REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP GRANTS ROUND 4
UAB COMPREHENSIVE ADDICTION IN PREGNANCY PROGRAM

LEAD AGENCY: University of Alabama at Birmingham
LOCATION: Birmingham, AL
TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING: $3,000,000

BRIEF PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Department of Psychiatry is implementing the UAB Comprehensive Addiction in Pregnancy Program (UAB-CAPP). The UAB-CAPP is designed to positively impact the well-being of the child, the parent and the family through timely identification, comprehensive service delivery and rigorous evaluation including continuous quality improvement. Over the course of the five year award, the project will serve pregnant/postpartum mothers and their infants through the following components – (a) universal screening; (b) assessment; (c) prenatal/postpartum care; (d) gender-specific and family-centered substance use treatment; (e) medication assisted treatment; (f) trauma services; (g) children’s services; (h) coordinated case management; (i), recovery support services; and (j) collaborative activities. Evidence-based practices will include Pregnancy and Parenting Partners, Helping Women Recover and SafeCare.

TARGET POPULATION AND PROJECTED NUMBERS SERVED

The target population is pregnant and postpartum mothers with substance use disorders reporting to a UAB clinic or hospital setting. The project will serve a total of 265 pregnant/postpartum mothers and their infants over the course of 5 years.

MAJOR PROGRAM GOALS

**GOAL 1:** Engage pregnant and postpartum women in substance use disorder treatment.

**GOAL 2:** Retain intact families for infants delivered to UAB-CAPP parents.

**GOAL 3:** Reduce the length of time in out-of-home placement.

**GOAL 4:** Positively impact the child, adult and family well-being.

**GOAL 5:** Increase the collaborative capacity of the community to meet the needs of the target population.
KEY MAJOR PROGRAM SERVICES

- **Case Management**
  - Coordinated Case Management – Family Wellness Court

- **Parent Training/ In-Home Services**
  - SafeCare Model

- **Substance Use Disorder Treatment for Adults**
  - Peer Recovery Specialist
  - Gender-Specific and Family-Centered Substance Use Disorder Treatment

- **Specialized Outreach, Engagement and Retention**
  - Development of cross-systems policies and procedures to improve communication, early identification, timely program entry and data sharing
  - Initiating outreach strategies to educate the larger community, expand referral base, build local capacity and realize broader systems change
  - Oversee cross training

- **Adult Screening/Assessment**
  - 4 Ps Plus
  - NIDA-Modified ASSIST
  - Trauma Symptom Checklist
  - ASAM Patient Placement Criteria 2R

- **Cross-Systems/Interagency Collaboration – Clinical-Related Activities**
  - Cross-systems clinical training on substance use, child welfare and related clinical issues
  - Regular joint case staffing meetings

- **Cross-Systems/Interagency Collaboration – Program and Policy-Related Activities**
  - Regular regional partnership meetings to discuss program, policy and management issues
  - Staff training on collaboration, admission criteria, referral protocols, information and data sharing, and other RPG program policies and procedures
  - Collaborative Capacity Instrument

- **Evidence Based Practices**
  - Pregnancy and Parenting Partners
  - Helping Women Recover
  - SafeCare
PARTNER AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

- UAB Maternal-Fetal Medicine (MFM)
- UAB Department of Psychiatry
- Jefferson County Family Wellness Court
- Jefferson County Department of Human Resources (DHR)
- IMPACT Family Counseling
- Beacon Recovery
- Aletheia House
- Jefferson County Department of Health

EVALUATION DESIGN

OUTCOME STUDY DESIGN: QUASI-EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN (QED)

EVALUABILITY ASSESSMENT

The local evaluation of the University of Alabama Comprehensive Addiction in Pregnancy Program (UAB-CAPP) program includes an impact study and a process and collaboration study. The grantee is also participating in the RPG cross-site evaluation studies of family and child outcomes, program implementation, and collaboration among RPG grantees and partners.

Design of the impact study

The grantee will use a quasi-experimental design to examine the impact of its RPG services for pregnant women who indicate they have recently used substances. Members of the program group will receive coordinated prenatal care and treatment for substance use disorder (SUD). This service model will include group prenatal care at a central clinic, case management from a peer recovery mentor, and intensive outpatient or residential treatment for SUD. Following childbirth, these parents will continue to be eligible for peer mentoring, in-home trauma services, and group postnatal care. Eligible women will be no more than 24 weeks pregnant and receive services for six months following the birth of their children; in total, services will last about 40 weeks. The members of the matched comparison sample will receive business-as-usual health care and whatever community services they may access on their own. The impact study will include 164 families, with 82 in the program group and 82 in the comparison group. The grantee will examine impacts in the following domains: permanency, safety, child well-being, family functioning, and recovery.

Data sources include administrative data and information gathered by data collectors using standardized instruments. For the program group only, staff at the addiction treatment facility will administer an assessment to determine the level of care needed, and the evaluation’s standardized instruments will be collected by family wellness coordinators, except for a trauma instrument that must be administered by a clinician. For the comparison group, the standardized instruments will be collected by a contractor hired by the grantee for data collection. Data will be collected four times for each family: (1) when women enroll in services (prior to 24 weeks of
pregnancy); (2) one month after their child’s birth; (3) three months after birth; and (4) six months after birth, which is the end of services for the program group.

**Process and collaboration study design**

UAB-CAPP plans to use a modified Context, Input, Process, and Product evaluation design. The evaluation will include a process study to cover program design, formation, and implementation. The evaluation will also capture implementation successes and challenges, program modifications in response to formative feedback, implementation fidelity, family perceptions of their experiences in the program, timeliness of services and adherence to project timelines, and the process and status of integration of services and collaboration among partners. Data sources will include program documentation, participant interviews, partner and agency surveys, focus groups, and administrative data. To assess the status of the partnership, the grantee will implement the Collaborative Capacity Instrument.

**SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIES AND ACTIVITIES**

UAB-CCAP will use the Framework for Sustainability developed by the Center for the Study of Social Policy to guide collaborative team interventions. Under the Framework Element Collaboration, UAB-CAPP will build on existing partnerships and expand their Leadership Team during the grant to include other community partners. For the Framework Element Resources and Financing, the project will explore the capacity to tap into existing billing/contract structures. Under Framework Element Policy, Regulations, and Legislation, UAB-CAPP intends to influence policy, regulations and legislation to benefit the target population and positively impact the institutionalization of key project components. A detailed sustainability plan will be proactively developed early within the funding period. The plan will provide concrete steps for guiding the Leadership Team and project management in marketing project success/cost savings, advocating for policy change and identifying a realistic and comprehensive funding plan.

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