

YIT Grant Semi Annual Report

January-June 2012

<p>Goals for strengthening the systems of care</p>	<p>1: Young adult (YA) leadership is developed in VT.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In this reporting period Matt, Young Adult Coordinator, continued his support of the Mental Health Transformation Grant for Peer Support Programming across VT and also participated in supporting the Project Director for that program in the development of peer practices and the peer support movement in VT. Matt continued to advocate for the peer work being done in the YIT Grant to be acknowledged by this project and included in its planning moving forward. Matt was also able to support some of the YIT Grant’s peer workers to participate in trainings offered by the Transformation Grant’s programming. Matt continues to advocate for YIT Peer Workers to be included in the “definition” of Peer Workforce across the state of VT and is supporting Transformation Grant staff in attending YIT trainings as well.• Matt continued his support of the development and distribution of this year’s Young Adult Initiated Mini-Grant RFPs through VFFCMH and the YIT grant. He ensured that the regional contacts for the YIT Program knew of this grant opportunity well in advance and has made sure the regional contacts associated with the YIT Grant in each region received the RFP & application when the paperwork came out. He also supported five more of the regions in their planning and project development for these youth initiated grants. Matt also coordinated the review panel, consisting mostly of youth, for approving these applications in collaboration with panel members representing the VT Department of Health’s Office of Minority Health.• The Governor’s Appointed ACT 264 Advisory Board asked Matt to facilitate a presentation on minority youth in VT and what their needs are. To follow up on that, Matt supported a representative from the Diversity ROCKS! Minority Youth Leadership group in the development and presentation of a grant proposal to the Office of Minority Health for funding to support this group to address the needs discussed during the presentation to the ACT 264 Advisory Board. With Matt’s guidance and support, the ACT 264 Advisory Board and VFFCMH wrote letters of support for this grant application.• Matt continued his work as the lead on the implementation of the YIT
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Grant's new (quarterly) Young Adult Leadership Award. He worked to refine the application process, distributed notice of the opportunity statewide, supported the YIT Operations Team in their needs for selecting the quarterly winners, and pushed the project forward to complete its first full year of awards. Matt continues to solicit nominations from the regions, reminding people of deadlines, and supporting the Operations Team's participation in the process.

- Matt led YIT Program orientation and goal planning meetings with new peer workers in the Barre, and Chittenden regions. He also continues to support all of the peer workers statewide in their work toward their goals for their region & position.
- Courtney & Matt supported young adults in their work to plan and implement this year's youth driven Young Adult Voice Movement Conference.(see Major Activites)
- Matt continues to support the St. Albans Program in bringing their youth-led Young Adult Leadership workshop to other regional YIT programs. He supported the group in bringing their workshop to the Hartford Region and to youth statewide at the Young Adult Voice Movement Conference. He continues to support this group in their planning to bring this training to the Burlington & Morrisville regions.
- Matt supported the Hartford region in the development & implementation of their first annual Youth Summit held in May, as a means of educating the community's youth in general, while also inspiring more youth to participate in the work of that region's advisory board. Per the Hartford Region's Advisory Board's request, Matt was the keynote speaker at the event that day.
- Matt continues to help support a peer leader from the Bennington area in being a statewide technical assistance resource for all of the YIT Programs around the state. He supported Katrina's learning about all of the regional YIT programs, assisted her in contacting them, and supported her connection with regions that were interested in her services and support. He facilitated connections between Katrina and 6 of the 11 regional programs that she is planning to work with. Matt continues to support and promote the idea that Katrina is the first statewide young adult leader and that we, as a state network, are working to develop more. Matt presented this idea/opportunity for another youth to become such a resource. That particular individual felt that they were too busy in their personal life to be able to commit to supporting the entire state at that level but was honored

by the invitation.

- Matt attended Young Adult Advisory Board meetings in the St. Johnsbury and Barre regions to support their goal development, inspire the groups to affect change in their communities, and help in the planning for working toward their goals.
- Matt & Courtney continued their support of a Burlington Young Adult in the planning and execution of a local talent show for Chittenden’s youth, held in February.
- Matt is continuing his work to support Linda Li from the Burlington area in her work to maintain a refugee youth group. This group started meeting regularly in large enough numbers (50 at a time) that they began to need further resources in order to continue meeting and supporting these youth in their lives in general. The group works to support each other and address broader issues related to the entire refugee/immigrant population in Burlington in general. The group meets twice a month with approximately 50 youth in attendance each time, and Matt has worked to support the coordinator of the group to connect with and apply to potential funding sources and resource information specific to minority and immigrant populations in Vermont.
- Matt continues to participate in the Governor’s appointed Children & Family Council of Prevention Programming (CFCPP) and encouraged youth from across the state to apply to become members of the council and exert their influence on a statewide level. He also led a sub-committee of the group to develop new avenues (like a youth sub-committee) for getting youth to participate in this (very adult) council. He led another sub-committee of this group that developed a framework for Vermont’s minority youth to express their thoughts, feelings, and concerns about the state of being a “New American” in Vermont to the council. He helped organize the meeting structure and solicited minority youth to attend. Matt facilitated the first of these meetings in June and supported the youth in attendance to feel comfortable talking to the council and worked to ensure clear communication & understanding between the council and group of youth. Matt will continue to support this council in moving forward with holding more of these meetings in the future (this is just the beginning!)
- Matt continued to develop an initiative in which he is helping to develop, and list, what each of the 12 regional programs “are best at” so he can more formally support the regional programs in training and supporting

	<p>each other. Similar to the St. Albans Young Adult Leadership workshop, Matt is encouraging the regions to include youth as co-facilitators and trainers in these efforts to further build youth leadership in all of the regional programs at the same time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courtney has supported many regions in social media and social network strategy building. Meetings about goals, outcomes, audience, etc. are crucial in development of effective use of social media platforms. Hartford- Platform use for events. Middlebury- Policy and Procedures regarding privacy policies in social media. Barre- Platform Development St. Albans- Social Media / Networking, Resources, Platform Options and Research Chittenden/Diversity ROCKS - Social Media / Networking, Resources, Platform Options and Research Brattleboro- Social Media / Networking, Resources, Platform Options and Research Morrisville- Social Media / Networking, Resources, Platform Options and Research • Courtney & Matt supported the Washington County youth group (Teens4Change) with their drop in center hours. They helped generate ideas for potential drop in events and development.
	<p>2: Family/adult allies support young adults....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt worked to bring together the Project Director for the new Mental Health Transformation Grant for Peer Support Programming across VT and the Lead Family Contact/Assistant Director at the Vermont Federation of Families for Children’s Mental Health (VFFCMH) to begin a collaborative effort to unite the efforts of the Adult Peer Support movement, the youth peer support movement and the family-to-family peer support movement into one large movement in the name of peer support services in general. This group worked together to outline a unifying statement of mission that was accurate across all three peer populations and also worked to outline how peer supports fit into the existing system of care to better prepare the unified movement for integrating into that system in a collaborative way; as the potential for adversity in this integration is great. While Matt continues his work in unifying these movements and facilitating the development of an

	<p>overarching peer movement in VT, the Project Director of the Transformation Grant left her position with the project due to funding cuts. The program does not intent to re-hire a director, but simply move forward with the resources and structure that they already have in place. This has altered the plans for unifying these movements moving forward.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cindy developed the first Excellence in Youth & Family Empowerment Award, which was inspired by and award to Mark Mitchell, in Hartford Region. Matt & Courtney supported the development and presentation of this award was the region’s annual site visit in April. • Since “Peer Support Work” is the latest topic of interest both statewide and nationally, Matt continues to advocate for the definition of “peer” to include transition aged youth and family-to-family supports, in addition to the current definition of adults with mental health challenges, in all of the community meetings he attends related to the subject.
	<p>3: Workers use caring practices known to be helpful for young adults and families.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt is a member of the TIP Implementation Team that developed out of the statewide TIP training in June 2011 and works with the group to determine how to move forward in implementing the TIP model in Vermont statewide. In working toward this group’s goals, Matt has become one of a team of seven Vermont service providers that is in the process of becoming certified as TIP Trainers and has participated in facilitating the first of three trainings in this certification process. Matt continues to participate in the Implementation Team’s conversations about planning and implementing the TIP model statewide across a larger group of professional disciplines in order to develop a common language, culture and practice for Vermont’s youth in transition. • Matt attended two of the trainings offered through the Transformation Grant to their Peer Support staff statewide. He attended the introductory portion of the WRAP (Wellness Recovery Action Planning) Training they offered, as well as the full day training on Non-Violent Communication; both in the Burlington area. • Matt attended a Bullying Symposium put on by the Vermont Department of Education and the Education Alliance of Brown University in February. The intention of this event was for educators and service providers

	<p>statewide to explore the roots of bullying in schools in Vermont in general, as well as, begin to brainstorm possible solutions and next steps for addressing these issues. Part of the reason Matt attended this event was to advocate for the power of the youth governance efforts and advisory board work of the YIT grant in addressing these concerns/issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt attended a Youth Justice Training Day in April where he participated in trainings on trauma informed service delivery and the assessment & treatment of autism spectrum disorders in children & adolescents. • Matt attended a half day introductory training in Motivational Interviewing. • Matt attended the 7th Annual Working with Youth Conference and participated in workshops on Fostering Resiliency Through Creating Young Adult/Adult Partnerships, Youth Leadership and on Reaching & Affecting the Young Adult Population with substance abuse issues. • Matt attended a full-day training on the use and effectiveness of peer supports in the corrections system, particularly when concerning those with mental health challenges that are both entering and exiting the prison system. This training day, called The Other 23 Hours, was held in May.
	<p>4: System of Care partners gains cultural & linguistic competence (CLC)....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt& Courtney continue to promote Mercedes Avila’s CLC training throughout the state, encouraging regions to utilize the training opportunity, helping them connect with Mercedes for scheduling, and promoting the importance of culturally competent programming across Vermont in general. • Matt supported a Burlington refugee youth and a refugee youth coordinator in making a presentation to the ACT 264 board on the status, strengths and needs of the refugee youth population in Vermont. He followed up on this by supporting the board to write a letter of support for a grant application the youth coordinator put together to address these refugee youths’ concerns. • Matt continued his work to support Linda Li from the Burlington area in her efforts to maintain a refugee youth group that started meeting regularly in large enough numbers (50 at a time) that they began to need further resources in order to continue meeting. The group works to support each

	<p>other and address broader issues related to the entire refugee/immigrant population in Burlington in general. The group meets twice a month with approximately 50 youth in attendance each time. Matt has worked to support the coordinator of the group to connect with potential funding sources and resource information specific to minority and immigrant populations in Vermont. Matt facilitated getting letters of support for grant applications for this program from the ACT 264 Board, the YIT State Team, and the Vermont Federation of Families for Children’s Mental Health.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt worked diligently to collaborate with the VT Dept. of Health’s Office of Minority Health, in the review and implementation of their role in the Young Adult Initiative Grants project statewide. Working with both the review committee and the regional programs applying for the funding in their work to include and represent minority populations in the various areas of VT. • Matt is working with young adult representatives from both the Bennington and Burlington YIT programs to support their efforts in having a cross-district training event where the Bennington Youth will share their leadership training and initiatives with the Diversity ROCKS! minority youth group, and Diversity ROCKS! will share their culture & food, and Cultural & Linguistics Competency (CLC) training and information with the Bennington youth. To be planned for fall of 2012 <p>5: Local communities (including young adults) change their perceptions of young adults and of mental health issues, reducing stigma....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt continues to work on the Living Book life-skills on-line resource project, with the intention of having the interactive resource website designed by the youth from each of the Vermont regions. The goal is to also open the website up as a resource to Vermonters statewide. The idea is to reduce the stigma associated with youth by giving them the credit for developing a resource that would help all Vermonters statewide. In an effort to move this project forward Matt presented the initiative at a meeting of all of the regional Children’s Mental Health Directors and related DMH staff. • Courtney developed a tabletop resource table with a local company in Montpelier. She has traveled to several large conferences to promote the YIT Grant as well as VFFCMH. (BEST Institute, Working with Youth, NAMI) This presentation has proven to draw in more people than other presentations done before.
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- In his work with the regional Youth Advisory Boards, and the Youth Initiative Mini-Grants through VFFCMH, Matt has had contact with each of the regional YIT programs, and their youth, on goal planning and brainstorming ideas around reducing the stigma associated with young adults across the state. He has promoted activism and community action with the young adults across the state emphasizing how these types of activities will change a community's perception of its youth.
- Matt worked with the St. Albans YIT Program in recording a public access TV show about the YIT Grant and its programming statewide with a particular emphasis on the tremendous efforts of Vermont's youth to give back to their communities and reduce the stigma associated with youth in general.
- Matt participated in the quarterly Young Adult Advisory Team (YAAT) meetings and supported them in their work statewide to educate people about the state of Vermont's youth in relation to substance abuse and how to effectively treat these substance abuse issues through empowerment, training and peer support.
- Courtney and Kathy Holsopple coordinated a partnership with the University of Vermont, the Me2 Orchestra, and other statewide organizations to draft up two public service announcements (PSA). One PSA focuses on children's mental health and the other targets reducing stigma. This project took up and will be promoted for Children's Mental Health Awareness day 2013.
- All of Courtney's social marketing and social media work focuses on reducing Stigma. Courtney has tailored messages to not only reduce stigma regarding mental health, but also stigma young adults face about being a teenager. She visits regional meetings, designing materials for regional, state, and national events, and keeps eyes and ears open for new opportunities to share the YIT Social Marketing anti-stigma campaigns.

6: Effectiveness of the Vermont System of Care for young adults with SED

- Matt continued his participation in the Children & Family Council of Prevention Programming (CFCPP) meetings monthly. At the group's request, he joined a sub-committee to help them work on developing new avenues for getting youth to participate in council meetings and become active members of the council. Matt also led another sub-committee of this group that developed a framework for Vermont's minority youth to express their thoughts, feelings, and concerns about the state of being a "New American" in Vermont. He helped organize the meeting structure

and solicit minority youth to attend. Matt facilitated the first of these meetings in June and supported the youth in attendance to feel comfortable talking to the council. He worked to ensure clear communication & understanding between the council and group of youth. Matt will continue to support this council in moving forward with holding more of these meetings in the future (this is just the beginning!)

- Matt is a member of the ACT 264 Board and regularly addresses issues with the Vermont state system of care. Matt is viewed as “representing” the voice of the young adults of Vermont in these conversations and solicits specific feedback from young adults for the group when requested/needed.
- Matt has continued his work with the new Statewide Coordinator for the Vermont Coalition of Teen Centers on partnering together in their efforts statewide. Matt suggested that given, the research on the effectiveness of teen centers in helping youth in this age range in general, and the interest & impact that peer work & advisory boards have across the state/nation, t bringing all of these together in mutual support & benefit seems to be an ideal goal to move forward. Matt and the coordinator continue to work on their plans moving forward by supporting the teen center development efforts in the St. Albans, Barre and Springfield YIT Programs.
- At the heart of the YIT Grant’s work and that of the Transformation Grant, is the notion of peer support staff and using consumer voice in the design & implementation of services and of the system of care in general. Matt continues to work toward including family-to-family and transition aged youth in his work with the Transformation Grant, to begin to pave the way for formalizing these types of strength based approaches and unifying these different efforts under one philosophical umbrella for mutual support and benefit. Matt continues to be involved with the Transformation Grant community meetings and in planning with members of its operations team to move forward with these shared beliefs/visions for a unified peer movement statewide.
- At their request, Matt attended a meeting of the Vermont State Program Standing Committee to assist the group in planning ways to engage youth in their meetings and as members of their committee. This is a group of family members and service providers who advise the Governor and the state’s mental health system with a strong focus on consumer voice in the advising. After consulting with this group at one of their meetings, Matt

	<p>has moved forward in collaboration with AmeriCorps Vista staff working with the state’s Youth Development Program (YDP), to develop a list (or document really) what the youth of the state of Vermont feel this committee should discuss with them. This team has gone around discussing the mental health system with a variety of Vermont’s youth and is compiling the list of topics for presentation to the committee in the very near future. The intention is that the committee will prioritize and select from the list of discussion topics provided by the youth and then invite them to start having those conversations to inform the committee at future meetings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt started a routine of meeting with the Guardian ad litem (GAL’s) of the White River Junction Courthouse to educate them about how to work with and empower youth in transition as they move through the court and foster care system. The first group felt the meeting was so beneficial that they are encouraging GALs from the surrounding areas to have similar meetings with Matt. • Matt has also begun work with Alice Maynard from the VT Department of Mental Health on her Agency Improvement Model (AIM) project to refine and improve the recruiting and functioning of members of the ACT 264 Advisory Board.
	<p>7: The State supports and sustains regional services for young adults....</p>
<p>Desired outcomes for young adults of transition-age</p>	<p>1.Decreased number of young adults involved in the corrections</p>
	<p>2. Increased number of young adults who are employed....</p>
	<p>3. Increased number young adults participating in (or who completed) educational programs....</p>
	<p>4. Increased number of young adults who have access to, and are using, a medical home....</p>
	<p>5. Increased number of young adults living in safe and stable housing....</p>
	<p>6. Increased number of young adults who have caring & supportive relationships....8</p>
	<p>7. Increase in young adults’ strengths and protective factors....</p>
	<p>8. Improved mental health for young adults.</p>
<p>System of Care</p>	<p>Workforce Development The interagency professional development plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt is working with all of the service system and community connections

<p>Infrastructure Indicators</p> <p>(for federal TRAC):</p>	<p>he is building statewide, on locating funding streams to increase the peer support workforce in the state of Vermont and support those positions to provide workers with a livable wage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt is working on the Vermont state TIP Implementation Team to support the certification of Vermont as a TIP-Informed site with its own team of TIP Trainers; of which Matt is one being certified as a trainer. • Matt & Courtney are also working to promote the development of all 12 of the regional Young Adult Advisory Boards, working to help them grow to a point where they can advise both the local & state system of care. As a part of this effort he is working toward having a statewide “Executive” Board, with representation from each of the 12 regional boards, to serve as a state-level entity for youth voice in the Vermont System of Care. • Courtney has developed a fluid social networking scheme to connect all regions and exemplify a statewide network.
	<p>Organizational Change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt works in all of the service systems and community meetings he is involved with to help promote the concept of peer support services being a formalized part of the Vermont System of Care. He is ensuring that the definition of “peer” involve transition age youth, family-to-family supports, and the adult mental health & recovery populations, in this advocacy effort. Pooling informational resources from all three of these groups into a statewide co-op database of resources and support is being considered as part of this effort as well. • Matt& Courtney are working to promote & support the development of all 12 of the regional Young Adult Advisory Boards, working to help them grow to a point where they can advise both the local & state system of care. As a part of this effort they have developed a statewide “Executive” Board, with representation from each of the 12 regional boards, to serve as a state-level entity for youth voice in the Vermont System of Care. This board designed and implemented this year’s Young Adult Voice Movement (YAVM) conference and the hope is to work with them to begin to advise the state, the YIT Operations Team and the Vermont System of Care as a whole. Another intention of this effort is the possibility of having this Executive Board, decide to develop into applying to be a Vermont chapter of Youth MOVE National.

Partnership/Collaboration:

Matt attends the following statewide meetings of service providers and service recipients in order to learn from and influence/inform the Vermont state system of care:

- The Children & Family Council of Prevention Programming (CFCPP) & the youth voice & minority youth sub-committees associated with that.
- The Governor’s Appointed ACT 264 Advisory Board.
- The YIT Grant’s state Operations Team.
- The TIP Implementation & Training Team
- The Diversion Enhancement Assessment Plan (DEAP) Advisory Committee.

Matt has formed formal, project specific, working relationships with the following service programs in Vermont:

- The MH Transformation Grant for Peer Support Programming in VT (Dept. of Mental Health)
- Project Harmony International; working together to develop a social media internet resource for accessing & utilizing various services related to life-skills specific to each region of the state of VT.
- The Vermont Coalition of Teen Centers (VCTC); Matt is working with the Statewide Coordinator to assist the regional YIT programs in the development of teen centers across the state. They are also working together to establish centers for both early teens (the “traditional” definition of teen center) and transition age youth, that require more of a life-skills & resource center. These are two very different sets of needs for two very different populations that need to be addressed and supported. This relationship and collaboration is working towards being formalized in writing for the coming year.
- Matt worked with the Steering Committee of the Chittenden YIT Grant Program to help them develop and strengthen their vision for and implementation of peer support & Young Adult Advisory Boards in their area.
- Matt & Courtney are working with a collaboration of service providers (JOBS, YIT, VR) in the Barre region on growing and developing their Drop-In Center hours at the Choice Academy school, while also working with the long-term plan of having that develop into a more formal teen center for the Barre youth.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt is collaborating with the AmeriCorps Vista workers associated with the Youth Development Program to guide and support the Children & Family Council of Prevention Programming (CFCPP) to both have more youth/young adults involved as council members, but also to continue to move forward the project of soliciting feedback from the minority youth population of VT regarding their experiences, struggles and needs for support. • Courtney is collaborating with Vermont Association of Mental Health and Recovery to make a team for promotional purposes and share resources. This partnership is based with their Marketing Manager, Dan Osman who is also the president of Camp Daybreak. • Courtney developed concept and partnerships with UVM – Department of Psychiatry and the ME2/orchestra for two PSA's. These are in preparation for Children's Mental Health Day 2013
	<p>Types/Targets of Practice:</p>

1. Major Activities and Accomplishments During this Period

- Planning and execution of the 3rd annual Young Adult Voice Movement Conference (YAVM). This year's conference was held at Castleton State College in Southern Vermont and was attended by 150 young adults from all around the state. YAVM was planned by a board of young adults on an executive board that was delegated by their peer outreach workers. YAVM 2012 offered workshops developed and directed by mainly young adults and youth groups. This year's conference also added a guest speaker, Colin Ryan, and comedian who spoke about his personal struggles. The conference evaluations were some of the best yet. Workshops: Substance Use and abuse, Relationships and Domestic Violence, Teen Suicide, Cultural Workshop with the Circle of Courage, Teen Parenting, Mental Health Awareness with Camp Day Break, Racism and Diversity, Life Skills in Financing, Teen Leadership, and Learning how to Learn
- Cindy, Courtney and Matt continue their work to support each of the regions in developing youth driven governance bodies. These regional Youth councils or boards are at various stages in development and impacting their local communities and the system of care.

3 -of these boards are in development and working to recruit youth members

5 -of these boards are well established and gaining increased momentum & membership

4 -of these boards are functioning independently & are a recognized influence on their communities.

2. Problems

- There is not enough funding for peer support work in general. A couple of districts have asked for assistance with funding to increase their peer support workforce or their current workers' time in the field. The YIT Grant staff have been unable to help these programs with funding this in general, but continue to advocate for peer supports to become more available in the system of care.
- The Vermont system of care in general, including the YIT Grant staff statewide, are combating a pervasive sense of hopelessness in Vermont's young adults in general. These youth report seeing no sense in excelling in school or continuing their education after high school because there are no job opportunities in their local areas and no employment options that would inspire a need for continued, or specialized, education. These young adults are also seeing decreases in funding for the services and supports that are currently available to them in the human service system. The resulting decrease in the help and support that is available for their friends, families, and themselves adds to their already daunting sense of hopelessness. Add to this the recent economic hardships of this country and the chronically increasing costs of consumer goods and life sustaining utilities, these young adults see little hope, or little reason, to dedicate themselves to working hard toward a brighter future and personal wellbeing, as they see no developing opportunities for anyone in general. They see only programs & businesses closing due to funding being cut, or the economic hardships of the people in their communities.
- While we have continued to promote our three sustainability strategies throughout the regions, without any clear answers regarding sustaining this grant, we are seeing regional support staff now considering other employment opportunities and even moving on to more longer term job security.

3. Significant Findings and Events

- It is clear that our Facebook account(s) are a great social media platform for us. The numbers have grown steadily and show no signs of stopping. Our audience has been engaging daily.

- Courtney began a Twitter account as VFFCMH and the YIT grant. She has connected with national organizations and been able to promote Vermont hugely.
- Young adult involvement and dedication to the project (YIT) is growing. Cindy, Courtney and Matt are supporting each of the regions in their development and implementation of Youth Driven Principles as the regions progress in fostering youth leadership.

4. Dissemination activities

- Youth in Transition Facebook
 - 285 Friends
 - 4 sub-groups
- Statewide Young Adult Executive Board Map/Structure
- Youth friendly Dashboard for Evaluation Team
- Courtney has helped three regions in branding their Young Adult Advisory Boards. Hartford, Barre, and Chittenden
 - Social Networking Platform Development with five regions. Hartford, Chittenden, Barre, St. Albans and Brattleboro
 - Event marketing for four regions. Chittenden, Hartford, Barre and Brattleboro

5. Other Activities

The four winners of the Young Adult Leadership Award are from the following regions: Bennington, Chittenden, Hartford, and St. Albans. These winners were given an award at an event in their community, and PSA announcing their award, and were recognized at the Young Adult Voice Movement Conference. They were also invited to attend the Georgetown Institutes in FL.

6. Activities Planned for Next Reporting Period

Matt's planned activities for the next reporting period:

- Matt will attend the DEAP Advisory Board meetings monthly to learn from the group and give input on the status of the YIT population in VT when relevant.
- Matt will attend Young Adult Advisory Team (YAAT) meetings quarterly, to support that group of young adults in their statewide activism and in working toward their goals in general.

- Matt will continue to:
 - Work with Courtney to develop the Executive Committee for the planning of this year's YAVM Conference and help to develop the group into a statewide advocacy body for young adults to influence the YIT Grant's programming and the VT system of care in general.
 - Support and promote the quarterly Young Adult Leadership Award program; disseminating requests for nominations and supporting the YIT Operations Team in their award selection process.
 - Support the design, preparation for, and implementation of this year's YAVM Conference; help staff and coordinate the event running smoothly.
 - Support the Burlington youth in his goal of a statewide talent show, by promoting the regional talent shows that would feed the statewide "finals" talent show, and support the youth in holding the statewide event.
 - Work with VFFCMH staff to locate funding for working with Project Harmony International on the design and launch of the Living Book social networking and independent living resource web-portal.
 - Participate in the TIP Implementation Team meetings and its stated goals, supporting the training of VT based TIP trainers and becoming one himself.
 - Help the YIT staff prepare the four VT young adults selected to attend the Georgetown National Conference in Florida this coming summer.

Courtney's plans for the next reporting period are:

- Courtney has been asked to present at the national Georgetown Training Institutes in Orlando July 2012. She has been asked my national social media expert, Jane Tobler.
- Planning & execution of 4th annual Young Adult Voice Movement.
- Courtney plans to look into using more social media platforms that will target our audience.
- Strengthening of Social Marketing Plan which includes;
 - Children's Mental Health Day
Ever changing event(s). Dependant on National Children's Mental Health Day efforts.

- WEST – We Eliminate Stigma Together
Adapted from the STARS model developed in Minnesota, this campaign is now being piloted in one of Vermont's 12 regions to encourage students to inform their high/alternative school and their community about the importance of positive mental health. Mini-grants are being awarded to groups of students to plan (*often over pizza*) and lead their own events.
 - BringChange2Mind
A national anti-stigma campaign that will be supplemented in Vermont by bringing together the statewide counterparts of the national partners (e.g., The National Alliance on Mental Health-VT, VFFCMH, The Vermont Association for Mental Health, SAMHSA grantees for youth suicide or substance abuse prevention) to consider what they can do together to promote mental health.
 - Your Voice Matters
A campaign for the Vermont Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health (VFFCMH) to help families and young adults become leaders in the system of care.
- Continuing to reduce stigma around young adults and mental illness.
 - Execute two PSA's for Children's Mental Health Awareness day 2013.
 - Courtney hopes to connect with more organizations and individuals around the state with the help of the new resource exhibit she will travel with.

Cindy's plans for the next reporting period are:

- Continued Supervision & Support of Matt & Courtney, along with Amy SOCTL in Washington County, and Kristen & Heather, Youth Engagement Specialist in Washington County.
- Assist with Planning and Preparing travel arrangement for YIT staff & 4 Young Adult Leaders, 2 Family Leaders to attend the Georgetown Institute in FL
- Lead Coordinator on the VFFCMH Family Leadership Conference, September 13th and Lake Morey. This Conference will focus on Family Driven Principles
- Participate in planning for Fall Sharing Training, for October 24th which will include an training/networking opportunity for young adult regional leaders
- National Certification Parent Support Provider Exam in September for 3 VFFCMH staff
- Continue to advocate for Family to Family Peer supports services to be included in the implementation of IFS and the system of care implantation strategies.