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Agency of Human Services

Vermont Adolescent and Young Adult Treatment System Enhancement Project Overview

SAMSHA titled this grant opportunity: FY 2013 Cooperative Agreements for State Adolescent and Transitional Aged Youth Treatment Enhancement and Dissemination (Short Title: State Youth Treatment)

Length of grant: 4 Years

Amount: \$3,800,000 (\$950,000 per year)

Who will be getting subgrants:

Washington County Youth Services Bureau
Centerpoint Adolescent Treatment
Educational Institute of Maine (AdCare)
The Vermont Child Health Improvement Program (VCHIP)

Description of the grant:

The Vermont Department of Health Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs (ADAP), in cooperation with two treatment providers and many other partners, proposes to strengthen and enhance its adolescent (12-17) and transition based treatment practices, Seven Challenges (serving adolescents) and Seeking Safety (serving transitional aged youth), designed to enhance Vermont's capacity to provide behavioral health services to youth and their families. Over the four-year funding period, 1,059 youth will receive treatment, including grant funded and private/third party paid set across the State of Vermont.

At the systems level, changes will be guided by the Youth Service System Enhancement Council (YSSEC). This Council will be hosted and supported by the Office of the Secretary of the Agency of Human Services, which is focused on and committed to this kind of systems level change effort. The Council will include representatives from the Vermont State Agencies that manage substance abuse, mental health, education, health, child welfare, juvenile justice, and Medicaid services. It will also include representatives of the treatment provider community and the youth and families that are being served.

What will the outcome be and how will we measure:

As a result of this effort, Vermont's new adolescent and young adult treatment services will produce: a) increased rates of abstinence; b) increased enrollment in education/training/employment; increase social connectedness; c) decreased juvenile justice involvement; and d) increased access, service use, outcomes for those youth populations vulnerable to health disparities. At the systems level, the project will result in: a) changes in state policies and procedures related to treatment service delivery; b) creation of enhanced financing structures to support sustained delivery the targeted evidence based practices, and d) creation of a blueprint/plan for widened use of effective evidence based practices.

This effort will be carefully analyzed by an independent evaluator that will: a) monitor the implementation of project goals and objectives according to plan, b) analyze the impact that service delivery has had on the targeted client populations, and c) determine the degree to which the project has achieved its intended systems level outcomes. Evaluator reports will be used to drive adjustments to the ongoing implementation of the project, at all levels.

