

# Kansas School Mental Health Advisory Council

February 13, 2020

# Approvals

- Agenda for February 13, 2020
- Minutes from December 18, 2019



# Update from KSDE and State Board

- Mandated Reporter Training Regulations
- Emotional Disturbance Label
- Legislative Update HB 2330
- SPEAK-UP Information (handout)



# Mandated Reporter Training Recommendations



Approved by the Kansas State Department of Education  
February 2019

# Required Mandated Reporter Training

- Require staff training on mandated reporting requirements and procedures.
- Required training would include signs of abuse and neglect, to include child sexual abuse.
- Recommend that districts institute, revisit or revise policies related to mandated reporting.



# Suicide Awareness and Prevention Recommendations



Adopted by the Kansas State Board of Education  
February 2019

# Required Suicide Awareness and Prevention Training

- State Board of Education provides guidance to districts on the implementation of Jason Flatt Act that includes:
  - Initial overview for all staff.
  - Differentiated training for successive years and role of staff.
  - Districts develop and implement suicide protocols embedded in a crisis plan.



# Required Suicide Awareness and Prevention Training (continued)

- Direct KSDE to revisit how they monitor the implementation of the suicide prevention requirements within the accreditation regulations (K.A.R. 91-31-32(c)(12)) and provide support and resources to districts for families, students and others related to suicide awareness and prevention.
- Recommend the Kansas Communities that Care Survey be promoted and aligned to the Attorney General's Youth Suicide Prevention Task Force recommendations.





# Kansas Blue Ribbon Task Force on Bullying



Dr. Rick Ginsberg, Co-Chair

# Objectives and Goals

- Research and identify current Bullying definition, trends, incidents, and prevention measures occurring across the state
- Coordinate with stakeholders to address relevant issues effectively, to best meet the needs of students
- Review work in the areas of social emotional learning as set forth by the State Board goals, identifying possible avenues that could reduce and prevent bullying and cyberbullying
- Review current statutes, regulations and policy to determine need for change
- Present recommendations to the Kansas State Board of Education to address bullying, cyberbullying, prevention and training measures



# Blue Ribbon Taskforce Meetings

- May 28, 2019 – Town Hall, Clearwater
- June 18, 2019 – Town Hall, Garden City
- August 5 – Town Hall, Salina
- September 25 – Town Hall, Girard
- October 30 – Town Hall, Wichita
- November 6 – Town Hall, Lawrence
- November 18 – Whitewater (Writing Team)
- November 19 – Webinar (KNEA, Topeka)
- December 2 – Town Hall, Topeka



# Working Process

- Task Force composed of 35 members plus staff
- Six working committees created:
  - Data and Research
  - Evidenced-Based and Current Practices
  - Cultural Awareness
  - Policy Regulations/Accountability
  - Barriers and Solutions
  - Writing



# Scope of the Problem

- KCTC survey (2018) – Have you seen someone bullied during the current year?:
  - 6<sup>th</sup> graders – 55.7%
  - 8<sup>th</sup> graders – 63.3%
  - 10<sup>th</sup> graders – 60.4%
  - 12<sup>th</sup> graders – 59.7%
- Have YOU been bullied this year –
  - Overall = 27.3%
  - Cyberbullying = 17.9%



# Kansas Definition of Bullying

- "Bullying" means:
  - (A) Any intentional gesture or any intentional written, verbal, electronic or physical act or threat either by any student, staff member or parent towards a student or by any student, staff member or parent towards a staff member that is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that such gesture, act or threat creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment that a reasonable person, under the circumstances, knows or should know will have the effect of:
    - Harming a student or staff member, whether physically or mentally;
    - damaging a student's or staff member's property;
    - placing a student or staff member in reasonable fear of harm to the student or staff member; or
    - placing a student or staff member in reasonable fear of damage to the student's or staff member's property;
  - (B) cyberbullying; or
  - (C) any other form of intimidation or harassment prohibited by the board of education of the school district in policies concerning bullying adopted pursuant to this section or subsection (e) of K.S.A. 72-8205, and amendments thereto.
- "Cyberbullying" means bullying by use of any electronic communication device through means including, but not limited to, e-mail, instant messaging, text messages, blogs, mobile phones, pagers, online games and websites.



# Current Statutory Requirements

- The board of education of each school district shall adopt a policy to prohibit bullying either by any student, staff member or parent towards a student or by a student, staff member or parent towards a staff member on or while utilizing school property, in a school vehicle or at a school-sponsored activity or event.
- The board of education of each school district shall adopt and implement a plan to address bullying either by any student, staff member or parent towards a student or by a student, staff member or parent towards a staff member on school property, in a school vehicle or at a school-sponsored activity or event. Such plan shall include provisions for the training and education for staff members and students.
- The board of education of each school district may adopt additional policies relating to bullying pursuant to subsection (e) of K.S.A. 72-8205, and amendments thereto.



# Recommendation - 1

- Better Support and Direction for School Districts
  - Establish/appoint a statewide unit to offer guidance and support
  - This unit should compile a “bank” of evidenced-based promising practices
  - Continue state efforts like Bullying Awareness week





# Recommendation - 2

- Continue and develop the state's focus on Social-Emotional and Character Development (SECD) education to address school bullying
  - Better communicate and share SEL-related supports available to schools
  - Oversight unit (see rec. #1) should be charged with providing information and direction in devising curricula to address bullying problems
  - School boards should consider the Kansas SECD and School Counselor standards in developing their legally mandated bullying plans



# Recommendation - 3

- Examine current state law and consider appropriate guidance
  - Current KS law on bullying (KS statute 72-6147) is broad and somewhat inconsistent with research that identifies bullying as repetitive over time and involving a power imbalance
  - The State Board should examine current law and provide appropriate guidance



# Recommendation - 4

- Local policies and plans must focus on relationships, school climate and culture, and the mental health impact of bullying in schools
  - Plans must address differing needs of students/staff, including, but not limited to: biological sex, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, race/ethnicity, disability, religion, and Socio-Economic Status (SES)
  - The whole school community (families, school personnel, students, etc.) need to be involved in policies and plans
  - Simple, effective and trusted means for reporting bullying are needed
  - Means for listening to students and families, and addressing their concerns, are part of a strong culture and climate and should be promoted. Behavioral interventions need time to work and should be monitored for effectiveness
  - Training for resiliency should be included in professional development
  - Consider the use of restorative approaches that avoid re-victimization (zero tolerance doesn't work)
  - Mental health support for schools should be available
  - Any plans should address perpetrators, victims and bystanders
  - Address large caseloads of school counselors, social workers & school psychologists (nurses)
  - Tie bullying prevention efforts in with other reforms and mandates



# Recommendation - 5

- The state needs better data on school bullying and measures of assessing effectiveness
  - Encourage district participation in the KCTC survey
  - Areas to strengthen the KCTC survey: fewer questions per administration, administer same time each year, check psychometric reliability/internal consistency, collect information on all sub-groups (see rec. #4), include the current definition of bullying on the survey
  - Oversight unit (see rec. #1) should consider identifying or creating surveys regarding teacher perceptions of bullying and info regarding school climate
  - Assure programs implemented are evidence-based
  - Oversight unit (see rec. #1) should recommend measures that districts can use to assess effectiveness of bullying plans



# Recommendation - 6

- Addressing Cyberbullying

- Districts should:

- Provide information regarding cyberbullying definition
    - Share information on cyberbullying plans
    - Hold cyberbullying awareness activities
    - Train educators and families about problems associated with cyberbullying
    - Find social media apps and other means to report cyberbullying
    - Involve students in plans and activities
    - School boards should monitor changes in federal laws on cyberbullying



# Recommendation - 7

- Training, Professional Development (PD), and Teacher Preparation
  - Schools and districts need to put aside ample time and resources to support PD
  - Specific skills are needed to address bullying. Outside school support from the community, professional programs, etc. should be expected
  - The most promising anti-bullying practices are school-wide, universal and include a parental/family component. This is the goal of SEL efforts, and promising approaches should be considered
  - Provide in-service training for teachers regarding bullying coupled with preparation for staff, families and others in the community
  - Pre-service teacher preparation must also address bullying in schools and anti-bullying approaches
  - School districts must include families in anti-bullying training efforts



# Questions?

- Website:

<https://www.ksde.org/Agency/Division-of-Learning-Services/Special-Education-and-Title-Services/Early-Childhood/Blue-Ribbon-Taskforce-on-Bullying>





Myron Melton  
KSDE Contact  
Special Education & Title Services  
(785) 296-4941  
[mmelton@ksde.org](mailto:mmelton@ksde.org)

Kent Reed  
KSDE Contact  
Career Standards & Assessment Services  
(785) 296-8109  
[kreed@ksde.org](mailto:kreed@ksde.org)

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# Role of the Council in Task Force Recommendations

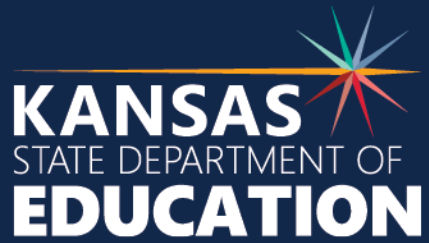
- What is the role?
- What questions do members have about the upcoming work?



# Public Comment

- Guidelines for Testimony
  - Prior to start of the meeting, be sure to sign in on the “Public Comment” sign in sheet.
  - All comments will be taken under advisement by the council.
  - Any response from the Council to public comments will come at a later date.
- Verbal Public Comment
  - Verbal comments are limited to three minutes.
  - Cue will be given one minute before time expires.
- Written Testimony
  - Written input must include the name, address and county of residence of the person submitting comment.
  - Written comments can be submitted via email, mail, or fax to [pbone@ksde.org](mailto:pbone@ksde.org)

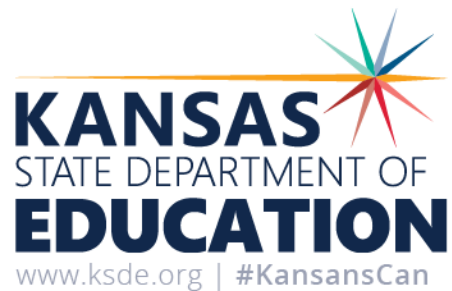




# Working Lunch



# Social Workers



Becky Fast

*Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.*

# **Kansas School Mental Health Advisory Council**

## **February 13, 2020**

**Becky Fast, LCSW – Executive Director**  
**National Association of Social Workers**  
**Kansas Chapter**  
**[bfast.naswks@socialworkers.org](mailto:bfast.naswks@socialworkers.org)**



## Social work role and services vary across school districts in Kansas

### School Social Workers

- The link between home, school, and community in providing mental health and social services.
- Service outcomes include increased academic achievement, attendance, and social-emotional-behavioral functioning.





## Primary Service Areas School Social Work

- 1. Assessment and screening
- 2. Individual and small group student services
- 3. Services for parents and families
- 4. Referral and collaboration with community supports
- 5. Classroom instruction
- 6. Services for school personnel

# Top Areas of Responsibility in Kansas

## School Social Worker

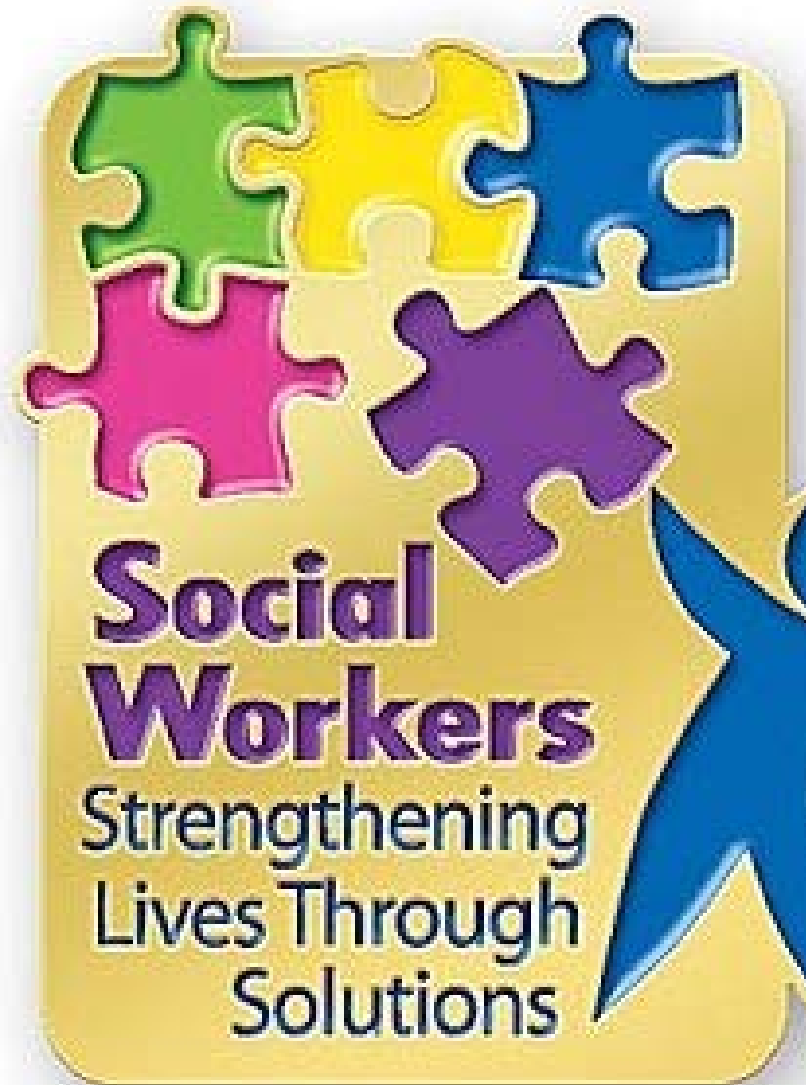


- Mental health and social supports
- Attendance and truancy
- Basic human needs (i.e., food, shelter, clothing, health care)
- Special education services
- Conflict resolution and anger management
- Family trauma, homelessness, substance abuse
- Consultation to school staff
- Parent-child relationships
- Foster care and/or justice-involved students



## **School Social Workers use a wide range of evidence-based strategies**

- Brief-solution focused problem-solving/counseling
- Therapeutic interventions
- Case management
- Group work and social skills
- Positive behavioral interventions and supports,
- Crisis intervention
- School-home-community connections and team decision-making
- Assessment/screening of emotional and social needs



# Social Workers are there for you!

## Kansas Social Work Education

### BSW Programs

- Bethel College
- Fort Hays State University
- Kansas State University
- Newman University
- Pittsburg State University
- Tabor College
- University of Kansas
- Washburn University
- Wichita State University

### MSW Programs

- University of Kansas
- Washburn University
- Wichita State University
- Fort Hays State University
- Newman University

## • Bachelor Social Work

- Accredited BSW programs require a minimum of 400 hours of supervised field instruction.

## • Master of Social Work

- Accredited MSW programs last two years full-time and include a minimum of 900 hours of supervised field instruction in an internship.

# Kansas has Three Licensure Levels

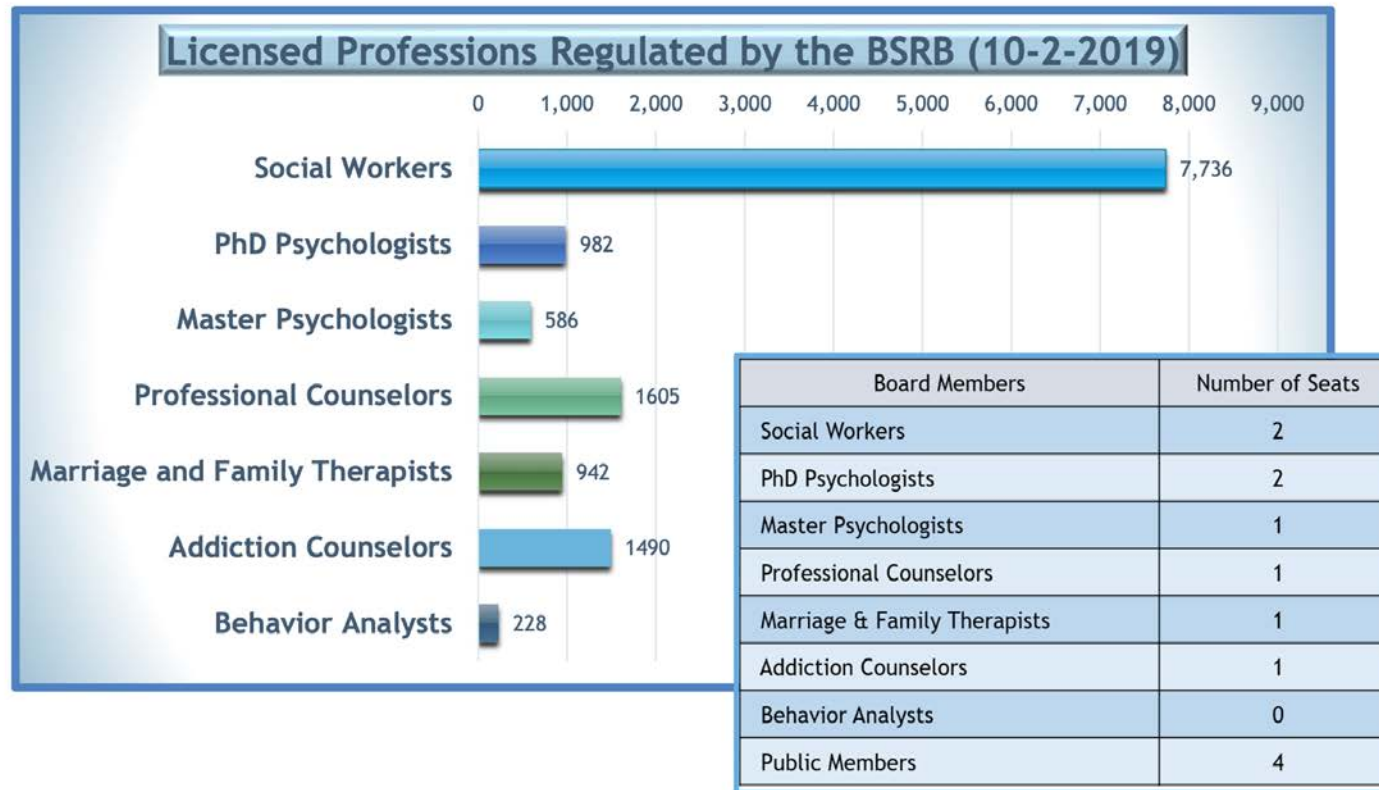
- **Licensed Baccalaureate Social Worker (LBSW)**
- **Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW)**
- **Licensed Specialist Clinical Social Worker (LSCSW)**
  - Completed MSW graduate degree and passed LMSW and LSCSW licensing examinations
  - 3,000 hours of supervised post-graduate clinical experience
  - 100 supervision hours
  - Authority for independent level private practice - diagnosing mental health disorders

Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board (BSRB) in Kansas governs social work licensure.

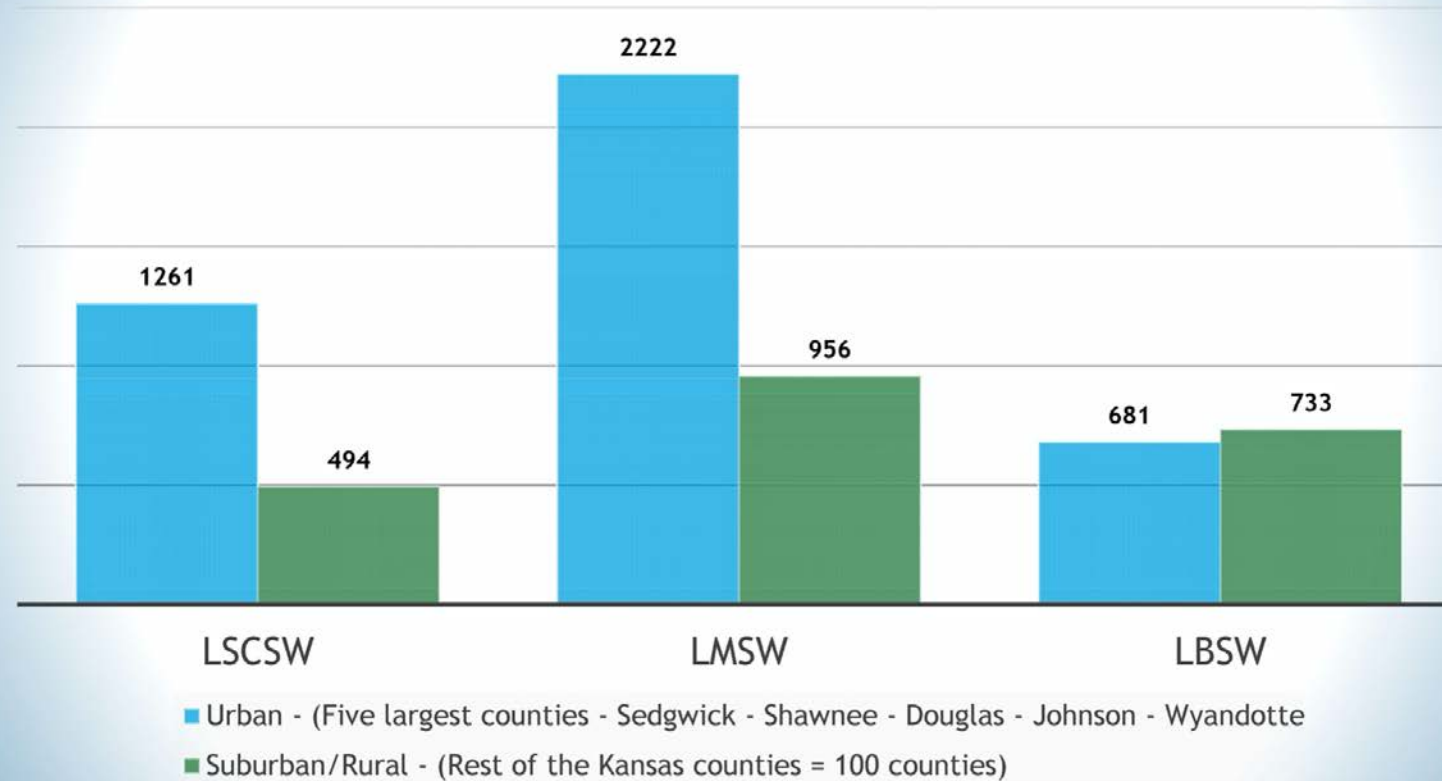
## Standards for Licensure

- Graduate from an accredited social work program
- Pass a national licensing examination
- Background check
- References

# Kansas Licensed Mental Health Professions



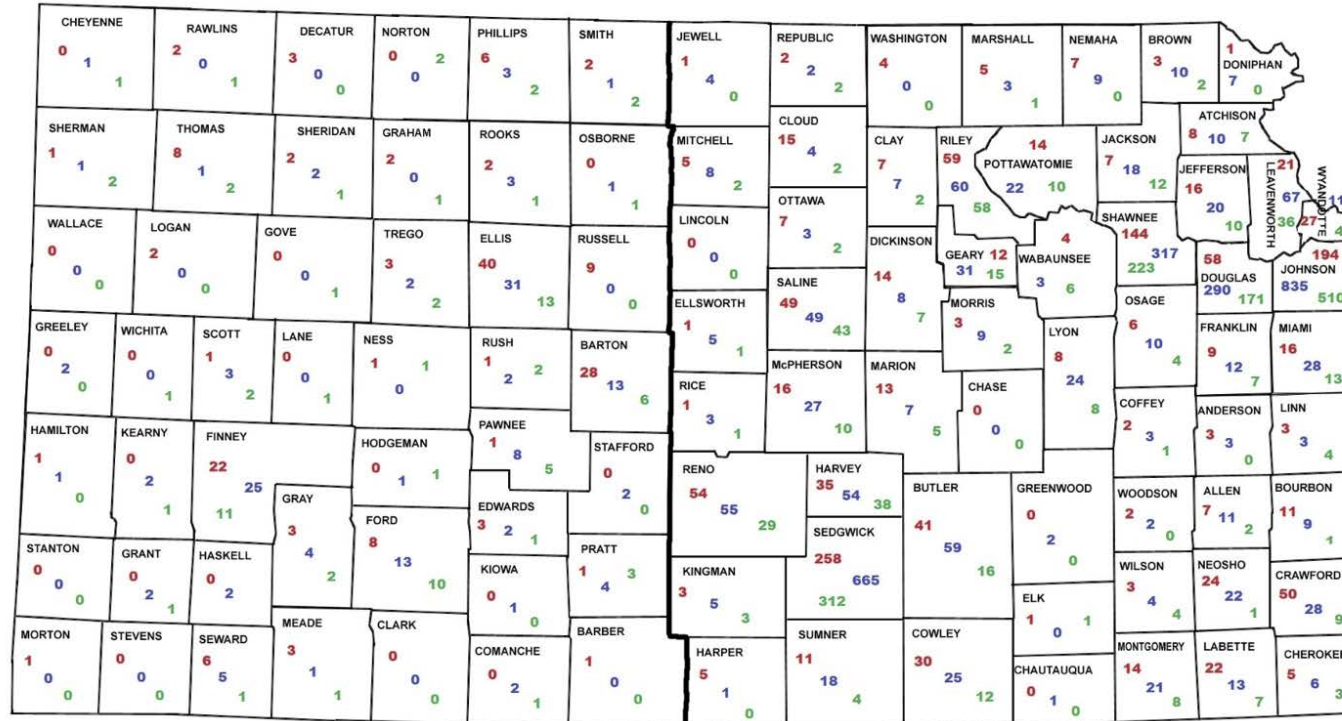
## Geographic Distribution of Licensed Social Workers in Kansas - 2019





## Licensed Social Workers in Kansas - LSCSW – LMSW – LBSW – 10/2019

Prepared by Tim Davis, PhD, LSCSW – Professor and Chair – Dept of Social Work, Fort Hays State University



Licensed Specialist Clinical Social Workers

Licensed Masters Social Workers

Licensed Bachelor Social Workers

Western Kansas LSCSW total = 83

Eastern Kansas LSCSW total = 1,672

Western Kansas LMSW total = 73

Eastern Kansas LMSW total = 3,037

Western Kansas LBSW total = 73

Eastern Kansas LBSW total = 1,341

# Kansas has a distinct need for clinical social workers (LSCSW)

State	Clinical MSW	MSW	BSW	Total	% Clinical
Missouri	5939	1857	75	7871	75
Colorado	6,090	1,612		7,702	79
Oklahoma	2761	1072	106	3939	70
Kansas	<b>2223</b>	<b>3902</b>	<b>1611</b>	<b>7736</b>	<b>29</b>

# Addressing Workforce Shortages

NASW-KS Chapter led the passage of licensure reciprocity Bill and reducing a regulatory hoop to become a LSCSW in 2019

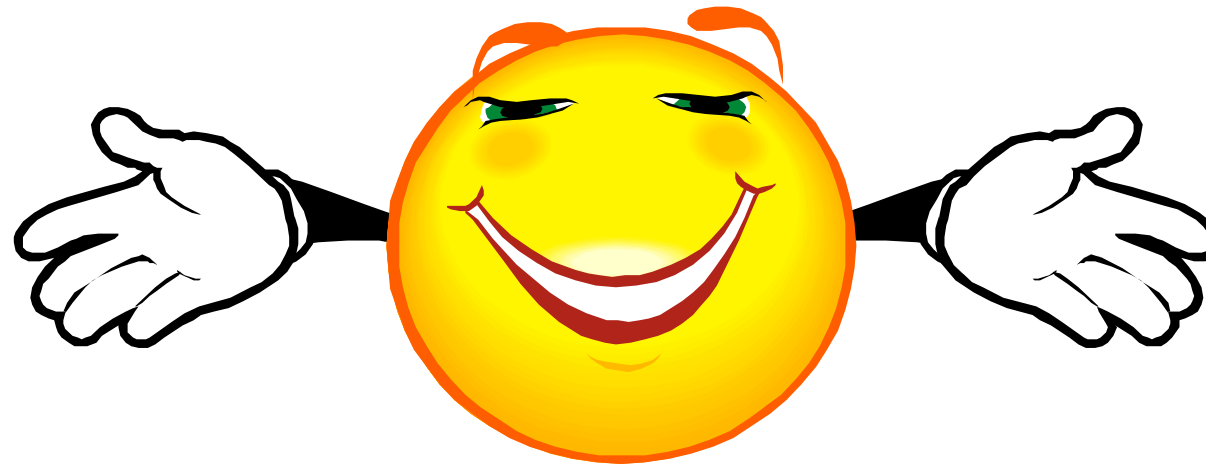
## **Ideas for the Future:**

- More attention to career pathways for mental health professions
- College and career readiness for mental health professions
- Student loan repayment/tuition assistance
- Retain baby boomers volunteer – part-time who are post-retirement
- Information technology options





# Questions – Ideas - Thoughts



# Thank you - Be Amazing!

# By-Laws Updates



Laura Jurgensen

# By-Laws

- Review of changes



# Member Updates



All



Wrap Up:

Kathy Busch

Discussion on Recommendations and  
work moving forward

Sub-Committee



**Next Meeting: April 16, 2020**  
**Washburn Technical School**



# Sub-Committee Discussion



Kathy Busch  
Chair  
[kbusch@ksde.org](mailto:kbusch@ksde.org)

Laura Jurgensen  
Assistant Director  
Special Education & Title Services  
(785) 296-5608  
[ljurgensen@ksde.org](mailto:ljurgensen@ksde.org)

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