners include:

When to Call

Mobile Crisis	911
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Talking about or is at risk for suicide ▶ Is in harm's way without immediate assistance ▶ Is in emotional distress and/or uncommunicative ▶ Can't reach the youth's mental health service provider during a crisis ▶ Considering sending a youth to the emergency department for a mental health evaluation ▶ Is having any other behavioral health crisis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Youth needs immediate police intervention (weapons involved, serious assault, etc.) ▶ Youth needs immediate medical attention (overdosed, currently intoxicated, seriously injured, or at immediate risk of suicide attempt, etc.) ▶ However, mobile crisis can respond to a situation with police assistance or after police have stabilized a situation. Calling the police <u>does not exclude</u> a mobile crisis response. Often bystanders need support

Grant funded partners include:

Network of Care Team

Mai Kader

Network of Care Manager -Region 1 Southwestern CT

Mai.Kader@carelon.com

Mikhela Hull

Network of Care Manager – Region 2 South Central CT

Mikhela.Hull@carelon.com

Andrew Lavallee

Network of Care Manager – Region 3 Eastern CT

Andrew.Lavallee@carelon.com

Lisa Palazzo

Network of Care Manager –Region 4 North Central CT

Lisa.Palazzo@carelon.com

Jules Calabro

Network of Care Manager –Region 5 Western CT

Jules.Calabro@carelon.com

Stephanie Joanis

Network of Care Manager – Region 6 Central CT

Stephanie.Joanis@carelon.com

General Contact Information:

Call: 877-381-4193 Option 3 or

Email:

CTNetworkofCareManagers@carelon.com

Grant funded partners include:

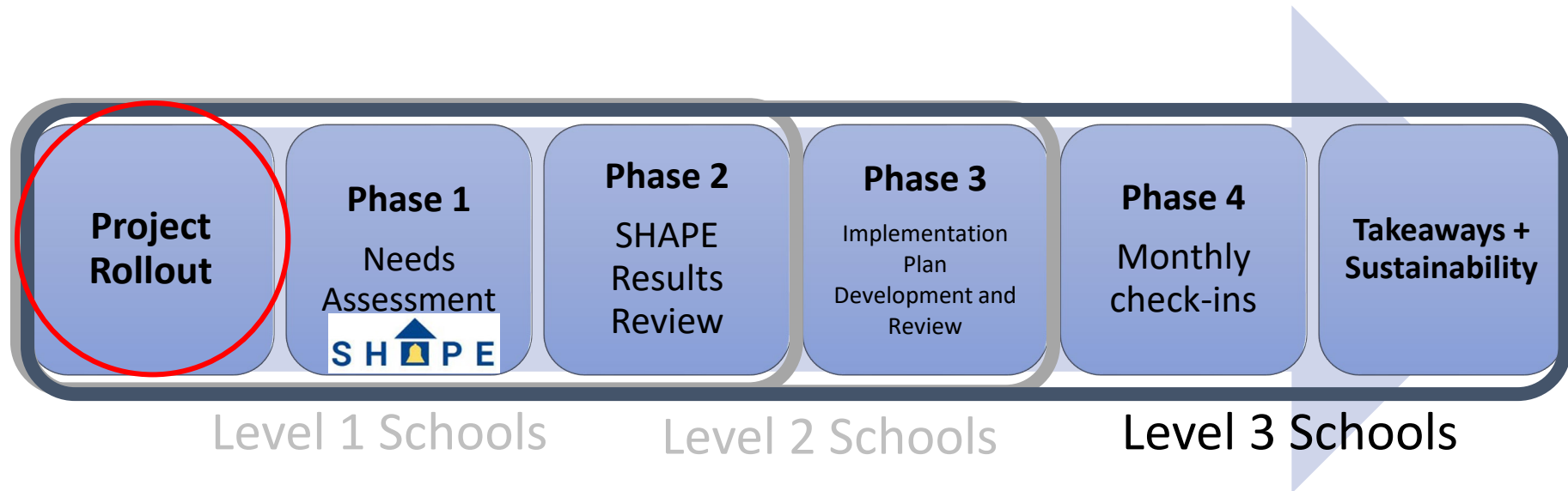
School Collaboration Opportunity

Teaming - CONNECT



Grant funded partners include:

Project Timeline



Grant funded partners include:

- The School Health Assessment and Performance Evaluation (SHAPE) System is a **public-access, web-based** platform that offers schools, districts, and states a workspace and targeted resources to support school mental health quality improvement.



SHAPE is hosted by the National Center for School Mental Health. To learn more, go to www.theshapesystem.com

Grant funded partners include:

Build and strengthen your school's behavioral health supports and connect with community-based services



Schools or districts who are interested in participating in this multi-year opportunity can apply to participate at three different levels, based on their need and capacity.

What can schools expect from participating?

Level 1 schools will receive:

- A School Mental Health Needs Assessment (SHAPE)
- SHAPE Results Review
- Training for school staff, youth, and families in Community Behavioral Health Supports, Trauma-Informed Practices, and Educational Equity
- Training for parents/caregivers in FAVOR's Learning and Leadership Academy and the Family Peer Support Program

Level 2 schools will receive:

- All Level 1 components
- An implementation plan with unique goals based on SHAPE results review
- Access to participate in regional learning communities
- Technical assistance and support to establish educational safe spaces in schools and implement school climate activities

Level 3 schools will receive:

- All Level 1 and 2 components
- Monthly technical assistance and support to help with implementation plan
- Quality improvement and evaluation support
- Technical assistance and support to implement behavioral health screening
- Technical assistance and support to implement a student peer support program (for middle and high school students only)



If you are interested in applying to participate, please contact: Sarah White | swhite@chdi.org

CHDI serves as the Coordinating Center and technical assistance provider for Connecting Schools to Care IV Studies



A School's Experience:

Meredith Tukey

Director of Mental Health, Student Wellness, and Family Engagement

Killingly Public Schools

Grant funded partners include:



Presenters Contact Information:

Sarah White | Project Coordinator | Child Health Development Institute
swhite@chdi.org

Gabrielle Hall | Assistant Vice President | Carelon Behavioral Health
Gabrielle.Hall@carelon.com

Grant funded partners include:





Grant funded partners include:



Upcoming Attendance & Engagement Meetings

Talk Tuesdays for the 2024-25 School Year

2024-2025

- March 4
- March 18
- April 1
- April 29
- May 13
- May 27

Register for Talk Tuesdays





Keep in Touch!

Kari Sullivan Custer, CSDE

Kari.Sullivan@ct.gov

860-807-2041

Jay Brown, CSDE

Jay.Brown@ct.gov

860-713-6918

Christine Kuehlewind, SERC

Kuehlewind@ctserc.org

860-632-1485, ext. 371

Holli Ryan, SERC

(Registration Information)

ryan@ctserc.org

860-632-1485, ext. 243