Recent Evaluation Highlights STARS Community Services Transitional Age Youth Program

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TAYP Program Profile

- Operated by Stars Behavioral Health Group (SBHG) in Alameda County, California, since 1998 (one among 4 TAY-focused programs affiliated with SBHG statewide)
- 86 older youth & young adults served annually (on average), increased to 114 in recent years, with 37 newly enrolled and 34 discharges per year
- Community referrals from psychiatric hospitals (27%), crisis services (15%), child outpatient providers (15%), residential providers (15%) and equal numbers from child welfare, juvenile justice, private practitioners, self/family and the mental health access unit (6% each)
- All referrals screened for eligibility through the county-operated multi-agency Transition Age Team (TAT)
- One other TAY-focused mental health program exists in the county (not operated by SBHG), and serves many homeless youth in Berkeley

TAYP & TIP?

- The program is <u>not</u> currently funded to achieve TIP, and has <u>not</u> implemented the TIP model, although it does strive toward this aim
- The caseloads are 15-20 older youth/young adult per staff, whom are Qualified Mental Health Professionals under California's Medi-Cal specifications (Bachelor's plus 4 years experience), supported by 2 Licensed Practitioners of the Healing Arts (or supervised registered clinical interns), and a clinical supervisor
- Staff receive orientation -- but not intensive training -- on TIP practice elements (e.g., strengths discovery, crisis planning, rationales, social problem solving, etc.), and clinical practice and documentation is monitored for treatment focus on transition domains
- The TAYP received a 2006 Service Excellence Award from the National Council on Community Behavioral Healthcare, in part due to its positive impact on reducing psychiatric crisis episodes and hospitalizations

Other Practices in Use

- Wellness Recovery & Action Planning (WRAP) groups, staff led with youth/young adult co-facilitators
- Aggression Replacement Training (ART), groups facilitated by one certified staff
- Motivational Interviewing (MI), staff participated recently in county-sponsored trainings

Demographic Profile

- **Ages 17-24** (Median = 19; Average = 19.5)
- 71% Male
 - 29% Female
- 43% African American
 - 27% Anglo American
 - 18% Latino/Hispanic
 - 10% Asian American

Transition Profile Status Upon Enrollment

Living Situations:

Institutional Settings 16% Community Settings 76% No Secure Housing 8%

Education/Vocation:

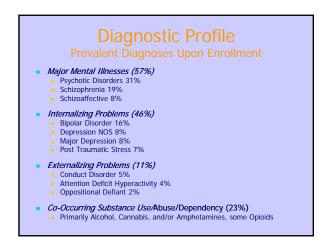
High School Grad 45% Vocational Training 36% Volunteer Service 5% Paid Employment 8%

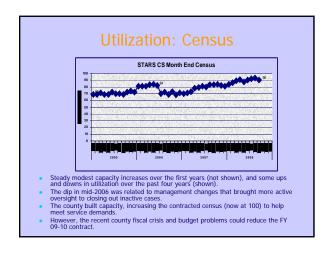
Adult Supports:

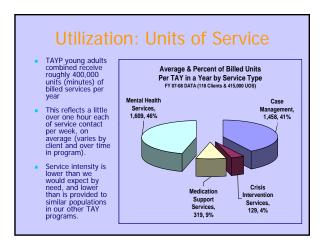
Family Available 85% Other Adult Available 92% Death/Lost Someone 11% Problem Relationship 30%

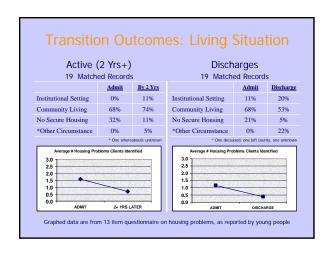
Health & Functioning:

Aggressive Behaviors 48% Substance Abuse Risk 53% Self-Harm Risk 26% Arrests or Detentions 15%

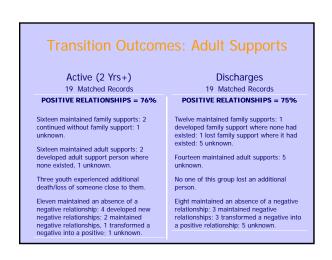


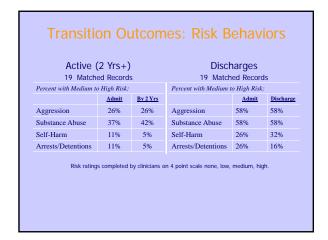






Transition Outcomes: Education/Vocation Active (2 Yrs+) 19 Matched Records ED/VOC PROGRESS INDEX = 47% The older youth/young adults were not working as of the two year report; 1 was volunteering in the community. Eight were engaged in educational or vocational training, including 1 whom completed her GED and enrolled in a local college. Most of the older youth/young adults were not working as of discharge; 2 had paid employment and 1 was volunteering in the community. Seven made educational or vocational progress, including 2 advanced their grade level achievement toward completing a GED, 3 completed their GED, and 2 enrolled in college.





Areas for Quality Improvement

- Review, refine & test risk behavior ratings and explore correlates & predictors of risk behaviors, including clinical, ecological and socio-cultural factors
- QIT on motivating youth to attend group services to full benefit
- Increase staff use of senior SBHG clinical consultation
- Continue high level of participation with county COD initiatives and trainings
- Continue to pursue funding for full TIP implementation and increased average utilization

The End

Thank you for listening!