

## SOARWorks for Children: Identify the SOAR Intercept Where You Can Enhance the Process!

### Identify Applicants

#### People Involved

- School psychologists, counselors, social workers, McKinney-Vento Liaisons
- Parents or caregivers
- Child welfare case workers, outreach workers, homeless services staff

#### Intercept Step

- Identify children who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness who have a serious mental illness, medical impairment, and/or a co-occurring substance use disorder, as well as low income and resources

### Assist with SSI Applications

#### People Involved

- Social workers, community behavioral health providers, outreach workers, homeless services staff, care coordinators
- SOAR Practitioners

#### Intercept Steps

- Complete the SOAR Online Course: Child Curriculum
- Gather medical and educational evidence
- Write a Medical Summary Report and assist with the SSI application process
- Collaborate with the State and Local SOAR Leads, SSA, and DDS

### Obtain Medical Records, Evaluations & Co-signatures on MSRs

#### People Involved

- Teachers, school psychologists, counselors
- Social workers, mental health providers
- Parents or caregivers
- SOAR Practitioners

#### Intercept Steps

- Fill out an SSA-5665 Teacher Questionnaire
- Write a letter documenting the child's limitations in functioning and supportive services provided
- Assist with gathering educational evidence, such as: Individualized Education Program (IEP) records, IQ testing, special education services, school counseling, disciplinary reports
- Gather medical evidence, such as hospital or clinic records and psychiatric evaluations, and arrange for additional testing as needed



## Provide Systems-Level Support

### People Involved

- McKinney-Vento Liaisons, HUD Continuum of Care
- SOAR State and Local Leads
- SOAR Practitioners

### Intercept Steps

- Invite SOAR Practitioners to care coordination meetings
- Participate in SOAR Steering Committee Meetings
- Identify data-sharing opportunities to facilitate efficient SOAR referral and assistance
- Dedicate funds to support SOAR Practitioner positions
- Support SOAR Practitioners through mentoring, providing quality review of SSI applications, and monitoring data

## Support Resiliency and Recovery

### People Involved

- Outreach workers, social workers, care coordinators
- Housing specialists, homeless services staff
- SOAR Practitioners

### Intercept Steps

- Identify housing, employment, and education resources
- Connect with treatment and support groups for the child and parents or caregivers
- Assist with other supportive service needs, such as food assistance and other mainstream benefits for which the child and/or family may qualify

## Overview

The SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) Technical Assistance (TA) Center is funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and is a national program designed to increase access to the disability income benefit programs administered by the Social Security Administration (SSA) for eligible adults and children who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness and have a serious mental illness, medical impairment, and/or a co-occurring substance use disorder.

[Connect with your state SOAR contacts!](#)

### Contact SOAR

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