



Southeast Regional Behavioral Health Interagency Collaboration

November 12th, 2025, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Via Microsoft Teams

MEETING MINUTES

Attendance: Total 53

Hosts/Facilitators: Department of Children and Families Laurinda “Lala” Andujar, Regional Collaboration Coordinator; Jessica Durant, Regional Operations Manager; Idell Gayman, Regional Operations Supervisor

Presenters: Danica Mamby, MPA, CHC, Managing Director of Administration and Quality Improvement, Broward Behavioral Health Coalition (BBHC); Jenny Garcia, LCSW, CCM, Chief Operations Officer (COO), Southeast Florida Behavioral Health Network (SEFBHN)

Full Attendee List is Provided in Appendix A

I. CALL TO ORDER

Laurinda “Lala” Andujar called to order the third quarterly Southeast Regional Behavioral Health Interagency Collaboration Meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 12th, 2025.

II. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Jessica Durant welcomed attendees and introduced Laurinda “Lala” Andujar as the new Regional Collaboration Coordinator (RCC) serving the Southeast Region. The following individuals provided introductions:

Idell Gayman, Regional Operations Supervisor SAMH, Department of Children and Families

Laurinda “Lala” Andujar, Regional Collaboration Coordinator SAMH, Department of Children and Families

Danica Mamby, MPA, CHC, Managing Director of Administration and Quality Improvement, Broward Behavioral Health Coalition (BBHC)

Jenny Garcia, LCSW, CCM, Chief Operations Officer (COO), Southeast Florida Behavioral Network (SEFBHN)



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III. PRESENTATIONS – BROWARD BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COALITION (BBHC) AND SOUTHEAST FLORIDA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NETWORK (SEFBHN)

Representatives from both Managing Entities presented on their Triennial Needs Assessment, Enhancement Plan, and provided insight on their team and the purpose of a Managing Entity. The purpose of the Managing Entity (ME) is to provide the administration, management, support and oversight of DCF-funded behavioral health services in their respective counties, ensuring a passionate and responsive behavioral healthcare experience for people in the community.

The first PowerPoint presentation was provided by Danica Mamby with Broward Behavioral Health Coalition (BBHC). Ms. Mamby provided an overview of BBHC's role as the Managing Entity for Broward County. In addition to, using extensive data and community input, BBHC highlights key trends, including rising youth behavioral health concerns, significant number of individuals unhoused, and shifting substance use patterns. Ms. Mamby went on to discuss challenges such as workforce shortages, long wait times, cultural and linguistic barriers, and fragmented service coordination. To address these gaps, BBHC proposes strategic initiatives including a centralized digital referral system, expanded crisis and forensic diversion services, increased recovery-oriented housing, enhanced youth crisis supports, and strengthened peer workforce development.

Attendees had no additional questions or recommendations following BBHC's presentation.

Jessica Durant, DCF, reiterated to all that a recap email would be distributed to all in attendance and it will include a copy of each presentation shared.

The second PowerPoint presentation was provided by Jenny Garcia with Southeast Florida Behavioral Health Network (SEFBHN). SEFBHN covers Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, Palm Beach and Saint Lucie Counties. The SEFBHN Triennial Needs Assessment highlights growing behavioral health needs across the five-county region, driven by population growth, rising numbers of individuals experiencing homelessness, elevated mental health hospitalizations, and county-specific challenges in areas such as Okeechobee and Indian River. Ms. Garcia outlined strategic priorities focused on expanding supportive housing, strengthening crisis response and step-down care, building workforce capacity, enhancing youth services, improving system navigation and data integration, and embedding Zero Suicide protocols, particularly in high-risk counties, to guide SEFBHN's enhancement planning and coordinated regional improvements.



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Ms. Garcia shared with attendees they may access the full comprehensive Triennial Needs Assessment via their website for review.

Andrew Wilson, DCF, referencing the information shared regarding 144 peer support specialists, Mr. Wilson inquired about the breakdown of peer specialists by county.

Jenny Garcia, SEFBHN, responded stating she does have the breakdown, and it would be in the comprehensive needs assessment. If it is not available there, Ms. Garcia offered to distribute it to the group.

Idell Gayman, DCF, inquired if the difference between Martin County being ranked number one for mental health and Okeechobee being ranked last on the data shared related to access to mental health services or the overall mental health for the population. Jenny Garcia, SEFBHN, responded that the information shared was regarding the overall mental health for the population.

Jessica Durant, DCF, stated that all shared information including PowerPoints will be shared via a recap email.

Gayle Giese, FLMHAC/NAMI Broward, asked for verification that the Okeechobee suicide rate of 33.1% was correct.

Jenny Garcia, SEFBHN, confirmed the information is correct, and that was why the number stood out. It was significantly higher, and a huge outlier compared to the other areas.

Gayle Giese, FLMHAC/NAMI Broward, posed a question to Danica Mamby with BBHC regarding how many beds the Broward Forensic Alternative Center (B-FAC) would provide for individuals found incompetent to proceed (ITP), as well as the number of ITP currently in the Broward jail right now.

Elida Segrera, BBHC, offered to answer the second question posed by Gayle regarding the number of ITP in jail. Elida stated that sadly, they do not know the exact count of individuals in jail, because there are two separate numbers that must be tracked, and she was unsure they have the exact count. One is the number of ITP referrals to the community are those that are in the process of being placed. Ms. Segrera offered to share how many referrals Broward has completed for the year and how many BBHC has placed. Ms. Segrera went on to state the second number of people are those who have been referred and committed to a State Mental Health Treatment Facility and are waiting for a bed. Currently, DCF is working closely with the jail and have a structured program to provide competency restoration while they are waiting.

Melinda Blostein, Public Defenders Office, shared there are 30 beds.



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Elida Segrera, BBHC, shared BBHC had a total of 40 referrals last month. For the full fiscal year starting in July, they had a total of 121 referrals and a total of 126 were successfully placed. Ms. Segrera pointed out the numbers do not match because they still have some referrals waiting from last year.

Gayle Giese, FLMHAC/NAMI Broward, thanked Elida Segrera and asked that an update be shared at the next ROSC meeting hosted by BBHC, further stating that the numbers were very helpful and asked for the average wait time in the jail.

Danica Mamby (BBHC) shared in response to Ms. Giese's first question, the total number of ITP) individuals to be served is about 80.

IV. IMPACTFUL MOMENTS

Jessica Durant, DCF, introduced the impactful moments segment and clarified the difference between success stories and impactful moments. She advised that SAMH would be sharing a summary for time purposes due to the stories being extremely detailed, however due to the amazing impact from these stories, and not wanting to take away from the experience, the full impactful moment would be available via the presentation.

Laurinda "Lala" Andujar, DCF, shared an impactful moment submitted by Smith Community Health regarding their partnership with BBHC. In summary, BBHC partnered with Smith Community Mental Health to create the first DJJ-specific Care Coordination Team and introducing the Integrated Family Safety Plan (IFSP) — a new model addressing the entire household's needs rather than just the youth. The measurable impact of this collaboration and venture between BBHC and Smith Community Mental Health resulted in 126 families served and 88 discharges, of which 95% successfully engaged and connected to the right level of care. The impact overall was reduced unnecessary detention, hospitalization, and or out of home placement. Smith Community Mental Health shared community and judicial voices further supporting this collaborative effort.

Jessica Durant, DCF, shared a summary of an impactful moment on expanding access and elevating care through SEFBHN partnership, shared with DCF by Chrysalis Health. Chrysalis Health shared via their submission how SEFBHN has been an unwavering partner in advancing the following two programs and that their ongoing guidance, advocacy and systems level problem solving has helped eliminate barriers to access and promote equitable care across the region. The Early-Childhood Community Action Treatment (EC-CAT) Team and the



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Community Action Treatment (CAT) Team together create a comprehensive continuum of care for children, adolescents, and young adults ages 2 to 21.

Ms. Durant ended the segment by asking for future submissions, thanking both Managing Entities for all they do and went on to thank all who previously submitted items as they hope to pull from previous and future submissions moving forward.

V. NEXT STEPS AND 2026 VISION

Jessica Durant shared collaborative updates and the next steps for 2026 including details regarding the upcoming December Lunch and Learn featuring Amber Williams with DCF presenting on the Coordinated Opioid Recovery (CORE) Network on December 11th, 2025, at 1 p.m. A flyer with registration and meeting details will be shared in the recap email. A short explanation was offered regarding the Lunch and Learn series and information on the upcoming topic.

Ms. Durant went on to share that in the new year, the regional collaboratives will shift to a regionally specific approach, allowing us to focus on region specific goals, measurable outcomes and actions, using a project management style approach, addressing functional effectiveness, and addressing, short- and long-term goals. Ms. Durant shared in 2026 meetings will now be offered on a hybrid platform but encouraged continuing engagement whether both in-person and virtually. Locations will remain rotating but will be offered hybrid to all.

Both Ms. Andujar and Ms. Durant discussed the importance of surveys and explained that surveys will be incorporated thoughtfully to gauge effectiveness and enhance the collaboratives. This includes an End of Year Wrap-up Survey to be shared in the recap email, in addition to more regionally focused surveys to be shared in the near future. The group was encouraged to participate.

In the new year, each region will determine the path forward, including ongoing workgroups or subcommittees to be developed and quarterly report out.



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VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jessica Durant, DCF, opened the floor to any public comment. There were no comments and the time for public comment was closed.

VII. CLOSING REMARKS

Laurinda "Lala" Andujar thanked everyone for their valuable feedback and engagement. Contact information was shared as a direct line of communication for both Ms. Durant and Ms. Andujar, including the SER inbox.

Meeting details were shared regarding the next quarterly meeting for the Southeast Region, confirming it will be scheduled for January 2026, calendar invite and FAR notice to be shared with further details. The physical location will be in Broward County, Florida, but we will kick off the hybrid feature in January.

Ms. Durant shared they will be seeking a presenter for future regional collaboratives as they intend on offering at least one educational presentation at each collaborative. Presenters and recommendations are welcome and can be sent to the SER inbox at SER.SAMH.SUPPORT@MYFLFAMILIES.COM.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Laurinda "Lala" Andujar adjourned the meeting at 10:27 am on Thursday, November 12, 2025.



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APPENDIX A

Allison	Bruchwalski	Fort Lauderdale Behavioral Health Center
Andrew	Wilson	DCF SAMH
April	Busby	DCF SAMH
Asta	Trinh	DCF
Brad	Hill	DCF
Christy	Gillis	DCF
Cristina	Perez	DCF SAMH
Danica	Mamby	Broward Behavioral Health Coalition
Denae	Woodward	Alcoholics Anonymous
Elida	M. Segrera	Broward Behavioral Health Coalition
Emilia	Vilaire-Monchery	United Way Broward
Gayle	Giese	FLMHAC and NAMI Broward
Grace	Marquez	Broward Health Medical Center
Guillermo	Suarez	DCF SAMH
Harlee	James	DCF SAMH
Heather	Gelety	DCF
Idell	Gayman	DCF SAMH
Jeanette	Andrews-Thompson	DCF
Jennifer	Robinson	DCF SAMH
Jenny	Garcia	Southeast Florida Behavioral Health Network
Jesse	Kemper	DCF
Jessica	Durant	DCF SAMH
Jill	Sorensen	Southeast Florida Behavioral Health Network
Johanna	Mcfarlane	Baptist Health South Florida
John	Novy	Adult Protective Services
Kofoworola	Lawson	DCF SAMH
Kristen	DeSimone	Office of Criminal Conflict
Kristen	Guerrise	National Youth Advocate Program, Inc.
Laurie	McKeefry	Henderson Behavioral Health
Laurinda	Andujar	DCF SAMH
Linda	Macdonald	Florida Behavioral Health
Lindsey	Shatters	New Horizons of the Treasure Coast and Okeechobee



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Lourdes	Dorado	DCF SAMH
Margaret	Wynter	New Horizons of Treasure Coast
Marissa	Rios	Citrus Health Network
Mark	Miller	DCF
Melanie	Kranker	Communities Connected for Kids
Melinda	Blostein	Public Defenders Office
Michelle	Thomas	Florida Palms Academy
Neiko	Shea	Child Net
Norma	Wagner	Individual – Community Advocate
Pamela	Stierwalt	Children's Medical Services Sunshine Health State Plan
Patrick	Heidemann	Disability Rights of Florida
Phillip	De Veronica	Memorial Healthcare System
Tiffany	Lawrence	Broward Behavioral Health Coalition
Timothy	Macsuga	UHS Inc.
Tonya	Harrison	DCF
Traci	Schweitzer	DCF
Valoria	Thomas	DCF SAMH
Vernicca	Wynter	Broward County Public Schools
Veronica	Wade	New Horizons of the Treasure Coast and Okeechobee
Yazmin	Salguero	Delray Police Department
Yolanda	Brown	Seventeenth Judicial Circuit - Court Administration