

The Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™):

Service Score Results: Baseline

Name of Program and Service: George Junior Republic - Preventative Aftercare

Cohort Total: 13

SPEP ID: 244-T01

Selected Timeframe: Jan. 1, 2017 - May 31, 2018

Date(s) of Interview(s): July 3, 2018

Lead County & SPEP Team Representatives: Sue Claytor, York Co. & Lisa Freese, EPISCenter

Person Preparing Report: Sue Claytor and Lisa Freese

Description of Service: *This should include a **brief** overview of the service within the context of the program, the location and if community based or residential. Indicate the type of youth referred, how the service is delivered, the purpose of service and any other **relevant** information to help the reader understand the SPEP service type classification. (350 character limit)*

George Junior Republic Preventative Aftercare (GJR PAC) started in York County, Pennsylvania in 2008. It is a community-based, in-home program providing services in an intensive manner in multiple settings to clients (male and female) ranging in age from infancy to 21 years. The program accepts delinquent and dependent youth. GJR PAC services are designed to be family focused and child centered. The primary objectives of the program are: promoting safety, well-being and permanency to children and families; preventing out of home placement; reducing time in placement; reducing police contact involving client families; positively impacting upon the siblings of ungovernable youth; and reducing the overall dependency of client/families on state and private social service organizations. The length of service and identified goals are determined by reason for referral, changing need, Youth Level of Service (YLS) and other assessments but is usually between 6 and 9 months.

GJR PAC provides individual and family counseling, reunification services, and assists families with structure, supervision, effective communication and accessing supports in the community. Program flexibility permits contact up to five times per week for the youth/family and can provide for frequent and lengthier in-home and in-community counseling sessions determined by youth/family need. At a minimum, at least one hour of formal family counseling is provided per week. Family counseling is scheduled in the family home/community and at the same day/time each week when possible, to reduce the risk of missed appointments and to accommodate the family's scheduling needs. Frequent phone contact is provided to the family as needed for crisis intervention and on-going support of individual and family goals.

The GJR PAC programs employ Counselors/Social Workers who live in or near York and have familiarity with community resources. They have continuous availability to youth and families. The GJR PAC Counselor/Social Worker meets with family, teachers, counselors, employers, and others involved in the youth's life. Weekly contact is made with the referring agency including case conferences and court hearings whenever necessary. The counselors assist families in obtaining mental health services, drug and alcohol counseling, parenting classes, support groups and educational programs.

The four characteristics of a service found to be the most strongly related to reducing recidivism:

1. **SPEP™ Service Type:** Mixed Counseling

Based on the meta-analysis, is there a qualifying supplemental service? Yes

If so, what is the Service type? Behavioral Contracting/Management

Was the supplemental service provided? No Total Points Possible for this Service Type: 20

Total Points Earned: 15 Total Points Possible: 35

2. **Quality of Service:** Research has shown that programs that deliver service with high quality are more likely to have a positive impact on recidivism reduction. Monitoring of quality is defined by existence of written protocol, staff training and supervision, and how drift from service delivery is addressed.

Total Points Earned: 20 Total Points Possible: 20

3. **Amount of Service:** Score was derived from examination of weeks and hours each youth in the cohort received the service. The amount of service is measured by the target amounts of service for the SPEP service categorization. Each SPEP service type has varying amounts of duration and dosage. Youth should receive the targeted amounts to have the greatest impact on recidivism reduction.

Points received for Duration or Number of Weeks: 0

Points received for Dosage or Number of Hours: 4

Total Points Earned: 4 Total Points Possible: 20

4. **Youth Risk Level:** The risk level score is compiled by calculating the total % of youth that score above low risk, and the total % of youth who score above moderate risk to reoffend based on the results of the YLS.

11 youth in the cohort are Moderate, High or Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of 10 points

1 youth in the cohort are High or Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of 0 points

Total Points Earned: 10 Total Points Possible: 25

Basic SPEP™ Score: 49 total points awarded out of 100 points. Compares service to any other type of SPEP therapeutic service. (eg: individual counseling compared to cognitive behavioral therapy, social skills training, mentoring, etc.)

Note: Services with scores greater than or equal to 50 show the service is having a positive impact on recidivism reduction.

Program Optimization Percentage: 58% This percentage compares the service to the same service types found in the research. (eg: individual counseling compared to all other individual counseling services included in the research)

The SPEP and Performance Improvement

The intended use of the SPEP is to optimize the effectiveness of reducing recidivism among juvenile offenders. Recommendations for performance improvement are included in the service feedback report, and these recommendations are the focus of the performance improvement plan, a shared responsibility of the service provider and the local juvenile court. The recommendations for this service included in the feedback report are:

George Junior Republic's Preventative Aftercare scored a 49 for the Basic Score and a 58% Program Optimization Percentage. It is classified as a Group 3 service- Mixed Counseling service type. The program could improve its capacity for recidivism reduction through:

1. The addition of a supplemental service: behavioral contracting/management. The research demonstrates that the capacity of mixed counseling programs to reduce recidivism is enhanced by the addition of behavioral contracting or behavioral management programs. These programs generally include a token or reward based set of incentives which are granted when the juvenile reaches certain program or case plan milestones. Youth agree to a contract which specifies certain rewards for certain positive behaviors. Non-achievement of agreed upon goals results in loss of privileges and/or incentives. GJR Preventative Aftercare does provide incentives for pro-social behaviors, however a contract should be created with a signed copy given to each youth.
2. The development of a policy or protocol that states that monitoring of the delivery of the Preventative Aftercare service occurs at pre-determined timeframes, such as monthly, quarterly, etc.
3. Increase dosage to meet the 25 hours targeted for mixed counseling. While 25 weeks is the targeted amount for duration, the juvenile probation department may prefer less duration for certain types of referrals.

The Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™):

Service Score Results: Reassessment 1

SPEP™ ID and Time: 244-T02

Agency Name: George Junior Republic

Program Name: Preventative Aftercare

Service Name: Preventative Aftercare

Cohort Total: 22

Timeframe of Selected Cohort: All delinquent youth who began this service on/after January 1, 2019 and ended it on/before December 31, 2019

Referral County(s): York

Date(s) of Interview(s): January 7, 2020

Lead County: York

Probation Representative(s): Sue Claytor, Danielle Salisbury

EPIS Representative: Lisa Freese

Description of Service:

George Junior Republic (GJR) Preventative Aftercare started in York County, Pennsylvania in 2008. It is a community-based, in-home program providing services in an intensive manner in multiple settings to clients (male and female) ranging in age from infancy to 21 years. The program accepts delinquent and dependent youth. GJR Preventative Aftercare service delivery is taking services to the client/family in their home, school and community rather than expect the client/families to keep appointments by coming to an office. GJR Preventative Aftercare service is designed to be family focused and child centered. The primary objectives of the program are to promote safety, well-being, and permanency to children and families, prevent out of home placement, reduce time in placement, reduce police contact involving client families which positively impacts the siblings of ungovernable youth, and reduce the overall dependency of client/families on state and private social service organizations.

GJR Preventative Aftercare provides individual and family counseling designed to address the underlying etiology of the presenting behaviors; provide reunification services; and assist families with structure, supervision, effective communication and accessing supports in the community. Program flexibility permits contact up to five times per week for the youth/family and can provide for frequent and lengthier in-home and in-community counseling sessions determined by youth/family need. At a minimum, at least one hour of formal family counseling is provided per week. Family counseling is scheduled in the family home/community and at the same day/time each week, when possible, to reduce the risk of missed appointments and to accommodate the family's scheduling needs. Frequent phone contact is provided to the family as needed for crisis intervention and on-going support of individual and family goals. The length of service and identified goals are determined by reason for referral, changing need, Youth Level of Service (YLS) and other assessments but is usually between 6 and 9 months.

GJR Preventative Aftercare employ Counselors/Social Workers who live in or near York and have familiarity with community resources. They have continuous availability to youth and families. The GJR PA Counselor/Social Worker meet with family, teachers, counselors, employers, and others involved in the various aspects of the youth's life and make minimum weekly contact with the referring agency and attend case conferences and court hearings whenever necessary. The counselors network with community resources to assist families in obtaining mental health services, drug and alcohol counseling, parenting classes, support groups, and educational programs.

The four characteristics of a service found to be the most strongly related to reducing recidivism:

1. SPEP™ Service Type: Mixed Counseling

Based on the meta-analysis, is there a qualifying supplemental service? Yes

If so, what is the Service Type? Behavioral Management

Was the supplemental service provided? Yes Total Points Possible for this Service Type: 20

Total Points Received: 20 Total Points Possible: 35

2. **Quality of Service:** Research has shown that programs that deliver service with high quality are more likely to have a positive impact on recidivism reduction. Monitoring of quality is defined by existence of written protocol, staff training, staff supervision, and how drift from service delivery is addressed.

Total Points Received: 20 Total Points Possible: 20

3. Amount of Service: Score was derived by calculating the total number of weeks and hours received by each youth in the service. The amount of service is measured by the target amounts of service for the SPEP™ service categorization. Each SPEP™ service type has varying amounts of duration and contact hours. Youth should receive the targeted amounts to have the greatest impact on recidivism reduction.

Points received for Duration or Number of Weeks: 0

Points received for Contact Hours or Number of Hours: 4

Total Points Received: 4 Total Points Possible: 20

4. Youth Risk Level: The risk level score is compiled by calculating the total % of youth that score above low risk, and the total % of youth who score above moderate risk to reoffend based on the results of the YLS.

18 youth in the cohort are Moderate, High, Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of 7 points

4 youth in the cohort are High or Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of 3 points

Total Points Received: 10 Total Points Possible: 25

Basic SPEP™ Score: 54 total points received out of 100 points. Compares service to any other type of SPEP™ therapeutic service. (e.g. individual counseling compared to cognitive behavioral therapy, social skills training, mentoring, etc.)

Note: Services with scores greater than or equal to 50 show the service is having a positive impact on recidivism reduction.

Program Optimization Percentage: 64% This percentage compares the service to the same service types found in the research. (e.g. individual counseling compared to all other individual counseling services included in the research.)

The SPEP™ and Performance Improvement

The intended use of the SPEP™ is to optimize the effectiveness of reducing recidivism among juvenile offenders. Recommendations for performance improvement are included in the service Feedback Report, and these recommendations are the focus of the Performance Improvement Plan, a shared responsibility of the service provider and the juvenile probation department.

GJR Preventative Aftercare received a 54 for the Basic Score and a 64% Program Optimization Percentage. These Basic Scores represent an increase of 5 percentage point(s) from the initial SPEP™ Assessment. These POP Scores represent an increase of 6 percentage point(s) from the initial SPEP™ Assessment.

For Amount of Service, 9% of the youth received the recommended targeted weeks of duration and 50% of the youth received the recommended targeted contact hours for this service type. The Risk Levels of Youth admitted to the service were: 18% low risk, 64% moderate risk, 18% high risk, and 0% very high risk. The service could improve its capacity for recidivism reduction by addressing the following recommendations:

1. Regarding Amount of Service:

- a. Continue to communicate to York County Juvenile Probation Officers that 25 weeks is the targeted amount for duration, although the juvenile probation department may prefer less duration for certain types of referrals.
- b. While a 3% increase was seen in contact hours from the initial SPEP™ assessment, continue to work toward expanding the amount of time spent with individuals and families weekly. Because GJR Preventative Aftercare is often utilized by the probation department, there is a waiting list that is sometimes weeks in length. This impacts the amount of the service received where the length of probation supervision is predetermined.

2. Regarding Risk Level of Youth Served:

- a. Collaborate with the juvenile probation department to target higher risk youth. However, on occasion some youth of lower risk may still be appropriate for the service due to family circumstances.

The Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™):

Service Score Results:

Reassessment 2

SPEP™ ID and Contact Time: 0244-T03

Agency/Program Name: George Junior Republic

Service Name: Preventative Aftercare (PAC)

Cohort Total: 19

Cohort Time Frame: Youth that began the service on/after July 1, 2020 and ended on/before April 13, 2023

Referral County(s): York

Feedback Report Delivery: September 6, 2023

County/Probation Officer(s) Involved: Susan Claytor, Andrew Guise, and Jennifer Messner - York County Juvenile Probation

EPIS SIS(s): Lisa Freese and Lisa Fetzer

George Junior Republic Preventative Aftercare (GJR PACC) started in York County, Pennsylvania in 2008. It is a community-based, in-home program providing services in an intensive manner in multiple settings to clients (male and female) ranging in age from infancy to 21 years. The program accepts delinquent and dependent youth. GJR Preventative Aftercare service delivery is taking services to the client/family in their home, school and community rather than expect the client/families to keep appointments by coming to an office. GJR Preventative Aftercare service is designed to be family focused and child centered. The primary objectives of the program are to promote safety, well-being and permanency to children and families, prevent out of home placement, reduce time in placement, reduce police contact involving client families which positively impacts the siblings of ungovernable youth, and reduce the overall dependency of client/families on state and private social service organizations.

GJR PACCC provides individual and family counseling designed to address the underlying etiology of the presenting behaviors; provide reunification services; and assist families with structure, supervision, effective communication and accessing supports in the community. This service is currently provided in 21 Pennsylvania counties. While most youth and their families receive a combined 3 contacts per week, program flexibility permits contact as necessary for the youth/family and can provide for frequent and lengthier in-home and in-community counseling sessions determined by need. Contact with the youth occurs at home but also in the community not only to identify support systems, but to maintain some privacy. Issues such as truancy, peer relationships and family conflict are addressed. There is a behavioral management system in place and is used as a motivational incentive. Staff identify a motivator for each youth (such as money, gift cards, etc.). Youth earn incentives by making progress on identified goals. Money earned can be used toward fines or restitution. At a minimum, at least one hour of formal family counseling is provided per week. Family counseling is scheduled in the family home/community and at the same day/time each week, when possible, to reduce the risk of missed appointments and to accommodate the family's scheduling needs. Frequent phone contact is provided to the family as needed for crisis intervention and on-going support of individual and family goals. The length of service and identified goals are determined by reason for referral, changing need, Youth Level of Service (YLS) and other assessments but is usually between 3 and 6 months although when necessary, the service can be extended. Assistance with completion of community service is also available.

The GJR Preventative Aftercare programs employ Counselors/Social Workers who live in or near York and have familiarity with community resources. They have continuous availability to youth and families. The GJR PACC Counselor/Social Worker meet with family, teachers, counselors, employers, and others involved in the various aspects of the youth's life and make minimum weekly contact with the referring agency and attend case conferences and court hearings whenever necessary. The Counselors network with community resources to assist families in obtaining mental health services, drug and alcohol counseling, parenting classes, support groups, and educational programs.

The four characteristics of a service found to be the most strongly related to reducing recidivism:

1. **SPEP™ Service Type:** Mixed Counseling

Based on the meta-analysis, is there a qualifying supplemental service? Yes

If so, what is the Service Type? Behavioral Management

Was the supplemental service provided? Yes **Total Points Possible for this Service Type:** 20

Total Points Received: 20 **Total Points Possible:** 35

2. **Quality of Service:** Research has shown that programs that deliver service with high quality are more likely to have a positive impact on recidivism reduction. Monitoring of quality is defined by existence of written protocol, staff training, staff supervision, and how drift from service delivery is addressed.

Total Points Received: 20 **Total Points Possible:** 20

3. Amount of Service: Score was derived by calculating the total number of weeks and hours received by each youth in the service. The amount of service is measured by the target amounts of service for the SPEP™ service categorization. Each SPEP™ service type has varying amounts of duration and dosage. Youth should receive the targeted amounts to have the greatest impact on recidivism reduction. Targeted duration and dosage for this service is 25 weeks, 25 hours.

<u>4</u>	youth in the cohort of <u>19</u>	received the targeted Duration or Number of Weeks for a total of	<u>2</u>	points
<u>7</u>	youth in the cohort of <u>19</u>	of received the targeted Dosage or Number of Hours for a total of	<u>2</u>	points

Total Points Received: 4 **Total Points Possible:** 20

4. Youth Risk Level: The risk level score is compiled by calculating the total % of youth that score above low risk, and the total % of youth who score above moderate risk to reoffend based on the results of the YLS. The Risk Levels of Youth admitted to the service were: 3 low risk, 12 moderate risk, 3 , high risk, and 0 very high risk.

<u>15</u>	youth in the cohort of <u>18</u>	are Moderate, High, Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of	<u>7</u>	points
<u>3</u>	youth in the cohort of <u>18</u>	are High or Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of	<u>3</u>	points

Total Points Received: 10 **Total Points Possible:** 25

Basic SPEP™ Score: 54 total points received out of 100 points. Compares service to any other type of SPEP™ therapeutic service. (e.g. individual counseling compared to cognitive behavioral therapy, social skills training, mentoring, etc.)

Note: Services with scores greater than or equal to 50 show the service is having a positive impact on recidivism reduction.

Program Optimization Percentage: 64% This percentage compares the service to the same service types found in the research. (e.g. individual counseling compared to all other individual counseling services included in the research.)

The SPEP™ and Performance Improvement

The intended use of the SPEP™ is to optimize the effectiveness of reducing recidivism among juvenile offenders. The service could improve its capacity for recidivism reduction by addressing the following recommendations:

1. Regarding Quality of Service Delivery:
 - a. Written Protocol:
 - i. Include in the program description specific YLS domains that GJR PAC addresses.
 - ii. Add the date of any reviews or updates to the program description that occur at predetermined timeframes.
 - b. Staff Training:
 - i. Provide booster trainings specific to the delivery of GJR PAC once developed.
 - c. Organizational Response to Drift:
 - i. Once a data evaluation process is in place, use it to evaluate or adapt the delivery of the service to make improvements.
2. Regarding Amount of Service:
 - a. Continue to communicate to York County Juvenile Probation Officers that 25 weeks is the targeted amount for duration, although the juvenile probation department may prefer less duration for certain types of referrals.
 - b. While a 3% increase was seen in contact hours from the initial SPEP™ assessment, continue to work toward expanding the amount of time spent with individuals and families weekly. A wait list for youth to begin service delivery may impact the amount of the service received where the length of probation supervision is predetermined.
3. Regarding Risk Level of Youth Served:
 - a. Collaborate with the juvenile probation department to target higher risk youth. However, on occasion some youth of lower risk may still be appropriate for the service due to family circumstances.