The Rating Tool was developed by Beth Stroul and Lan Le of the Georgetown University National TA Center to assess the extent to which a community or region has implemented the system of care (SOC) approach. SOCs have demonstrated positive outcomes over the past 20 years, and the focus has shifted to widespread expansion of the approach throughout states, tribes, territories, and communities. This tool was developed to assess expansion progress by measuring the level of SOC development in communities. After pilot testing, the TA Center is assisting a group of states and communities to conduct periodic assessments of SOC expansion progress.

**Rating Tool**
- Provides a brief, easy to administer, web-based instrument
- Designed to assess progress in implementing the SOC approach in a geographic area—typically a community or region
- Provides a “snapshot” of implementation of key elements of the SOC approach at a point in time, which are operationally defined
- Provides a method to derive an overall estimate of the “level” of implementation of the SOC approach
- Assesses implementation progress statewide, and throughout tribes and territories, with multiple communities or regions
- Can be used as part of evaluation of SOC expansion grantees and others implementing SOCs
- Identifies strengths in SOC implementation and elements needing improvement

**SOC Elements Assessed**
- Existence and use of a plan for SOC implementation
- Implementation of SOC values and principles—each operationalized with specific indicators
- Array of services and supports
- SOC infrastructure components
- Commitment of key partners and stakeholders

**Overall Levels of SOC Implementation**
- Level 1 – No Implementation
- Level 2 – Some Implementation
- Level 3 – Moderate Implementation
- Level 4 – Substantial Implementation
- Level 5 – Extensive Implementation

**SOC Values and Principles Assessed**
- Individualized, wraparound approach
- Family driven approach
- Youth guided approach
- Coordinated approach
- Culturally and linguistically competent approach
- Evidence-informed and promising practices and practice-based evidence approaches
- Least restrictive approach
- Broad service array
- Data and accountability

**Uses at State, Tribal, Territorial, and Community Level**
- Assess progress in implementing the SOC approach throughout jurisdictions and outcomes of expansion efforts
- Obtain baseline and subsequent ratings of progress in communities or regions
- Complete the tool at the community or regional level at regular intervals
- Determine the % of communities or regions in a state at each of the 5 levels of implementation
- Assess all communities or subset depending on expansion approach
- Provides a measure of progress through periodic use based on comparison of ratings at each level at each point in time
- Identify strengths and need for investment of resources and TA statewide and in particular communities or regions

**RATING TOOL FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SYSTEM OF CARE APPROACH**
Respondents

- Designed for approximately 10+ respondents per community or region
- Scores are averaged
- Respondents can be customized and may include:
  - Local Community-Level Directors or Managers of Services for Children with Behavioral Health Challenges
  - Lead Provider Agency Directors or Managers for Services Children with Behavioral Health Challenges
  - Family Organization Directors or Family Leaders
  - Youth Organization Directors or Youth Leaders
  - Local Community-Level Directors or Managers of Services for Children with Behavioral Health Challenges from a Partner Agency
  - Other Key Stakeholders Identified by Lead Contact Person for a Community

Contact Information

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