



LEGISLATOR LEARNING EVENT

***Colorado's Competency to Proceed
System: What Is It, What Works,
What Needs to Be Fixed?***

THURS, SEPT 25, 2025 – 1:00-2:30 PM

www.comadmoms.org



Colorado Mad Moms is a grassroots organization of parents, family members, and caregivers of persons living with a Severe Mental or Brain Illness (SMI/SBI) and their allies. We want our loved ones to live meaningful lives, not to suffer needlessly.

Our vision is that persons with SMI/SBI in Colorado be treated with dignity and respect and that they receive person-centered, equitable, compassionate, and evidence-based care, and support.

Our primary focus is on addressing the needs of Colorado-based adults and youth who are not receiving the services and treatment they need and deserve.



Our mission is to:

- **educate** ourselves, the public, policymakers, social service providers, law enforcement, and judicial officers about SMI/SBI to improve the daily lives of those affected by this illness,
- **advocate** for changes to healthcare, law enforcement, social service, affordable housing, employment, and justice systems to address the needs of people living with SMI/SBI,
- provide a direct continuum of **support** for parents, family members, and caregivers of persons living with SMI/SBI.

Agenda

01	Introduction	Kate Rawlinson , Lead, CO Mad Moms
02	Lived Experience	Barbara Vassis
03	Where are we now?	Jack Johnson , Disability Law CO, Public Policy Liaison
04	Current state of competency laws	Leora Joseph , Dir, Office of Civil and Forensic Mental Health, and Alan Marschke , Commissioner, Bridges & Judicial Liaison, OFCFMH
05	Lived Experience	Lottie Elliott
06	Defense Council Perspective	James Karbach , CO State Public Defender
07	Lived Experience	Jill Moynihan
08	2026 Legislative Fixes	Senator Judy Amabile