

The Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™):

Service Score Results: Baseline

Name of Program and Service: Community Solutions, Inc. - Multisystemic Therapy (MST)

Cohort Total: 27

SPEP ID: 32-T1

Selected Timeframe: Jul. 1, 2012 - Jul. 1, 2013

Date(s) of Interview(s): Aug. 21, 2013

Lead County & SPEP Team Representatives: Jeff Gregro, Berks Co. & Lisa Freese, EPISCenter

Person Preparing Report: 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)*

Multisystemic therapy is an intensive in-home therapy program currently delivered by Community Solutions Inc. in Berks County. The service focuses on helping delinquent youth, male or female, address problems in their homes and with their families. MST is one of the Blueprints for Violence Prevention Model Programs. It focuses on a youth's entire surroundings such as family, school, peers, and neighborhood. It is delivered by specifically trained therapists to youth who are moderate to high risk to reoffend or who exhibit a high need in family circumstances on the YLS. The average range of treatment is 60 hours over a 4 month period and the therapists are available to the family 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week.

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

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

Based on the meta-analysis, is there a qualifying supplemental service? No

If so, what is the Service type? There is no qualifying supplemental service

Was the supplemental service provided? n/a Total Points Possible for this Service Type: 20

Total Points Earned: 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 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: 6

Points received for Dosage or Number of Hours: 6

Total Points Earned: 12 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.

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

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

Total Points Earned: 20 Total Points Possible: 25

Basic SPEP™ Score: 72 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: 85% 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:

1. Increasing the number of youth achieving 30 target hours of service through earlier outreach and better engagement during the referral process.
2. Utilize the enhanced engagement practices to increase duration of the service. Three youth in the cohort fell just days short of duration. If they would have achieved duration another 2 points would have been added.
3. Screening referrals to MST to better target high risk youth and eliminate low risk youth referred to the program.