

YIT PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT

1. Grant Number: 03150-C6002-FY13-YIT
2. Grantee Name and Address:

UVM VCHIP
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Burlington, VT., 05405
3. Telephone Number: 802-656-9192
4. Project Title: Evaluation of the Vermont Children's Mental Health Initiative
5. Period of Performance from 7/1/2012 through 12/31/2012
6. Approved Project Period from 7/1/2012 through June 30, 2013
7. Author's Name and Telephone number: Thomas Delaney, 802-656-9192
8. Date of report: 1/28/2013
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, 2012 (due by January 31, 2013), and
2. one for the period from January 1 – June 30, 2013 (due by July 30, 2013).

Report Contents

1. Major Activities and Accomplishments During this Period

Report both quantifiable and non-quantifiable accomplishments from Attachment A (see pages 3-8 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.

Quantifiable accomplishments related to the evaluation of the effectiveness of the Vermont system of care for young adults with SED include:

- 1. As of the end of December 2012, 586 young adults have been identified by the evaluators as receiving some form of YIT system of care services (from April 2010 through December 31st, 2012; see bottom row of Appendix A). Out of these 586:**
 - 474 have been enrolled in the Common Study, which includes measures for NOMS and EDIF reporting requirements to TRAC and ICF MACRO,**
 - 184 have been enrolled in the National Study, which is the National Outcome Study that is designed by and reported back to ICF MACRO, and**
 - 99 have been enrolled in the Vermont Study, which is the local evaluation.**
- 2. Since early July 2012, two state-level (aggregated across communities and studies) data reports (formerly referred to as Dashboards) have been disseminated broadly among state YIT partners and regional mental health/youth services agencies (see Appendix B covering April through June 2012 and Appendix C covering July through September 2012). These provide detailed information on the functioning of system of care clients' at the time they enter YIT services and compare key outcome and process measures among young people who remained in services for at least 6 months (for the April through June report) and for at least 12 months (July through September 2012 report). Both of these reports also marked a change from previous reports in that contained a full page summary of indicators related to correctional involvement.**
- 3. Distributed six region-specific data reports that complemented the statewide data reports by providing region-specific evaluation summary data. These reports were limited to regions for which we had sufficient data to report on at least 10 cases where young adults had been enrolled into the Common Study. These reports are intended to be used by regional YIT teams to monitor the progress of young people who are in services and to guide quality improvement activities.**
- 4. Presented or collaborated to present findings about transition aged youth at the October 2012 Statewide YIT Learning and Sharing day, including the following workshops:**

Jesse Suter's presentation titled "*Are We Strengthening Vermont's system of Care*" in which he compared intake versus 12 month follow up data from each of the 8 YIT outcomes domains;

Jody Kamon's presentation titled "*Straight talk: What young adults have to say about trying to access Vermont's Mental Health System of Care and about the quality of services offered*" in which she presented findings from the 2011 focus group study with young adults from 11 Vermont communities.

Brenda Bean and David Peebles presentation "*Meeting the Mental Health Needs of Youth in Transition: Selected data from the Vermont System of Care Initiative*" in which they shared data about young adults' involvement at different levels of the correctional system and compared intake versus 6 month follow-up data on specific criminal justice-related experiences and behaviors.

5. Developed, submitted and had accepted 2 submissions for the March 2013 Children’s Mental Health Research and Policy Conference in Tampa:

Suter J, Kamon S and Delaney T: *Are We Bending the Curve? Justice System Involvement of Young Adults in Vermont’s System of Care.*

Delaney T, Kamon J and Suter J: *The System of Care Roadmap: An Innovative Exercise for Understanding Partnerships among Service Providers and Programs.*

6. Developed and shared with the State Operations Team drafts of three “Data Briefs” that present statewide data from the National and Vermont studies, and that are focused separately on the topics of young adults access to and experiences with the healthcare system, involvement with employment and strengths/protective factors. Page 3 of the July through September 2012 statewide data report (see Appendix D) focused entirely on correctional involvement and was essentially the first “Data Brief”; all four of these documents will continue to be refined and will be disseminated as the new versions are finalized.

Non-quantifiable accomplishments during the reporting period include:

1. Providing ongoing support and coaching to all 12 regional system of care communities about their recruitment, data collection and data submission efforts, including conducting orientation and training to new employees and new partner agencies and organizations in the system of care.
2. Continued to expand the evaluation’s focus on correctional involvement data, including adding a page to the statewide data reports that deals exclusively with corrections-related behavior and experiences (Appendix D).
3. Conducted interviews and developed reports as part of the evaluation of participating Vermont system of care agencies’ and programs’ Transition to Independence Program (TIP) trainings.
4. Continued developing a qualitative study that will assess newly arrived Americans’ barriers and facilitators relating to accessing the young adult system of care.
5. Continued to update the YIT website with newly developed evaluation materials, including presentations at national meetings, updated statewide and region specific data reports and data briefs, among others.

Please report major activities and accomplishments for the following goal and indicators as relevant for the sub-grant. [This section of the report may be entered directly into the table below.]

Goal for strengthening the systems of care	6: Effectiveness of the Vermont System of Care for young adults with SED is evaluated.....
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....
	<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....
	<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....
	<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....

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.

While there has been a recent trend towards increased recruitment into the Common Study and subsequently enrollment in the National or Vermont studies, there is also an increasingly clear trend in which follow-up data for the Common Study (consisting of both Common Study Follow-Up forms and Common Study Discharge forms) is very poor, with regions collecting 12 month follow-up (or discharge) data on less than 20% of the young adults enrolled in the Common Study. In some cases, the 6 and 12 month follow up data cannot be collected because the young adult is no longer in services and/or is no longer in the community, but based on discussion with staff from many of the regions we believe that these cases do not account for most of the young adults for whom 6 and 12 month data are missing. We have worked with regional staff and with the YIT Project Director around this problem, and December 2012 began seeing some interest from several of the regions in changing their procedures for collecting these data.

A related issue and one that persists from earlier reports is that there are still only half of the Vermont regional YIT systems of care that have enough data on young adults at 6 months post-intake to allow sharing their specific data. These regions are given only statewide data reports, since the evaluation uses 10 as the minimum number of cases (both for statistical and confidentiality reasons) for reporting on changes from intake to 6 months after starting services. We have continued to work with regions to encourage them to recruit as many eligible young adults as possible

into the common Study as well as to do a better job of “selling” the potential benefits of participating I one of the interview studies conducted by the VCHIP interviewers. We believe that for those regions

Retention of young people in the National and Vermont studies continues to be relatively high compared to the data reported by the national cross site evaluation, but we continue to target this as an area for improvement. In the most recent analysis we received from ICF for the National Study our 6 month retention was 67% (compared to 64% in our grantee cohort), our 12 month retention was 67% (compared to 51%) and 18 month retention was 61% (compared to 48%). The retention percentages for the Vermont study are approximately 67% and 63% for the 6 and 12 month follow up interviews, respectively. We continue to work on improving retention by sharing strategies and tips among our interviewers for how to locate young adults, the best language to use to engage them for interviews and how we work with regional YIT staff who are sometimes able to help us track down young adults who are already in one of the studies.

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.

We have had no staffing changes during the reporting period. We continue to have five people who conduct interviews and who total approximately 3 FTEs of interviewer time.

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.

During the period covered by this report, the YIT evaluation team has shared findings from the evaluation in several ways, including:

- 1. We have shared two state level data reports (see Appendices B and C). The portion of these reports that deals specifically with young adults’ correctional involvement has been expanded to be its own page (see Appendix D).**
- 2. We shared region-specific data reports with 6 of the communities that have collected the largest amounts of data for both the intake and 6 month time periods.**

1. As noted above, the evaluation team was involved in creating and/or presenting 3 different workshops at the October 2012 Statewide Learning and Sharing day.
2. In the fall of 2012 we distributed an update of the Young Adult Friendly data dashboard that was originally created in the spring of 2012.

5. Other Activities

Briefly describe other activities undertaken during the reporting period.

Other activities undertaken during the reporting period include:

- Evaluation team members have participated in all state-team Operations meetings;
- We have continued collaborating with Mercedes Avila, the YIT Cultural/Linguistic Competence (CLC) Coordinator, with the goal of developing an evaluation plan for evaluating how newly arrived Americans are able to access system of care resources and barriers to their accessing those resources, and
- Jody Kamon from the evaluation team has been collaborating with Mercedes Avila to develop a manuscript for publication based on the CLC trainings pre and post-training data that has been collected.

6. Activities Planned for Next Reporting Period

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

1. We will continue to focus our data collection, analysis and reporting about young adults' involvement in the correctional system, using the Sequential Intercept Model as the framework for studying how young people in the system of care might be having more positive involvement when they do become involved with the correctional system. This effort will also continue to include updating data we obtain for the state Dept. of Corrections as well as data collected directly from young adults in YIT interviews.
2. Create and disseminate two new statewide system of care data reports that have an increased focus on comparing intake and 12 month data from the Vermont and National studies and that also include indicators for each of the 8 YIT outcome domains.
3. We will create at least one new consumer/young adult friendly data dashboard for sharing throughout the state.
4. We will continue to collect data as part evaluating the regions participating in Transition to Independence Process (TIP) trainings, including developing and sharing reports that summarize changes in regional teams/programs TIP scores over the two periods of data collection.

5. We plan on submitting three manuscripts for publication: one based on the 2011 *System of Care Roadmap* exercise, one that shares preliminary data from the Young Adult Strengths Questionnaire tool that we developed as part of the Vermont study and one that focuses on patterns of correctional involvement among young adults enrolled in the Vermont and National studies.