

## YIT PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT

1. Grant Number: 03150-5256
2. Grantee Name and Address:  
Community Health Services of Lamoille Valley/Behavioral Health & Wellness Center  
P.O. Box 749, 66 Morrisville Plaza, Morrisville, VT 05661
3. Telephone Number: 802 888 8320
4. Project Title: Lamoille Valley Youth In Transition Project
5. Period of Performance from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 through June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012
6. Approved Project Period from June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011 through June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012
7. Author's Name and Telephone number: Mary O'Toole (802) 851-8820
8. Date of report: July 23, 2012
9. Comments (if any):

---

The federal Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) primarily focuses on demonstrating accountability and achieving meaningful outcomes for all federally funded programs. Please make sure to include information on the outcomes of your project activities and the impact of your project on improving the lives of Youth in Transition and their families in the Program Progress Reports submitted.

**Two Program Progress Reports must be submitted for this sub-grant:**

1. one for the time period from July 1 – December 31, 2011 (due by January 31, 2012), and
2. one for the period from January 1 – June 30, 2012 (due by July 30, 2012).

**Report Contents**

**1. Major Activities and Accomplishments During this Period**

Report both quantifiable and non-quantifiable accomplishments for the General Expectations and Regional Goals listed in Attachment A (see pages 3-5 of the grant award):

- Quantifiable accomplishments include numbers of youth/families served, people trained, support groups established, etc.
- Non-quantifiable accomplishments should be listed in chronological order. Describe any draft/final products in this section.

**Please report major activities and accomplishments for the following goals, outcomes, and indicators as relevant for the sub-grant.**

*While direct service staff continues to outreach to potential— and serve current participants, the Steering Committee is bringing the focus back to systems strategies and improvements in outcome areas. In view of progress made over the life of the grant, the Steering Committee has decided to prioritize outcomes areas by taking an inventory of what the system of care offers now and deciding what needs to happen next. The grant manager is working to provide this information to the Steering Committee.*

The national evaluation team interviewed YIT grant staff and community partners. The report of the results was recently received. The report will serve as guide to areas in need of more intentional focus and improvement.

In this last reporting period, Lamoille Valley Youth in Transition Program (LVYITP) has served 13 active, enrolled youth and young adults. The program has 2 more YIT in the process of being enrolled who are actively engaged in services. 3 more youth active in services will be age eligible in the fall. Our program has discharged 2 participants this reporting period when 1 moved and the other dropped out. 10 other enrolled youth and young adults are pending formal discharge for various reasons.

Our initial Peer Outreach Worker left the 8 hour position to pursue full time employment when the other four days of her companion position as a case manager for BHWC were eliminated. A new Peer Outreach Worker—also a LVYITP enrollee, stepped into the position. At the time of this report, it is not clear that the YIT will succeed in the position for a number of reasons.

It has been an active 6 months for training. The VFF provided a follow up training to the initial TIP System training with four direct service providers attending from Lamoille County. The 2 LCCDRJP staff in attendance represented the JOBS Program, the local Youth Development Specialist represented DCF and the Grant Manager represented Lamoille Valley Youth in Transition Project housed at CHSLV/BHWC. The CJSW and the Peer Outreach Worker trained at this year’s offering of the initial TIP System training. The CJSW has become an Apprentice Addiction Professional to support the difficult and much needed work with YIT around substance abuse and substance abuse treatment. The CJSW attended New England School of Addiction Studies for one week. CLC training was scheduled twice and cancelled twice, each time for different reasons. The training is scheduled again for August 2012.

<p><b>Goals for strengthening the systems of care</b></p>	<p>1: Young adult (YA) leadership is developed in VT.</p> <p><b>Required activity:</b>  <i>Operate in accordance with continuing input from key stakeholders (including youth and family members) within the regional systems of care...</i>  <i>LVYITP Dreamin’ Teens picked up momentum at the beginning of the reporting period and one of the VFF grants was awarded. Due to a staffing change, the date and design of a local event is undergoing a transformation. With summer upon us, the Dreamin’ Teens lost momentum, with a plan to reenergize and regroup for the start of the school year. The Dreamin’ Teens is operating with a skeleton crew of devoted attendees this summer.</i></p>
	<p>2: Family/adult allies support young adults...</p> <p>Family supports for YIT are in evidence but remain difficult to engage for the young adult participants. Under consideration is the expansion of hours YIT services are available and combining forces with other</p>

	<p>YIT services to maximize opportunities for including and supporting family and adult allies. A support group for young adult males is in the planning stage with adult allies from the North Central Vermont Recovery Center and is expected to be up and running in September.</p>
	<p>3: Workers use caring practices known to be helpful for young adults and families.  <b>Required activity:</b>  Staff members are trained in TIP System for working with YIT and implementation of and fidelity to the TIP System is ongoing. The second training was very helpful. The CJSW and the Peer Outreach Worker completed the first training.</p>
	<p>4: System of Care partners gain cultural &amp; linguistic competence (CLC)...  CLC training is scheduled for early August. It is estimated that 15 people will be trained. In the meanwhile, the CJSW and a partner from the North Central Vermont Recovery Center participated as speakers in the Diversity Day activities at Stowe High School.</p>
	<p>5: Local communities (including young adults) change their perceptions of young adults and of mental health issues, reducing stigma....  The Dreamin' Teens youth council continues to plan outreach activities that target sporting events, North Central Vermont Recovery Center and local businesses.</p>
	<p>6: Effectiveness of the Vermont System of Care for young adults with SED is evaluated.....  The formal evaluation of services for youth and young adults is the current undertaking of the Grant Manager and Steering Committee, with the Lamoille Family Center leading the development of a summit of all services and relative providers to take place in the fall.</p>
	<p>7: The State supports and sustains regional services for young adults....  VFF, Matt Wolf continues to support LVYITP with supportive participation in fostering the development of activities by the Dreamin' Teens. The State Team in general supports all work of the LVYITP.</p>
<p><b>Desired outcomes for young adults of transition-age</b></p>	<p>1. Decreased number of young adults involved in the corrections system (including an increase in the number who are free of incarceration).  <b>Required activity:</b>  <i>Reach out to young adults with SED who are out-of-school at least through teen centers, recovery centers, homeless youth programs, and by intercepting them at critical intervention points with the juvenile and criminal justice systems....</i>  The LVYITP is evaluating the current SOC for youth and young adults and with the Lamoille Family Center taking the lead on finding and restructuring support for the Youth Rocks Café and a summit on the local SOC for youth and young adults in the planning stage for October 2012 at Johnson State</p>

	<p>College.</p> <p>The LCCDRJP has supported the strengthening of the relationship between the State Attorneys' office and the LVYITP. The CJSW works directly with the State Attorneys' office to intercept youth and young adults entering the criminal justice system at arraignment. Similarly, the CJSW is reaching out the Office of the Public Defender as a way to strengthen this intercept point in the SOC.</p>
	<p>2. Increased number of young adults who are employed....</p> <p>Employment opportunities for youth and young adults are supported by the local Department of Labor activities, with the inclusion of the CJSW in Creative Workforce Solutions meetings and events. Department of Labor shares most recent job openings with local agencies in the form of a weekly Job Digest that also includes tips on job search activities.</p>
	<p>3. Increased number young adults participating in (or who completed) educational programs....</p> <p>Lamoille area programs remain strong in supporting youth and young adults participating in educational opportunities. A diverse array of programs in the SOC supports individualized services, tailored to meet the learning styles and needs of the YIT population. The CJSW, the JOBS Program and the Lamoille Family Center have forged strong bonds with one another and with local schools and alternative educational programs to keep youth in school.</p>
	<p>4. Increased number of young adults who have access to, and are using, a medical home....</p> <p>The Community Health Team and Community Health Services of Lamoille Valley have developed Care Coordinator positions at both Stowe Family Practice and Morrisville Family Health Care. These positions help to formalize and strengthen the SOC for youth and young adults by offering assistance with insurance issues and supporting the acquisition of Primary Care Providers</p>
	<p>5. Increased number of young adults living in safe and stable housing....</p> <p>The Care Team brings focus to the need for housing for youth and young adults in the community as does the local LIT. One young adult is currently finding success in the Transitional Apartment sponsored by the CVCAC and managed by the LVYITP Criminal Justice Social Worker. The Care Team is currently screening other youth and young adults as a suitable match for the current tenant of the apartment. The local LIT is combining some monthly meetings with the Lamoille Valley Housing and Homeless Coalition and what is formerly known as Incarcerated Women's Initiative to concentrate efforts to improve the housing opportunities for youth and young adults.</p>

	<p>6. Increased number of young adults who have caring &amp; supportive relationships....  The efforts of the local Recovery Center continue to reach out to the youth and young adult population to promote one on one support meant to improve the lives of area YIT by promoting personal wellness and accountability as well as caring and concern.</p> <p>7. Increase in young adults' strengths and protective factors....  As in the last report, YIT continue to feel more valued as the community responds to their specific needs. Medical homes, employment, housing, caring community members and peers, individualized support and advocacy with criminal justice agencies and individuals all lend themselves to the development of healthy strengths and protective factors. Leadership opportunities begin to develop with the formation of the Dreamin' Teens.</p> <p>8. <i>Improved mental health for young adults.</i>  <b>Required activity:</b>  <i>Improve access to mental health services for the young adults most at risk for poor outcomes and use the power of the courts to increase their likelihood of use of those services...</i>  The improved relationships with the local judiciary and law enforcement agencies and the improved functionality of the local Care Team has strengthened provider relationships and knowledge of the local SOC for youth and young adults. These improvements allow for broader consideration of available resources and services in the referral process.</p> <p>In the last reporting period, one young adult was supported in the Transitional Apartment until it became clear a supervised placement was needed for the youth to be safe and succeed. Working closely with Lamoille Community Connections and the local CRT program, a group home placement was secured. Currently, The Morrisville Police and the State's Attorney seek assistance and collaboration with the LVYITP to support a young couple in need of mental health and other supportive services. The young adult male has been intercepted at arraignment on a variety of charges and faces conditions of release that include accessing and participating in mental health and substance abuse services.</p> <p>The CJSW received a letter of commendation from Stowe High School for his work with YIT in the Stowe school community. The CJSW is skilled in behavioral interventions and works appropriately with SED youth to improve outcomes. The Stowe Police, too, have given the CJSW kudos for the work done to keep referred youth off the police department radar.</p>
--	--

<p><b>System of Care Infrastructure Indicators</b> (for federal TRAC):</p>	<p><u><i>Workforce Development:</i></u> Organizations or communities implementing mental health-related training programs as a result of the grant. Please enter the number of organizations or communities and briefly describe the training programs...</p> <p>Voc Rehab and Dept of Labor work with Creative Workforce Solutions to develop opportunities for youth and young adults entering the workforce. The JOBS program and BHWC Job Coach add additional support in the SOC for employment. Services are individualized for youth and young adults both seeking work and currently in the work force by aiding in retention and advancement activities.</p> <hr/> <p><u><i>Organizational Change:</i></u> Organizational changes made to support improvement of mental health-related practices/activities that are consistent with the goals of the grant. Please enter the number of changes and briefly describe them....</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The CJSW meets with the State’s Attorney weekly to obtain referrals for youth and young adults in need of mental health and substance abuse services.</li> <li>2. The North Central Vermont Recovery and LVYITP collaborate to offer groups to youth and young adults in support of expanded recovery services through the RROSC.</li> <li>3. Local schools, LCC and BHWC meet regularly through a school facilitated Child Protection Team meeting where services and strategies for improving mental health and substance related services to YIT are discussed. Referrals are made and family and individual service plans discussed and facilitated.</li> <li>4. LCCDCJP, the DCF Youth Development Specialist and the LVYITP attend TIP System training in efforts to improve service delivery to Youth and Young adults.</li> <li>5. LCC hires a psychiatrist to support the expansion of psychiatric services through all mental health programs including those that serve youth and young adults.</li> <li>6. BHWC supports advance practice psychiatric NP to develop tele-psychiatry Services.</li> </ol> <hr/> <p><u><i>Partnership/Collaboration:</i></u> Organizations that entered into formal written inter/intra-organizational agreements (e.g., MOUs/MOAs) to improve mental health-related practices/activities that are consistent with the goals of the grant. Please enter the number of organizations and briefly describe the agreements....</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The State’s Attorney supports system changes that include the referral of youth and young adults to mental health and substance abuse services.</li> <li>2. The North Central Vermont Recovery Center and BHWC formalize recovery support services agreements and share both human and financial resources through the RROSC.</li> </ol>
--	---

	<p>3. The Lamoille Family Center reaches out to community partners to assist in the structure and support for the Youth Rocks Café. Donations and in-kind services are sought to keep the YRC operational.</p>
	<p><u>Types/Targets of Practice:</u> Programs/organizations/communities that implemented evidence-based mental health-related practices/activities as a result of the grant. Please enter the number of programs/organizations/communities and briefly describe the evidence-based practices....</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The implementation of the TIP System is coming along well in Lamoille. Fidelity to the system is the goal of the JOBS Program, LVYITP staff and the Youth Development Specialist through DCF.</li> <li>2. The summit planned in the fall that acknowledges and takes inventory of the SOC for youth and young adults is being organized by the Lamoille Family Center and Johnson State College.</li> <li>3. The local community responds to the need to restructure and support the Youth Rocks Café with facilitation by the Lamoille Family Center.</li> <li>4. The Community Health Team and CHSLV hire Care Coordinators to assist with the acquisition of Primary Care Providers and health insurance as well as the coordination of care and support for those living with chronic health conditions. Additionally, BHWC works closely with the Care Coordinator's Team in support of the referral to and treatment of mental health and substance abuse services for youth and young adults.</li> </ol>

**8. Problems**

Describe any deviations or departures from the original project plan including actual/anticipated slippage in task completion dates, and special problems encountered or expected. Use this section to describe barriers to accomplishment, actions taken to overcome difficulties, and to advise DMH of any needs for assistance.

none

**9. Significant Findings and Events**

For special notice to Principal Investigator, State Outreach Team for Youth in Transition, Federal Project Officer, etc. This should include any changes in staffing, including of persons, time spent, and/or responsibilities. Attach resumes and qualifications of new staff.

Kandi Clark left the 8 hour weekly position of Peer Outreach Worker to pursue full-time work when the 32 hour companion case management position at BHWC was eliminated for financial reasons.

Nicole Godin—the former Youth Council Coordinator for LVIYTP was hired to replace Kandi Clark as Peer Outreach Worker. Nicole struggles to grasp the 8 hour position which requires autonomy and the ability to self-start. Despite concrete task assignment and both weekly, individual and group supervision, Nicole seeks more direction and clarity in the Peer Outreach Role. Peer Outreach activities are under-developed as the result and a mutual agreement for Nicole to step down has been reached. Nicole will continue to participate in LVIYTP activities and remains a valued member of the Dreamin' Teens.

## **10. Dissemination activities**

Briefly describe project related inquiries and information dissemination activities carried out over the reporting period. Itemize and include a copy of any newspaper, newsletter, and magazine articles or other published materials considered relevant to project activities, or used for project information or public relations purposes.

As in the last reporting period, information and dissemination activities are largely carried out in person at local interagency individual and team meetings, as well as through circulation of the brochure.

Outreach to the community at large is the focus of the Dreamin' Teens and has stalled along with the planning of events the Peer Outreach position handled. Efforts to revive activity are underway, including discussions about the use of an intern through Community College of Vermont to work closely with the Dreamin' Teens and the Peer Outreach Worker to get events off the ground.

## **5. Other Activities**

Briefly describe other activities undertaken during the reporting period.

The Dreamin' Teens volunteered at Hope Grows Community Farm.

"Hope Grows Community Farm Program is an educational and charitable organization committed to promoting personal growth and healing through the development of compassionate and responsible relationships between humans, animals and our environment."

The youth council also marched in the Fourth of July parade, partnering with Hoagie's Restaurant, who supplied T-shirts, retro-designed to include LVIYTP references.

**6. Activities Planned for Next Reporting Period**

Briefly describe the project activities planned for the next reporting period.

System of care inventory and assessment will take place by a thorough evaluation of services available in outcome areas.

A new Peer Outreach Worker will be hired in the near future.

***DMH only:***

*Date received:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Approved by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Date approved:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Approved by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Date approved:* \_\_\_\_\_