

SEPTEMBER 10, 2013

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY CHILDREN'S NETWORK**  
Celebrating progress towards the fulfillment of our vision ...



*Families all across Livingston County will utilize and value a comprehensive continuum of services to promote children's social and emotional development which will, in turn, effectively reduce at-risk behaviors and strengthen relationships.*

Scientists say that children's mental health affects how they socialize, how they learn, and how well they meet their potential. One way to think about child mental health is that it's like the levelness of a piece of furniture, say, a table. The levelness of a table is what makes it usable and able to function, just like the mental health of a child is what enables them to function and do many things. Some kids' brains develop on floors that are level. This is like saying that the kids have healthy supportive relationships, and access to things like good nutrition and health care. For other kids, their brains develop on more sloped or slanted floors. This means they're exposed to abuse or violence, have unreliable or unsupportive relationships, and don't have access to key programs and resources. Remember that tables can't make themselves level — they need attention from experts who understand levelness and stability and who can work on the table, the floor, or even both. We know that it's important to work on the floors and the tables early, because little wobbles early on tend to become big wobbles later. So, in general, a child's mental health is like the stability and levelness of a table.

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## AGENDA

**Introduction:** Dr. Brenda Huber, Livingston County Children's Network Director

### **Medical/Public Health:**

- Ken Beutke, OSF Saint James - John W. Albrecht Medical Center
- Vicki Trainor, OSF Medical Group
- MaLinda Hillman, Livingston County Health Department
- Melissa Pina, OSF Saint James Rehabilitation Services
- Kelly Barnes, OSF Resource Link
- Dan Lau, MD, OSF Medical Group

### **Education:**

- Mark Jontry, Regional Office of Education - McLean, Dewitt, & Livingston Counties
- Dawn Conway, Livingston County Special Services Unit
- Dr. Kristal Shelvin, Livingston County Children's Network Project Manager
- Dr. Beth Casper, Livingston County Special Services Unit

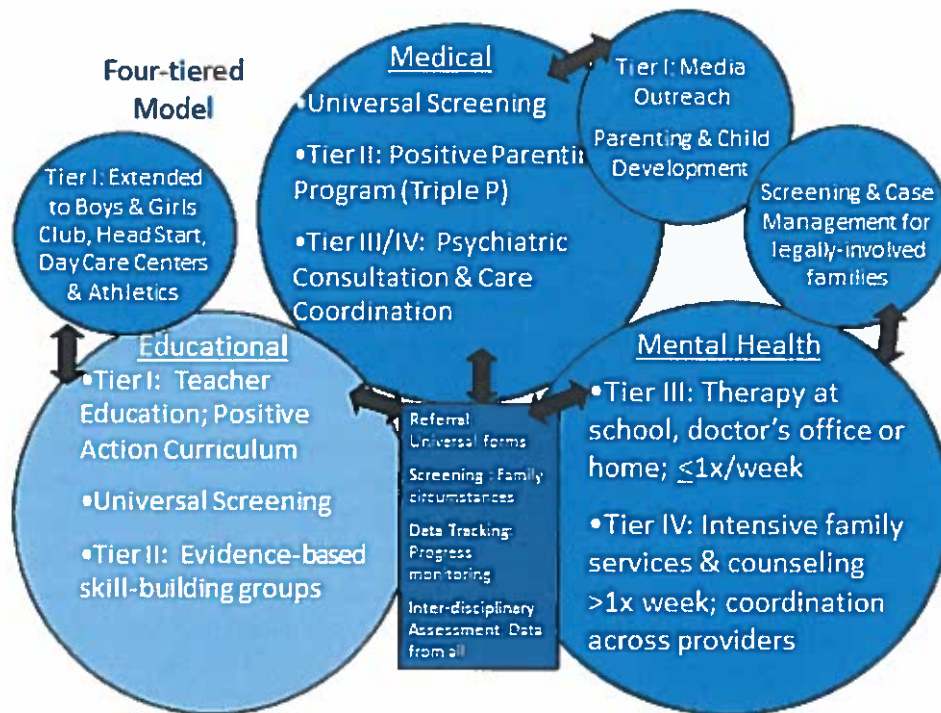
### **Mental Health/Juvenile Justice:**

- Joe Vaughan, Institute for Human Resources
- Judge Jennifer Bauknecht, Livingston County Court
- Mandy Roberts-Lieb, Livingston County Commission on Children & Youth
- Amy Duffy, Institute for Human Resources

**Our Story:** Jenny Steffen, PA-C, OSF Medical Group

**Conclusion:** Carol Flessner, Livingston County Mental Health Board

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The Livingston County Children's Network (LCCN) is a team of people from schools, doctors' offices, the health department, social services, and mental health working together with parents to raise happy, healthy children in Livingston County. A healthy child learns, deals with feelings, gets along with others, and makes and reaches goals.

## LCCN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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