Successful Systems of Care

- Prevention-oriented
- Multifaceted
- Coordinated
- Child-centered
- Family-focused
- Community-based
- Effective
- Accessible
- Sensitive to the child’s environment
- Well-staffed
- Accountable
- Capacity-building
A Systemic Approach

- Systemic problems such as drug use, lack of education, teen pregnancy, violence and delinquency can be traced to root problems
  - Poverty
  - Family history
  - Mental, emotional and physical illness
  - Lack of social support
- Root problems should be treated early
  - Prevention and early intervention are more effective and less expensive
Levels of Intervention

- **Systemic prevention**: programs in place for all children and families.

- **Early intervention**: programs in place for all children and families with one or more risk factors or those showing early signs of trouble.

- **Progressive intervention/treatment**: for children and families that continue to need assistance.
Levels of Intervention

Target:
- All Families
- Families at Risk
- Families in Need

Goal:
- Systemic Prevention: Promote Resiliency
- Early Intervention: Supplement
- Treatment: Provide Care

Approaches:
Levels of Intervention

Target:
- All Families
- Families at Risk
- Families in Need

Goal:
- Promote Resiliency
- Supplement
- Provide Care

Approaches:

**Systemic Prevention**
- Health & safety education
- Drug & alcohol education
- Abuse education
- Transition support
- Conflict resolution
- Parent involvement
- Recreation & enrichment
- Preventative health care
- Character education

**Early Intervention**
- Family support
- Short-term counseling
- Pregnancy prevention
- Violence prevention
- Dropout prevention
- Improved access
- Work programs
- Basic needs
- Child care
- Targeted health care

**Treatment**
- Special education
- Family preservation
- Long-term therapy
- Emergency/crisis treatment
- Intensive case management
- Disabilities programs
- Long-term treatment
- Rehabilitation

Cost level:
- Low
- Intermediate
- High
Conditions for Child Success

- Economic and physical security
- Environmental and public safety
- A nurturing stable family environment
- Adult mentors and role models in the community
- Positive peer activities
- Opportunities to exert effort and achieve success
- Health care for medical needs
- Positive educational experiences and acquisition of useful skills
- Access to professional services to treat conditions or needs that may require professional care

Innovative Models: Education

- Behavioral approaches (early education)
  - Involve parents in rewarding positive behavior
  - Teach effective behavioral strategies
  - Teach parents to be involved positively

- On-site multi-agency wraparound care
  - Integrated services including family and individual therapy as appropriate
  - Flexible, child-centered care
  - Home-based visits or care when needed
Innovative Models: Social Services

- Intensive Family Preservation Services
  - Crisis intervention
  - Includes wide range of interventions including behavioral, cognitive, and environmental

- Intensive Family Services
  - Interventions focused on whole family
  - Includes parent training, coping skills, skills training, and concrete services
  - Includes availability of flexible discretionary funds (for furniture, clothing, rent, etc.)
Innovative Models: Juvenile Justice

- Individualized/wraparound care
  - Commitment to developing care based on the needs of the individual child/youth
  - Maintain consensus among key decision makers

- Intensive case management/family preservation
  - Low caseloads; 24/7 case coverage
  - Multisystemic therapy focusing on multiple inputs and environments
APA Task Force Conclusions

- Reduce the use of restrictive services
- Increase availability of home- and community-based services
- Increase provider accountability
- Increase service integration
- Reform mechanisms for financing of services
- Train providers in the delivery of cost-effective services
- Services should be flexible and individualized
- Services should be comprehensive
- Services should empower families
A Successful System

- A successful system involves implementation of key values (e.g. child- and family-centered, etc.).

- A successful system provides support at no fewer than three levels of prevention/intervention.

- A successful system provides these three levels of support at every key developmental stage experienced by children, youth and young adults.