

The Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™):

Service Score Results:

Baseline

SPEP™ ID and Contact Time: 0358-T01

Agency/Program Name: Community Service Foundation /Community Based Services

Service Name: Intensive Program

Cohort Total: 67

Cohort Time Frame: Youth that began the service on/after January 1, 2022 and ended on/before June 1, 2023

Referral County(s): Bucks (39), Chester (16), Lehigh (7), Montgomery (5)

Feedback Report Delivery: May 29, 2024

County/Probation Officer(s) Involved: Bucks - Nick Caramenico & Rich Kubicek; Lehigh - Tracie Henry & Eva Frederick

Montgomery - Lauren Rios, Jen Ungarino, & Anthony Anderson; Chester - Chezara Taylor & Kara Winchester

EPIS SIS(s): Lisa Fetzer and Dawn Karoscik

Community Service Foundation (CSF), founded in 1977, serves delinquent and dependent youth in southeastern Pennsylvania. The agency is approved by Pennsylvania as a children and youth social service agency, foster family care agency, day treatment center and as a drug and alcohol outpatient treatment program. CSF provides counseling, treatment and foster care services while Buxmont provides educational services. This philosophy and strategy characterize everything we do: How we manage our staff, how our staff treat their families and each other, how we run groups, circles, meetings and classes, how we establish the culture in our programs, how we respond to problems and misbehavior and how we make decisions. Most significant among these strategies are group processes that engage all of the students all day long in a mutually supportive therapeutic environment. The Intensive Program (IP) is an outpatient drug and alcohol program that is licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Health. The IP Program is inspected annually to ensure compliance with Pennsylvania Department of Health drug and alcohol facility regulations. These includes General Standards for Free- Standing Treatment Activities, Physical Plant Standards, Standards for Outpatient Activities and Staffing Requirements. These Standards, along with documentation of CSF's compliance with the Standards are outlined in the Drug and Alcohol Treatment Policy & Procedures Manual, General Standards. Community Service Foundation Intensive Program (CSF IP) services Bucks, Montgomery, Chester and Lehigh counties.

The Intensive Program is a licensed outpatient drug and alcohol treatment program for youth with substance abuse issues. Clients are alleged or adjudicated dependent or delinquent, both males and females from 12 to 18 years old, with exceptions possible for older youth court involved up to 21. Youth that have completed an inpatient program or youth that meet the criteria for outpatient treatment are eligible for the Intensive Program. Clients in all of CSF programs are immersed in Restorative Practices and Motivational Interviewing (MI) which is a client-centered style of engagement for eliciting behavioral change. CSF Counselors are proficient in MI and are trauma responsive. The Intensive Program operates seven days a week. It includes weekly in-home individual and group sessions. Family sessions are generally on a bi-weekly basis. The Intensive Program includes urine testing on a random basis, and weekend alcohol/ drug test, and the opportunity to perform community service hours if required.

The Intensive Program is designed to promote positive behavior and personal growth among our clients through the implementation of behavior management strategies. A combination of rewards and sanctions helps foster accountability and motivation for positive change. Rewards are an integral part of our behavior management system. Clients can earn rewards by meeting specific criteria, such as attending group sessions or adhering to an extended curfew that has been approved by their Juvenile Probation Officer (JPO). These rewards serve as incentives for consistent attendance and responsible behavior, reinforcing the importance of meeting program expectations. On the other hand, sanctions are applied when necessary to address negative behaviors or non-compliance. Sanctions may be imposed if a client's drug screening tests come back positive or if they fail to abide by their curfew. The purpose of sanctions is to provide immediate consequences for actions that hinder progress or pose a risk to the client's well-being. The combination of rewards and sanctions helps create a structured and supportive environment, encouraging clients to make positive choices and take responsibility for their actions. By actively engaging in this behavior management process, clients develop valuable skills for self-discipline, accountability, and personal growth.

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>22</u>	youth in the cohort of	<u>67</u>	received the targeted Duration or Number of Weeks for a total	<u>2</u>	points
<u>50</u>	youth in the cohort of	<u>67</u>	of received the targeted Dosage or Number of Hours for a total of	<u>6</u>	points

Total Points Received: 8 **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: 11 low risk, 45 moderate risk, 10 , high risk, and 1 very high risk.

<u>56</u>	youth in the cohort of	<u>67</u>	are Moderate, High, Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of	<u>7</u>	points
<u>11</u>	youth in the cohort of	<u>67</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: 58 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: 68% 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. Identify in writing the youth that are most appropriate for this service as it relates to the YLS/criminogenic needs.
 - b. Staff Supervision:
 - i. Ensure that staff are receiving written feedback after the direct observations occurs.
 - c. Organizational Response to Drift:
 - i. Within the drift policy develop more specific language to include an “if-then” approach for corrective action steps to be taken if service delivery departs from what is intended of the service.
2. Regarding Amount of Service:
 - a. Collaborate with Juvenile Probation Departments on ways to increase duration and dosage to meet the recommended targets of 25 weeks and 25 hours as supported by research.
3. Regarding Risk Level of Youth Served:
 - a. Continue collaboration with Juvenile Probation Departments to ensure the most appropriate referrals are being received.