

YIT PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT

1. Grant Number:
2. Grantee Name and Address:

UVM VCHIP
1 S. Prospect St,
UHC St. Joseph 7
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 1/1/2013 through 6/30/2013
6. Approved Project Period from 7/1/2012 through 6/30/2013
7. Author's Name and Telephone number: Thomas Delaney, 802-656-9192
8. Date of report: 8/21/2013
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 June 2013, 645 young adults have been identified by the evaluators as receiving some form of YIT system of care services (from April 2010 through June 30th, 2013; see bottom row of Appendix A). Out of these 645:**
 - 545 have been enrolled in the Common Study, which includes measures for NOMS and EDIF reporting requirements to TRAC and ICF MACRO,**
 - 206 have been enrolled in the National Study, which is the National Outcome Study that is designed by and reported back to ICF MACRO, and**
 - 114 have been enrolled in the Vermont Study, which is the local evaluation.**

- 2. Since January 2013, two state-level (aggregated across communities and studies) data reports have been disseminated broadly among state YIT partners and regional mental health/youth services agencies (see Appendix B covering October through December 2012 and Appendix C covering January through April 2013). 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 participated in the evaluation studies for at least 12 months. These reports differ from earlier data reports (and data dashboards) in that they no longer have a separate page that describes correctional system involvement data, and instead these data have been pulled out and expanded to form a data brief specifically about correctional involvement.**

- 3. For the March 2013 reporting period, we distributed 12 region-specific data reports that complemented the statewide data reports by providing region-specific evaluation summary data. This marks a change in that previously only regions that had submitted follow-up data for at least 10 young adults received a region-specific data report. All regions now receive an individualized report, however regions for which not enough data are available to report on specific indicators now have this noted on the report. 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. We made two presentations at 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.***

- 5. The evaluation team, with Jody Kamon as the point person, used PiktoChart software to develop a new aggregate data reporting format, that is more visually appealing than the data reports we have used to date but that still conveys a large amount of information about YIT evaluation indicators. This new style of data report was shared with the state Operations team in June, 2013.**

Non-quantifiable accomplishments during the reporting period include:

1. The evaluation team worked with all 12 regional teams to end recruitment of new individuals into the Common Study, while reminding the teams that they are still required to submit follow-up Common Study data for participants who are already enrolled and to do so through the end of September, 2013. As the regional teams have had personal transitions, we have worked with new staff to continue the collection of Common Study data and, through the end of June, to continue recruitment into the interview studies.
2. Developed a plan for the truncated amount of time (through June, 2014) that the remaining data collection, analysis and reporting activities will occur in.
3. Continued to expand and strengthen the evaluation's focus on correctional involvement data, including by continuing to work with DOC to get access to corrections data for young adults who consented to have their data accessed as part of the YIT evaluation, as well as by creating new indicators related to correctional involvements based on data already received from DOC and as a result of National Study interviews.
4. 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 Indicators (for federal TRAC):	<p><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 programs....</p> <p><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....</p> <p><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....</p> <p><u>Types/Targets of Practice:</u> Programs/organizations/communities that implemented evidence-based mental health-related practices/activities as a</p>

	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 collection of follow-up data for the Common Study (consisting of both Common Study Follow-Up forms and Common Study Discharge forms) remains subpar, we have been able to minimize the impact of this problem on the data reports and data briefs by switching many indicators to be based on data from the National and Vermont studies, both of which have follow-up rates of at least 60% from one time collection period to the next.

Retention of young people in the National and Vermont studies is challenging, with Audrey Garfield and to a lesser extent Tom, Jody and Jesse having to do extensive “detective work” to track down participants for 6, 12, 18 and 24 month follow-up interviews. Having said that, the Vermont evaluation continues to have a relatively high success rate of actually conducting this interviews, based on feedback from Kawonda Holland from ICF.

The largest challenge we have faced was learning that the evaluation would not receive all of the funding we were anticipating to cover the final six months we had planned for wrapping up follow-up interviews, conducting data analysis and reporting. We have responded by re-working our data collection plan to continue collecting as many follow-up interviews as possible until June of 2014, in order to get as much of the 12, 18 and 24 month data as possible. Tom is also developed an updated schedule for when the final data analyses will occur and the final evaluation reports generated. Because of reduced funding, we are striving to use as much of the existing funding as possible to pay for as much interviewing time as possible.

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.

The only staffing change we experienced during the reporting period is that Amanda Ellingson, one of the interviewers who worked for us as a part time employee, left her position in January. The team compensated for this by asking Audrey Garfield to increase her interviewing hours, which she did. To date, we have not seen any negative consequences of Amanda having left the project. We currently have four people working on the evaluation, four of whom conduct interviews.

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).**
- 2. We shared region-specific data reports with all 12 regional system of care teams.**
- 3. As noted above, the evaluation team made two presentations at the March 2013 Children’s Mental Health Research and Policy Conference in Tampa.**
- 4. The evaluation team disseminated two new data briefs: one on young adult employment (Appendix D) and one on young adult strengths (Appendix E).**

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 to have monthly calls with Kawonda Holland, our liaison from ICF for the cross site evaluation, at which we troubleshoot data collection and reporting challenges;**
- Jody Kamon has continued collaborating with Mercedes Avila, the YIT Cultural/Linguistic Competence (CLC) Coordinator, on 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**

6. Activities Planned for Next Reporting Period

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

- 1. The evaluators will continue to have a strong focus on collecting as much follow-up interview data as possible from young adults participating in the Vermont and National studies. This is essential in order to further strengthen the conclusions we are able to draw about the impact of YIT services on young adults' lives, as well as to add further credibility to the longer term (12 to 24 month) sustained nature of those changes.**
- 2. Members of the evaluation team will participate in the state Operations team's site visits to each regional system of care team, and will share region-specific and statewide data at each.**
- 3. The evaluation team will play a key role in helping regions develop their plans for sustaining YIT services, including working closely with regional team at the October 1st, 2013 Fall Sharing Day at Lake Morey.**
- 4. Also regarding sustainability, the evaluation team will participate in the presentation to Commissioner Racine on Sept. 11, 2013, with the focus being on data showing positive outcomes for young adults in the system of care.**
- 5. Consistent with the previous semi-annual report, 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 DOC as well as data collected directly from young adults in YIT interviews.**
- 6. We will develop and disseminate two new statewide data reports that focus on comparing intake and 12 month data from the Vermont and National studies, that reflect new indicators (a shift away from using Common Study indicators in favor of using more compelling indicators of change from the National and Vermont studies) and that continue to include indicators for each of the 8 YIT outcome domains.**
- 7. We will create and/or update at least one consumer/young adult friendly data dashboard for sharing throughout the state.**
- 8. We will share an updated data brief on young adults' involvement with DOC, as well as finalizing and sharing a combined data brief about substance abuse and mental health.**
- 9. We will finalize our reporting on regional data from the Transition to Independence Process (TIP).**
- 10. We plan on submitting two manuscripts for publication: one based on the 2011 *System of Care Roadmap* exercise and one that shares preliminary**

data from the Young Adult Strengths Questionnaire tool that we developed as part of the Vermont study.