How does New Jersey’s system of care approach support families involved with child welfare?

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New Jersey’s Children’s System of Care (CSOC) provides a statewide, coordinated approach to serving youth with behavioral health challenges, developmental disabilities, or substance use needs. Operated by the Department of Children and Families and administered through PerformCare NJ, the system emphasizes family voice, community-based services, and equitable access regardless of insurance status. Key components include care management organizations, family support organizations, and mobile response teams. Since expanding statewide, New Jersey has significantly reduced out-of-home placements and eliminated out-of-state treatment, demonstrating the impact of a trauma-informed, family-centered system of care.

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