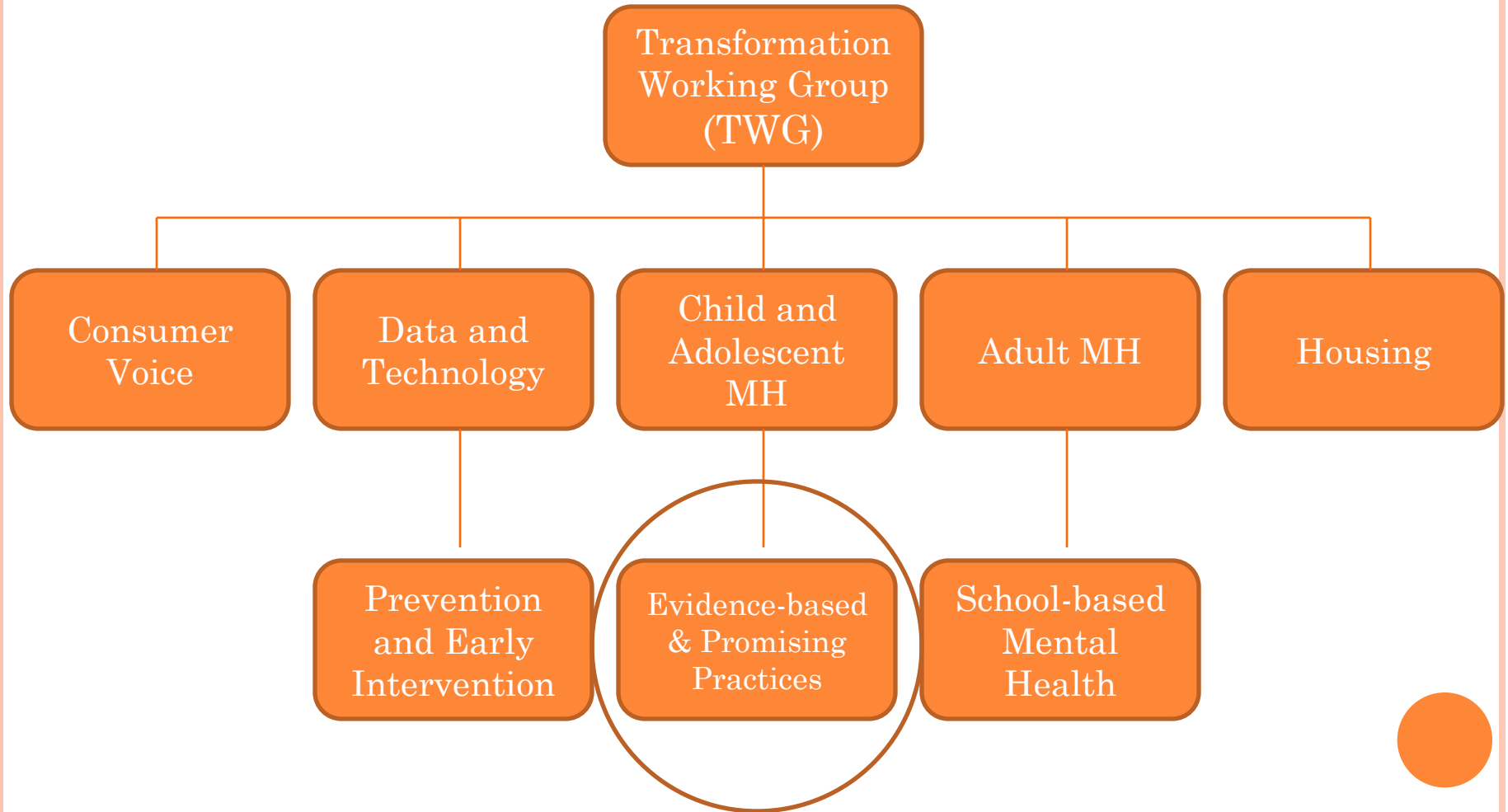




# **THE SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL WELLNESS CENTER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

**A Proposal by the Evidence-Based Practice Action  
Team of the Mental Health Transformation  
Initiative**

# MENTAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION



## RATIONALE – STATEMENT OF NEED

- Texas has a large population with very limited resources for behavioral health
- Texas has many unique challenges and strengths, e.g., workforce shortages, diverse geography, cultural diversity, good higher education system
- Would provide a “home” to continue mental health transformation efforts after the grant
- Would facilitate sharing of information, training resources, and infrastructure across child-serving agencies and providers
- Would support innovation/growth in the BH system



# RESEARCH ON EXISTING CENTERS

- Georgetown University's National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health
- UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families, and Communities
- USF Florida Mental Health Institute
- Texas Protective Service Training Institute
- California Institute of Mental Health
- New York Center for Implementing Evidence-Based Practices for Children
- Connecticut Center for Effective Practice
- Minnesota Center for Excellence in Children's Mental Health
- North Carolina Center for Excellence in Community Mental Health
- Ohio Center for Innovative Practices



# INITIAL THOUGHTS: STRUCTURE

- Affiliated with a Texas University
  - Options
    - Housed at one university or a collaboration of universities, each identified with specific areas of expertise (centers of excellence)
    - Stand-alone entity or housed in a department or school
- Integrating expertise from various disciplines, departments, and service sectors
  - Psychiatry, psychology, social work, education, health, nursing, public affairs, pharmacy, criminal justice



# GOVERNANCE

## ○ Advisory Board

- Youth and family advocacy
- Parents and youth
- Community provider association(s)
- State agencies
- Professional organizations
- Others



# PURPOSE

- The purpose of the center is to have a recognized hub of state-of-the-art knowledge that focuses on the social and emotional wellness of Texas children and families by strengthening the system of care.



# Potential services

- **Workforce Development**
  - Technical training – both pre and post graduate
- **Research & Evaluation**
  - Development, implementation, and evaluation of behavioral health programs
  - Evaluation of existing behavioral health programs
  - Evaluation of the impact of policy on service quality and outcomes
  - Assistance with cross agency data matching/shared outcomes
  - Linking services researchers in the state with communities or agencies interested in research



# Potential services

- **Training & Technical Assistance**
  - Consultation and technical assistance on program development and implementation
  - Consultation and technical assistance on policy development
  - Dissemination of information about innovations in behavioral health services
  - Maintenance of EBP database/clearinghouse



# FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- Supported through combination of core funding supporting basic infrastructure and “soft” funding
- Potential Sources for Core Funding
  - “Dues” from user groups (i.e., state agencies, associations, board member groups, etc.)
  - Foundation grants (possibly combination of multiple grantors)
  - Legislative appropriation
  - Endowment (dream big)
- Potential Sources for Soft Funding
  - Collaborative grants with state agencies or community providers
  - Independent grants (federal, foundation, etc.)
  - State contracts
  - Fund raising



# DISCUSSION

- Thoughts about proposal
- Thoughts about how to move forward

