

The Connecticut Family and Community Partnership Wraparound Initiative

Demonstrating High-Fidelity Wraparound and System of Care Enhancement

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Funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Mental Health Transformation – State Incentive Grant (MHT-SIG)



Project Description

The current initiative seeks to demonstrate high-fidelity Wraparound through comprehensive training, consultation, technical assistance and evaluation in two communities in Connecticut over the course of two years (Sept. 2008 – Sept. 2010).

Wraparound is an evidence-based process that is strength based and family-driven and seeks to ensure that families' needs are efficiently and effectively met through the Child and Family Team meeting process.



Project Goals

- Reduce juvenile justice involvement by diverting youth (ages 6-14) at-risk for initial or further involvement with this system into appropriate community-based services and supports
- Train staff in multiple sectors (e.g., DCF, Probation, Schools, Behavioral Health) to apply the principles and practices of Wraparound in addressing youth and family needs
- Promote Family and Youth Involvement and family-driven and youth-guided care
- Improve collaboration between multiple systems on behalf of youth within a community



Two Communities

Selected through competitive process

Urban Setting:

- Bridgeport (largest city in Connecticut)

Non-urban setting:

- Bristol-Farmington Valley (includes 10 towns west of Hartford)

Five Selected Target Groups:

- Behavioral Health
- Child Welfare
- Juvenile Justice
- Schools
- Behavioral Health Emergency/Crisis Responders (non-urban site only)



Process

Coordinating Center Leadership Team

- Infrastructure Development
- Training
- Coaching
- QA
- Technical Assistance to community
- Infrastructure Development
- Training
- Coaching
- QA
- Technical Assistance to community



Infrastructure Development

- Needed to build off of the two existing Community Collaboratives
- Each at a different point of development
- Helped develop and provide support on:
 - Leadership
 - Decision making process (by-laws etc.)
 - Sub-committees
 - Training
 - Quality assurance



Infrastructure Development

- Governance structure →
- Multi-system representatives
 - Behavioral Health
 - Child Welfare (DCF)
 - Juvenile Justice
 - School
 - Emergency Department/Crisis Services (non-urban site)
- Parent leadership
 - Parent Co-Chair - Community Collaborative
 - Parent support group development – Ad-hoc Committee
 - Parents facilitating own Wraparound meetings



Training, Coaching, and QA

Wraparound Practice Implementation

- Basic to Wraparound
- Crisis Safety Planning
- Running effective Team meetings
- Building Teams using Natural and Family Supports
- Engaging Families Using their Strengths

General System of Care Development

- System of Care 101
- Family Orientation
- Family Engagement
- Changing Agency Culture
- System and Provider Training
- Leadership in the System of Care

Quality Assurance

- Wraparound Fidelity Index
- Ohio Scales – problem and severity scales
- Process summary – implementation, barriers, successes, etc



Where are we?

- Referral sources-14 total
 - Primarily behavioral health (care coordination)
 - Also juvenile justice (2) and schools (2)
- Facilitators and coaches
 - 24 facilitators/coaches have been identified in Bristol-Farmington Valley and 30 facilitators/coaches in Bridgeport
- Training
 - 390 Community Stakeholders in training, coaching, and leadership activities, including: 42 separate agencies and 52 family members
 - 229 Community Stakeholders in training, coaching, and leadership activities, including: 38 separate agencies and 37 family members
- Parents as facilitators
 - Each community has trained parents to facilitate own meetings



Implementation Challenges

- Program Installation
 - Basic training participation has been successful; "buying-in" to community-led coordination is more difficult
 - System variations in infrastructure and organizational culture (Behavioral Health, Schools, Child Welfare, and Juvenile Justice)
 - Developing multisystem partnerships
- Initial Implementation
 - Individuals in all systems reticent to "jump in" to implementation
 - Practical/funding challenges – e.g., "productivity points", release time
 - The shift of the locus of control from providers to families
- Full Operation
 - Expansion of Wraparound into the full system of care is underway, but slower than expected
- Innovation
 - Individualizing Wraparound to each system – pro and con
- Sustainability
 - Enhancing the Community Collaborative
 - Developing community-led oversight of Wraparound



Next Steps

- Increase referrals to the Wraparound evaluation
- Sustainability planning
- Identify additional funding
- Continue to identify and train facilitators, coaches, and trainers (Train the Trainer)



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