

## **Community Based Crisis Services: Efforts Necessary to Establish and Sustain Kentucky's Innovations Framework**

**Presenters:** Carol Baker & Rae Williams

**Intended Audience:** Purpose of presentation is to offer solutions for those struggling with crisis and negative outcomes. Discussion will benefit direct support staff, interested stakeholders as well as professionals.

### **Session Description**

In 2006, Kentucky's Division of Mental Retardation (KDMR) began developing community based crisis prevention and intervention services for individuals 18 years or older with intellectual or developmental disabilities (I/DD). The services are designed to primarily support individuals presenting with behavioral or psychiatric symptoms threatening their ability to remain in their home, work site and their community.

After review of research and models from 16 other states, a framework for crisis services was implemented in early 2007 by the 14 Regional Community Mental Health Centers (CMHC). These Regional CMHC's cover all of Kentucky, providing services in urban and remote rural settings to diverse populations. In 2007, \$1 million of State General Funds were divided among the 14 CMHC's with \$1.9 million dividend among them in 2008.

True community-based services, we discovered, required breaking long established barriers, misnomers, and service area silos. A philosophical shift focusing on a holistic view and relationship building with the goal of "calm, not control" is needed. This shift would have to target support providers as well as organizational infrastructures.

The intent of the presentation is to discuss Kentucky's framework, philosophy of the program, initial development and statewide training, and on-going efforts to sustain not only community based crisis supports but also the paradigm shift. Plans for the future will also be outlined.