REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP GRANTS ROUND 4
WEST VIRGINIA REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IMPACTED BY SUBSTANCE ABUSE

LEAD AGENCY: Prestera Center for Mental Health Services, Inc.

LOCATION: Huntington, West Virginia

TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING: $3,000,000

GEOGRAPHIC AREA: Cabell, Lincoln and Wayne Counties, West Virginia

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES REGION: Region 3

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT SERVED: WV-003

BRIEF PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The West Virginia Regional Partnership will improve the well-being, safety and permanency of children and their families involved with the child welfare system due to parental substance use through wraparound intensive care coordination and related services and supports. Wraparound ensures that each family member and the family as a whole receives the unique services and supports needed to overcome trauma, recover from substance use disorder (SUD), and ensure safety, well-being and permanency.

The program will also improve confidential information sharing across the continuum of care, improve permanency services and increase family therapy availability.

TARGET POPULATION AND PROJECTED NUMBERS SERVED

The West Virginia Regional Partnership for Children and Families will serve children (up to age 12) and their families who are involved with the child welfare system due to parental substance use and who reside in the target area.

The West Virginia Regional Partnership proposes to serve 200 children over the course of the project.

MAJOR PROGRAM GOALS

GOAL 1: Improve safety, well-being, and permanency for 200 children and families.

GOAL 2: Increase capacity for family therapy by training community therapists and University students in an evidence-based therapy model.

GOAL 3: Establish a model for effective reunification services for children affected by parental substance use and make system improvement recommendations to the Bureau for Children and Families for WV children in out-of-home placements.

GOAL 4: Establish confidential information sharing processes between courts, the Bureau for Children and Families, schools, service providers, and the Bureau for Health and Health Facilities.
KEY MAJOR PROGRAM SERVICES

The major program services that the West Virginia Regional Partnership program will provide are:

- **Intensive Case Management**
- **Wraparound/ Intensive In-Home Comprehensive Services**
- **Adult Services**
  - Screening and Assessment
  - Clinical behavioral health/substance use services
  - Peer support/recovery coaching for parents with SUD.
- **Children’s Services**
  - Screening and Assessment
  - Health and behavioral health services
- **Cross-Systems/Interagency Collaboration**
  - Cross-system clinical training
  - Cross-system information sharing

PARTNER AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Marshall University
- Children’s Home Society of West Virginia
- Bureau of Children and Families
- Bureau of Behavioral Health and Health Facilities

EVALUATION DESIGN

**OUTCOME STUDY DESIGN: QUASI-EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN (QED)**

The local evaluation of the Prestera Center for Mental Health Services’ West Virginia Regional Partnership (WVRP) includes an impact study, an implementation study, and a partnership 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.

**Impact study design**

The grantee will use a quasi-experimental design to examine the impact of its RPG services. Members of the program group will receive wraparound services, including intensive case management, Seeking Safety (in an in-home setting), Motivational Interviewing, and Eco-Systemic Structural Therapy. A care coordinator will provide wraparound services, possibly with assistance from a family aide/therapist and/or a peer recovery coach. Services will be provided for 6 to 12 months (longer if necessary). Members of the comparison group will live in
a West Virginia county not served by the RPG grant and receive treatment-as-usual services. The impact study will include 275 families, with 200 in the program group and 75 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. Trained interviewers and clinicians (frontline staff) will use the standardized instruments to collect data for the program group, and evaluation staff will use standardized instruments to collect data for the comparison group. For the program group, data collection will take place: (1) when families begin services (baseline); (2) every six months for the first two years of the evaluation (at 6, 12, 18, and 24 months following baseline); and (3) annually after the 24-month follow-up and continuing for the duration of the evaluation. For the comparison group, data collection will take place: (1) when families begin services (baseline); and (2) annually for the duration of the evaluation (that is, 12 months following baseline, 24 months following baseline, etc.).

Implementation study design
In the implementation study, WVRP will focus on factors that influence maintenance or adherence to various types of treatment and how adherence to treatment relates to impacts or outcomes. WVRP will also examine county staff capacity building, processes and norms related to data sharing between involved agencies and case managers, and promptness of family access to appropriate services. Data sources will include program documents, case records, administrative data, interviews with frontline staff, focus groups with staff and participants, and information on training attendance and implementation.

Partnership study design
In the partnership study, the grantee will examine the regional partnership by administering the Collaborative Values Inventory and the Interagency Collaboration Activities Scale. Additional data sources include interviews and focus groups with evaluation staff to define and address any barriers to collaboration and to learn how to improve collaboration.

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIES AND ACTIVITIES
The West Virginia Regional Partnership will use their demonstrated track record of success from this project, to attract sources of private and public funding. In addition, the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Services recognizes the potential implication for statewide practice and with positive project results, will consider sustaining the work by providing financial and programmatic support.

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