Executive Summary: FAST Forward Community Readiness Assessment

Key Question: Are NH communities ready to provide services and supports?

- The FAST Forward System of Care is designed to meet serve the diverse needs of NH youth with severe emotional disturbance (SED) and their families.
- FAST Forward’s success hinges on the readiness of NH communities to provide accessible, well-coordinated, high-quality services and supports.

Method: Let’s find out: community readiness assessment (CRA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>63 Key Informants Nominated</th>
<th>58 Key Informants Interviewed</th>
<th>94% response rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 NH Regions</td>
<td>7 Sectors</td>
<td>9 Readiness Levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Dimensions</td>
<td>6 Dimensions</td>
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Findings: Efforts under way, but communities/systems not very aware or supportive

![Six Dimensions of Community Readiness](chart)

![Perception of Readiness by Sector](chart)

Recommendations: Bring youth, families, communities, and systems together

- Develop broad community awareness and education campaigns that demonstrate how the needs of youth and families and their communities are aligned.
- Better prepare, guide, and support youth and families to successfully navigate NH’s behavioral health system and resources.
- Enhance family trust and confidence in youth serving systems, paving the way to infuse youth and family perspective throughout NH’s community-based systems of care.
- Strengthen and connect local systems of care to the state level system of care.
- Promote awareness of existing behavioral health supports and services, and improve effectiveness and coordination of them.