**Tennyson Rewiring Glossary**

**Catalytic Funding:** Philanthropic dollars, raised by Tennyson, that are supporting the *Rewiring* initiative. This funding supports both the Pooled Funds as well as portions of Tennyson’s work, specifically the support functions (including data management, strategic facilitation, etc.) and expansion of Tennyson’s Unfunded Services and Navigation work.

**Community Partner:** A person or organization that has been identified by a County *Rewiring* Workgroup as an important stakeholder to engage in *Rewiring* work in a county. This person or organization is committed to the success of children and families and the *Rewiring* mission of preventing the flow of children and families into child welfare. In addition, a community partner is a person or organization that lives, works, or provides some type of service in the area. Examples of individual partners include concerned citizens, faith leaders, legislators, or people with important connections. Examples of community partners include non-profits, neighborhood organizations or coalitions, civic organizations, education departments, public health departments, faith-based organizations, hospitals, strategic partners, or governmental institutions.

**County Rewiring Workgroup:** A committee of stakeholders and community partners, chaired by leaders from Tennyson and a representative of the county’s DHS office, who are tasked with identifying county child welfare needs and developing the county’s *Rewiring* implementation plan, tied to the evaluation plan. Each county’s workgroup will develop a plan and proposal for pooled fund investments, which ultimately must be approved by the *Rewiring* Advisory Council.

**Evaluation Plan:** A key aspect of the *Rewiring* initiative, created in partnership with Colorado Health Institute (CHI). The overall evaluation involves the following three components we believe will be necessary in the long term to justify replication and scaling of the work via changes in policy and budgets:

1. Safely reduce entry into the child welfare system as defined by child protection cases
2. For children who have become child welfare system involved, quickly and sustainably move them to permanency
3. Incremental, outcomes-based shifting of public dollars.

**Funnel:** Refers to the visual image used by the *Rewiring* initiative that depicts the 222,000 calls to Colorado’s Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline that led to 57,000 families having some minimal child welfare interventions (which include assessments), and ultimately 13,000 children with documented cases of neglect and abuse (2018 data). The funnel also illustrates how most of the money in child welfare is spent on the 13,000 children, with minimal monies being spent earlier. The goal of *Rewiring* is to “flip the funnel” by directing dollars to the top of the funnel, when families are first reaching out for help, in order to prevent their fall into documented neglect or abuse cases.

**Imminent Risk:** A legally defined threshold used in child welfare that indicates a child is at immediate threat or likelihood for maltreatment (that is, neglect or abuse). Families must cross this threshold in order to access services (and funding for those services) from child welfare. These services can include in-home supports, mentoring, or the child’s removal from the home and placement in foster care.
Joint Budget Committee (JBC): Colorado State Legislative committee tasked with “studying the management, operations, programs, and fiscal needs of the agencies and institutions of Colorado state government. Throughout the year, the JBC holds a number of meetings and considers a range of documents to help prepare budget recommendations for the [Colorado] General Assembly.” (Source)

Medical Necessity: Medical necessity criteria are standards used by all health insurance companies, including Medicaid, to decide whether treatments or health care supplies recommended by a health provider are reasonable, necessary, and appropriate. Additionally, medical necessity broadly refers to treatments or interventions that are the least invasive and reasonably expected to show symptom improvement.

Pooled Funds: A pool of philanthropic dollars, raised by Tennyson, that are deployed in each Rewiring partner county to invest in services and support that cannot be sustainably financed today because of the limitations of funding based on narrow definitions of medical necessity and imminent risk. These funds are driven by each county’s unique needs, allowing for local differentiation with some linkage to consistent outcomes that allow for replication beyond participating counties. In general, the funds emphasize preventative services and traditional/non-traditional supports in order to collectively increase the number of families who can remain safely intact. Furthermore, the Pooled Fund is built to think bigger, beyond just typical therapeutic-type services, to allow for early, creative supports to meet the needs of families. The funds operate with a key focus on: complimenting or amplifying work that is already underway whenever possible, maximizing impact, demonstrating the ability to scale in other places, and addressing the opportunities in helping families with children 0-3 years old. Understanding the current cost of services and tracking along with pooled fund investments will demonstrate cost savings and successful outcomes to make the case for changes in how child welfare can be sustainably financed by public and private payers, not philanthropy.

Pooled Funds Contract: Contractual agreement that is legally binding between Tennyson and a county pooled funds recipient that outlines the terms in which funds can be used and means of reporting financial activities. The contract also includes agreements around data sharing.

Pooled Funds Recipient: A county community partner, with 501(c)3 status, that has requested and been granted money by the Rewiring Advisory Committee and the Pooled Funds Review Committee to implement prevention programming in an identified Rewiring county. Recipient is required to provide quarterly updates.

Pooled Funds Review Committee (PFRC): 3-member subcommittee of Tennyson Center’s Board of Directors that must review all pooled funds requests after approval by the Rewiring Advisory Council. Pooled funds are disbursed only upon approval by the PFRC.

Pooled Funds Request: An application submitted by a community partner to the Rewiring Advisory Committee in order to access county dollars invested by Tennyson. Community partners must complete the application and provide other supportive documentation for review in order to be approved for funding.

Rewiring Advisory Council: A committee of 15 members, chaired by the Tennyson CEO and composed of Tennyson staff, a representative from each Rewiring County, a representative from another service provider, a CHI representative, a philanthropic partner, a Medicaid representative, and others. The
committee is tasked with duties related to the **Rewiring** initiative, which include oversight of the pooled funds and review and approval of pooled fund requests.

**Rewiring County:** A term applying to any of Colorado’s 64 counties participating in child welfare reform through Tennyson’s **Rewiring** initiative and committed to the mission of reducing the flow of children into child welfare while demonstrating how funds can be reallocated. **Rewiring** counties are formalized through the creation and signing of a roadmap, which signals the county’s understanding of the initiative’s goals and includes ideas about how to achieve these goals. Counties that Tennyson has approved for initiative participation must meet criteria for adding some diversity to the pilot, whether through geographic location, strong leadership, demographic diversity, strengths and challenge areas, and/or resources.

**Roadmap:** A non-legally binding document created by a county, in collaboration with Tennyson, that is a first step in a declaration by both Tennyson and a county of shared commitment to the **Rewiring** initiative. The Roadmap officially makes the county a “**Rewiring County**”. Roadmaps include information related to an understanding of the initiative, county data, goals for potential **Rewiring** work, and commitments to open communication, conflict resolution, and doing what is best for children and families.

**Strategic Partner:** A key collaborator whose alignment with Tennyson and the **Rewiring** initiative can either be in one or multiple counties and significantly advances the work of the initiative. This mutually beneficial relationship can support the advancing of the work through connections, data collection or analysis, community leadership or development, and other areas.

**Unfunded Services:** Interventions that may include therapies, case management, crisis intervention, or linking to community resources that Tennyson Center and other community partners provides for children and families without reimbursement through insurance billing. Unfunded services are included in **Rewiring**’s testing of earlier interventions (which are currently unfunded) to prove that these interventions are less expensive and yield better outcomes.