

YIT PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT

1. Grant Number:
2. Grantee Name and Address:
HCRS
390 River St
Springfield, VT 05156
3. Telephone Number:
802-886-4567 x2530
4. Project Title:
Youth in Transition Project
5. Period of Performance from 1/1/11 through 6/30/11
6. Approved Project Period from through
7. Author's Name and Telephone number:
Bob Lauro
802-886-4567 x.2530
8. Date of report:
7/20/11
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. [This section of the report may be entered directly into the table below.]

<p>Goals for strengthening the systems of care</p>	<p>1: Young adult (YA) leadership is developed in VT.</p> <p>The Greater Windsor County Teens for Change group continues to meet twice a month for regular meetings. In addition to our regular meetings, we have been able to support through local fundraising, three experiential learning opportunities during this reporting period. The group played paint ball, attended a map and compass orienteering training, and planned and held a community movie night.</p> <p>Teens 4 Change has formed a new partnership with the Springfield Prevention Coalition. They helped organize and execute the “Got Dreams” video contest which highlighted ways young adults spend their time without drugs and alcohol and the “Sticker Shock” campaign which helped raise awareness of underage drinking particularly around ease of access to alcohol.</p> <p>During the last cycle of Young Adult Employment workshops we offered the opportunity to two young adult graduates to co facilitate. The addition of these young adult co facilitators worked extremely well. They provided experience and a been there done that attitude that resonates well with workshop attendees. The co facilitators gained valuable leadership and facilitation skills from their participation.</p>
	<p>2: Family/adult allies support young adults....</p> <p>Over the last six months The Youth in Transition Project has formed fruitful partnerships with the Springfield Prevention Coalition and Springfield Restorative Justice. In addition we participated in The Drugs and Gangs community forum. The forum was well attended by members of the community including, parents, business owners, service providers, correction officials, gang education specialists and young adults. A second forum is scheduled for August and the Project Coordinator will represent the youth service provider voice on the panel.</p>
	<p>3: Workers use caring practices known to be helpful for young adults and families.</p> <p>Required activity: <i>Provide cross-system case management and individualized service plan development, ensuring that young adults are engaged in planning for their own futures....</i></p> <p>The South Windsor regional YIT grant and its affiliates continue to progress through the process of becoming TIPS informed. Over this reporting period we completed TIPS modules and attended a two day advanced TIPS seminar. We regularly use TIPS best practices in our day to day transition facilitation work. In addition a group of community partners meet on a bi-weekly basis to conduct informal case reviews to make sure no stone is left unturned in assisting young adults in our region.</p>

	<p>HCRS has undergone base line testing to see where we stand in regards to becoming a truly TIPS informed site. We have our feedback and will be taking steps in the next reporting period to become compliant.</p> <p>4: System of Care partners gain cultural & linguistic competence (CLC).... We have not been able to schedule a time for a C and L training with Mercedes. There was some talk last year, but very little movement during this reporting period. This is an area we will need to revisit over the next six months.</p> <p>5: Local communities (including young adults) change their perceptions of young adults and of mental health issues, reducing stigma.... Teens 4 Change has formed a new partnership with the Springfield Prevention Coalition. They helped organize and execute the “Got Dreams” video contest which highlighted ways young adults spend their time without drugs and alcohol and the Sticker Shock campaign which helped raise awareness of underage drinking. In addition, Teens 4 Change has partnered with the local Humane Society to assist with opening a new wing of the shelter. So far the group has completed debris removal, painted the new addition and drawn a sketch for a mural that will potentially be painted in the new wing.</p> <p>6: Effectiveness of the Vermont System of Care for young adults with SED is evaluated..... Working with the State Wide evaluation team we have identified areas where our region is being effective and where we have room for improvement. We will continue to work to bring community partners into the fold to become TIP informed. By doing so we believe we can get all members of the community who work with transition age youth on the same page. Thereby strengthening our local system of care.</p> <p>7: The State supports and sustains regional services for young adults.... The Youth in Transition Project and Teens for Change have actively participated in all State-Wide YIT functions. Matt Wolf has been an asset in our work to strengthen our local steering committee and has provided frame work advice for implementing a peer to peer outreach program.</p>
<p>Desired outcomes for young adults of transition-age</p>	<p>1. Decreased number of young adults involved in the corrections system (including an increase in the number who are free of incarceration). Required activity: <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> We established a relationship with Probation officers and with the local Community High School. Work closely with class room teachers to create outside the class room experiential experiences for students. We work closely with probation officers to help young adults transitioning from the corrections system establish healthy connections in the</p>

	<p>community. We continue to work closely with young adult shelters, The Mountain Side Shelter and The House at 20 Mile Stream to provide healthy outcomes for their residents. Including participation in Teens 4 Change, Young Adult Workshops and general transition facilitation.</p> <p>2. Increased number of young adults who are employed....5 Young Adults were hired into competitive employment.</p> <p>3. Increased number young adults participating in (or who completed) educational programs....4 Young Adults were connected to Vermont Adult Learning for educational supports. 3 Young Adults were supported to stay in High School. 2 Young Adults were connected to Community College of Vermont.</p> <p>4. Increased number of young adults who have access to, and are using, a medical home....7 Young Adults were enrolled in Medicaid and were supported to find primary care physicians.</p> <p>5. Increased number of young adults living in safe and stable housing....3 Young Adults were supported in their transition to safe and stable housing.</p> <p>6. Increased number of young adults who have caring & supportive relationships...10 Young Adults were supported to develop caring relationships.</p> <p>7. Increase in young adults' strengths and protective factors.... 13 Young Adults were supported to develop their strength and protective factors.</p> <p>8. Improved mental health for young adults. Required activity: <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> <i>Work closely with Probation and Parole to provide effective conditions of release that are both restorative to the community and therapeutic to the young adult offender.</i> As stated previously, over this reporting period The YIT grant has worked closely with probation and parole to assist young adults in all aspects of reentry and community support. P and P affiliated Young Adults have participated in Teens 4 Change, The Young Adult Employment Workshops and received targeted transition facilitation. 6 Young Adults were referred to HCRS for outpatient mental health and/or substance abuse therapy.</p>
System of Care Infrastructure	<u>Workforce Development</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

Indicators (for federal TRAC):	programs.... The JOBS Program and The YIT grant have participated in all TIPS related activity. The Youth In Transition grant is helping support a series of community education series on Gangs and Drugs in the community. HCRS continues to offer ongoing professional development. The focus during this reporting period has been around ARC or Attachment, Self Regulation, and Competency.
	<u>Organizational Change:</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.... None at this time.
	<u>Partnership/Collaboration:</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.... No formal agreements have been made during this reporting period.
	<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.... The YIT Grant and the JOBS program continue to participate in all TIPS program events and trainings.

2. 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.
 As has been the case for the last year we have struggled to maintain a supportive and effective steering committee. I am happy to report that we are moving forward in this area. We have recruited two new members for the committee who have been active and helpful.

3. 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.

There have been no significant findings or events over this time period.

4. 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.

The Teens 4 Change group advertised and held two fundraisers during this reporting period. We did not have pay advertisement, but used word of mouth and flyers. Also on the day of the car wash we had sign holders flagging cars down.

The Young Adult Employment Workshop was advertised in the Green Horn (Springfield High School Student paper) and on local job boards.

6. Activities Planned for Next Reporting Period

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

Beginning in September of 2011 the YIT grant will roll out a Peer to Peer Transition Facilitation program. Peer supports will be delivered on a fee for service basis. Service will include peer mentoring, service navigation and general transition facilitation.

Over the last few months transition workers from the DOL, VR, Springfield High School and the YIT project have been meeting to discuss ways to implement life skills workshops for out of school youth that would meet requirements for high school credits. The Real Game has become the focus of these discussions. It is our hope that in early 2012, in conjunction with Vermont Adult Learning and Springfield High School we will be able to begin running 30 week courses of the Real Game that will count for 1 high school credit. There is still work to be done, but all parties are optimistic.