The Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™):

Service Score Results: Baseline

Name of Program and Service: North Central Secure Treatment Unit, Girls Program, Work Training

Cohort Total: 26  SPEP ID: 119-T01


Date(s) of Interview(s): Sep. 13, 2016, Nov. 15, 2016

Lead County & SPEP Team Representatives: Danielle Salisbury, York Co. & Lisa Freese, EPISCenter

Person Preparing Report: Danielle Salisbury & 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)

North Central Secure Treatment Unit (NCSTU) Girls Program provides secure treatment programming for adjudicated delinquent females age 13–20. Located in Montour County, the Girls Program offers a wide range of services designed to meet the diverse needs of its residents including specific programming for substance abuse and criminal behavior issues, gender-responsive services for female offenders, programming for residents having lower cognitive functioning, and treatment for issues related to chronic delinquent behavior and mental health disorders. All treatment services and aftercare planning incorporates a Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) perspective.

There are currently two Girls Programs located at the NCSTU. Both the Green and Reed Buildings can house up to 24 residents. Each building has two 12 bed units provides female offenders with treatment and services targeting delinquency, trauma, loss, and mental health disorders. The program's mission is to provide a safe, supportive environment while encouraging and empowering young women to lead healthy lifestyles that promote dignity, integrity and responsibility.

All residents are given opportunity to participate in the Work Training Program. It gives residents the opportunity to earn money to pay toward restitution, send money home to family, or put it into a savings account. To be eligible for this service, residents must earn Ruby Level of the GEM system, be committed to the change process, be a positive leader among peers, and meet all of the expectations of the Work Training Program. If a resident owes more than $800 in restitution, a red flag meeting is held where staff may approve the resident to begin working prior to reaching Ruby Level.

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

1. SPEP™ Service Type: Restitution/Community Service

   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: 15

   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: 10  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**: 6

Total Points Earned: 14  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 12 points

6 youth in the cohort are High or Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of 5 points

Total Points Earned: 17  Total Points Possible: 25

**Basic SPEP™ Score**: 56 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**: 70% 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 SPECT™ 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. **Addressing the following points related to service quality:**
   a. Develop a mechanism for tracking use of the protocol during the delivery of Work Training, and establish a review process of the protocol on a routine basis to ensure effective service delivery;
   b. Document procedures that specifically address steps to be taken should a YDA fail to deliver Work Training as it is intended to be delivered, and ensure that these procedures are systematically applied;
   c. Develop a process for formal evaluation of the effectiveness of Work Training program-wide (can be done through the collection of process and outcome data) and utilize this information to enhance or adapt the delivery of Work Training.

2. **Monitoring the amount of service by:**
   a. Targeting 60 hours of Work Training for each resident that receives the service. While 62% of the cohort met this target, this percentage could increase by increasing the number of hours weekly where it is known that a resident’s stay will be shorter in length;
   b. Reminding referral sources of the targeted duration of 12 weeks.

3. **Continue to target high risk youth as residents.**

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