

## Kids Committee Charter

### I. Introduction and Statement of Purpose:

The Executive Council of the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities approved the Kids Committee charter on March 28, 2002. The purpose of the Kids Committee is to help promote and protect the interests of children and their families with regard to alcohol, drug, mental health and funding issues by:

- Educating policy makers, prevention and treatment professionals and the community at large about the unique mental health, alcohol and other drug addiction needs of children;
- Advocating on behalf of children for improved mental health, alcohol and other drug addiction treatment and prevention services and access to care;
- Working with other similarly minded organizations to advance the cause of mental health, alcohol and other drug addiction service delivery for children;
- Developing policies that support mental health, alcohol and other drug addiction services for children and families.

### II. Committee Organization:

The Executive Council is responsible for appointing the chairperson of the Kids Committee. The chairperson must be a Board Executive Director and member of the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities. Other members include:

- Board Executives or their designee (only one designee per board);
- Three family representatives who are members of an advocacy organization;
- A representative from the Alcohol and Drug Division;
- A representative from the Mental Health Division;
- A representative from the Clinical Leaders Committee;
- A representative from the Legislative Committee;
- A representative from the Budget Committee.

Representatives of affiliated agencies and/or associations may be invited to attend and participate in general meetings, however, they do not have voting privileges.

The Kid's Committee will meet at least once every two months. The Committee has the authority to appoint subcommittees as needed, and may assign ad hoc members to serve on these subcommittees.

### III. Committee Responsibilities:

The Kids Committee Chair shall designate a member of the Kids Committee to serve on the Legislative Committee. The Kids Committee shall provide comments on legislative initiatives.

The Committee shall also accept special assignments from the Association's Executive Council, Mental Health Division and the Alcohol and Drug Division. In the event that the Committee determines it would like to take on a specific task, it must first seek the approval of the Executive Council.

The Chairperson shall provide a report of the Committee's work at the quarterly membership meetings.

#### IV. Staff Association Responsibilities:

A member of the Association staff shall be present at each meeting. Association staff will be responsible for keeping members apprised of pending legislation that has a direct or indirect impact on matters of interest to the Committee. Association staff will also be responsible for maintaining the Kids Committee minutes at each meeting, and will circulate the minutes to the full membership prior to the next meeting.