

Informed Consent Agreement for Release & Exchange of Information

System of Care for Children & Families

The attached *Release & Exchange Authorization* allows for the exchange of information among participants in the System of Care to better provide supports and services for children, youth, and their families. The System of Care seeks to:

- Plan and provide services based on your child (ren)/youth's and family's unique strengths and needs;
- Access a variety of agency services and community supports to meet physical, emotional, social, and educational needs of your child(ren) in a timely manner;
- Provide effective services in the least restrictive, most natural environment;
- Work with you as a partner to plan for and receive services and community supports;
- Eliminate barriers across child-serving agencies.

The *Release & Exchange Authorization* is intended to accomplish two things:

- 1) Promote better coordination of services by agencies who are working with your child and family;
- 2) Provide you with goals and outcomes that the System of Care hopes to help your family achieve and find out whether or not they are being achieved.

As a parent/legal guardian, you must sign the *Release & Exchange Authorization* in order for it to be valid. All of the information your family provides will be kept strictly confidential. Any information obtained by a participating agency from a source outside the System of Care, such as hospital records, requires a separate authorization for release. Similarly, any information shared among System of Care participants cannot be re-released to parties not listed on the attached authorization.

You as parent or legal guardian may revoke participation in the System of Care and authorization to release and exchange information at any time, except that such release has already occurred. Consent automatically expires one year from the date the *Release & Exchange Authorization* is signed.

Your consent will also allow the System of Care to collect data to determine the effectiveness of the System of Care approach.

- Copy must be given to the family.
- Copy must be filed with responsible agency's documentation