The Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEPTM):

**Service Score Results:** Baseline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Program and Service:</th>
<th>Youth Forestry Camp #3-A New Direction</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cohort Total:</td>
<td>36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Selected Timeframe:</td>
<td>Mar. 1, 2016 to Mar. 1, 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date(s) of Interview(s):</td>
<td>Jun. 21, 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lead County &amp; SPEP Team Representatives:</td>
<td>Tracie Davies, Lehigh Co. &amp; Heather Perry, EPISCenter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Person Preparing Report:</td>
<td>Tracie Davies and Heather Perry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPEP ID:</td>
<td>37-T01</td>
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**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)

BJJS is responsible for the management, operations, program planning and oversight of PA’s youth development center/youth forestry camp facilities. These facilities are designed to provide state-of-the-art treatment, care and custody services to PA’s most at-risk youth. The facilities serve both male and female adolescents who have been adjudicated delinquent by their county judicial system. Treatment services are individualized based on strengths and needs. Youth Forestry Camp #3 (YFC#3) is a 50 bed open residential facility for adjudicated males between the ages of 14 and 20. There are two treatment options available to the youth at YFC#3. B Dorm, which is their residential program, combines both individual and group counseling and consists of a 3 track system. The 2nd treatment option is First Step, which is a 1 track, 112 day, 16 week program designed for residents whose delinquent history contains a significant substance-related component. The focus of this report is A New Direction, which is a cognitive based treatment program which addresses addiction along with criminal thinking. This service is the core counseling that all residents receive in the First Step Program. A New Direction consists of a series of 5 workbooks that each resident receives. Facilitator guides are provided to instructors of the curriculum. Intake and Orientation addresses how a resident adapts to their new environment. Thinking Report and Improvement group runs concurrent with Intake and Orientation. Criminal and Addictive Thinking challenge residents’ core beliefs, attitudes and assumptions that fuel manipulative, aggressive, and destructive behaviors. This workbook examines the resident’s drug and alcohol use and criminal activity. Patterns and core beliefs are identified. The 3rd book is Drug and Alcohol Education and residents are taught to understand the effects of drugs and alcohol emotionally, spiritually, socially, legally, financially and vocationally. They are also taught to recognize their warning signs of relapse. The 4th book is Socialization; This workbook helps residents understand their difficulty in building relationships based on trust and respect. Residents begin to understand the stages of change and how they are perceived in society and learn to live responsibly without drugs and alcohol and identify their support system. The 5th book is Relapse Prevention. Residents look where they are at on the use and abuse continuum. They identify their triggers and high risk situations and factors and identify positive supports. This group is held prior to a residents discharge. The individual counselor also will review examples in the books and relate them to the residents own thinking reports which helps the resident link their thoughts and patterns to their own behaviors. The individual counseling sessions enhance the A New Direction curriculum.

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

1. **SPEPTM Service Type:** Cognitive-behavior Therapy
   - 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: 35
     - Total Points Earned: 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:** 8
**Points received for Dosage or Number of Hours:** 8

Total Points Earned: 16 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.

- 35 youth in the cohort are Moderate, High or Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of 12 points
- 14 youth in the cohort are High or Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of 13 points

Total Points Earned: 25 Total Points Possible: 25

**Basic SPEP™ Score:** 96 total points awarded 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:** 96% 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 local juvenile court. The recommendations for this service included in the feedback report are:

A New Direction scored a 96 for the Basic Score and an 96% Program Optimization Percentage. It is classified as a Cognitive-behavioral therapy service type.

*It should be noted that during this cohort time-frame, 3 youth were released by the county before the youth successfully completed the program, 1 youth was placed while pending adult charges and was subsequently released, and 1 youth was released on his 21st birthday. If these 5 youth had reached the recommended duration, an additional 4 points would have been earned in the Amount of Service Category.

The program could improve its capacity for recidivism reduction through:

1. Provide additional booster/refresher training on service delivery.
2. Develop a procedure to monitor delivery staff on the adherence to the protocol and quality of delivery at predetermined time-frames, provide written feedback on the findings, and document the process.
3. Enhance the current Policy/practice to identify specific corrective action steps that would occur when drift in service delivery is identified (an if-then type of policy).