Principles of Resiliency-Oriented Mental Health Systems

1. Resiliency is a belief and faith that all children, youth, and families have strengths and are capable of overcoming challenges.

2. All children have the right to hope and success starting at birth and lasting a lifetime.

3. All communities and systems have a responsibility and make a commitment to nurture resiliency with all children.

4. Youth and families are experts in their experiences.

5. Youth and families have voice and choice in services & supports.

6. A resiliency-oriented mental health system is sensitive to culture, community, and the values of the individual youth and family.

7. Services and supports are individualized, flexibly delivered, and tailored to meet the unique needs of the youth and family.

8. A resiliency-oriented mental health system is affirming of youth and family where they are with unconditional acceptance.

9. In a resiliency-oriented mental health system, supports and services focus on promoting resiliency, while reducing risks and stabilizing symptoms.

10. A resiliency-oriented mental health system provides access to a complete continuum of care that addresses mental health promotion, education, and intervention across developmental ages and stages.

11. A resiliency-oriented mental health system invests in our youth as our most valuable resources.

12. Efforts to implement a resiliency-oriented mental health system need to be imbedded in a community structure that supports them and sustains their effects.