

Abstract:

One Community Partnership Expansion Project (OCPEP) will expand and enhance the delivery of services to transitioning adolescents and young adults (14-21 years of age) with serious emotional disturbances and other complex conditions such as substance related issues, physical concerns, and a history of trauma. These transitioning adolescents and young adults often have difficulty accessing and sustaining recovery efforts. They also experience a variety of complicated intervening variables and risk factors such as homelessness, exposure to domestic violence, foster care placement and involvement with the juvenile justice system. Applying a *public health framework* including **Collective Impact** and **Results Based Accountability™**, OCPEP will work to provide a safety net for this vulnerable population. The result of the planning grant will be the development of a comprehensive plan to address the complex needs of this population, engage youth and families as primary stakeholders and adopt culturally and linguistically competent services and evidenced based practices to meet the needs of this challenging population.

One Community Partnership has chosen to focus on this population of transitioning adolescents and young adults due to the myriad of challenges facing them. Broward County has recognized a significant increase from 2012 to 2013 in older adolescents being hospitalized due to danger to self or others. Additionally, according to the Broward Barometer of Substance Abuse Indicators Among Youth (Winter 2009), the trend is rising upward for alcohol, marijuana, prescription medication and ecstasy use among high school students. 17-25 year olds are *more likely* to experience serious psychological distress than those aged 26 or older. Unfortunately, 17-25 year olds are *less likely* to access and receive services for such conditions (SAMHSA, 2009).

The Broward County Board of County Commissioners through the Human Services Department will serve as lead applicant with support and participation from a number of community-based and other treatment and service providers. Broward County has successfully implemented two evidence-based system of care models: the CCISC (Comprehensive, Continuous, Integrated System of Care) Model developed by Drs. Minkoff and Cline (2005) to address the needs of individuals with co-occurring psychiatric, substance use and other complex conditions and One Community Partnership, a SAMHSA funded project focusing on the needs of children and adolescents with serious emotional disturbance (SED). The expansion of One Community Partnership will incorporate an integration of CCISC principles and System of Care values and the community will recognize a family and youth focused, recovery-oriented system of care for transitional youth, joining together not only the behavioral health, primary health, child welfare, school, and juvenile justice systems, but also the youth and adult systems of care. Transitional youth in Broward County will be better off because of the integration of these two systems.