

DDMI QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

May 2017

A publication to ensure access to pertinent information that enhances efforts to meet the needs of youth experiencing intellectual, developmental and/or mental health challenges throughout the State of New Jersey.

Are you
Registered?
Please remember
the registration
code is DDMI

Next DDMI Superuser Meeting:

May 5th, 2017

10:00am – 3:00pm

Meeting Topic: *Education and/or Employment
Challenges for Young Adults with IDD and/or MH needs*

10:15am-12:00am: Supporting Youth with Mental Health Needs
*Brandi Davison-Edralin, Supervising Habilitation Counselor Supported
Employment and ICMS; Marie Verna, Program Support Coordinator, Rutgers
University Behavioral Health Care; and George Brice, Assistant Professor &
Trainer, School of Health Professions, Rutgers, The State University of NJ*

12:00-1:00pm: Lunch

1:00-3:00pm: Addressing Employment Needs with School Districts
Adam Kubler, Director Project Hire, The Arc of NJ

The Nuts and Bolts of Supported Employment- *Glori Bine-Callagy,
Director of Services & Bridges to Employment, Alternatives, Inc.*

Supported Education and Employment

Supported Education Is individualized assistance that assists students with disabilities to achieve their goals in college. Support education services may assist students to identify and access reasonable and appropriate accommodations, and coordinate with on and off campus disability support services.

Supported Employment The provision of ongoing supports from an external source (e.g. state agency) to an individual in a paid, community-based setting, where the majority of the workers do not have disabilities, directed at teaching the tasks of that specific job as they occur.

Ability
is what you're capable of doing
Motivation
determines what you do.
Attitude
determines how well you do it.

<http://www.thinkcollege.net/glossary>

First Episode Psychosis

Psychosis is not a diagnosis but a symptom or set of symptoms that can have many different causes. Psychosis may be transient, intermittent, short term or part of a longer term psychiatric condition. Early identification and evaluation of the onset of psychosis is an important health concern as outcomes are improved with earlier detection and intervention. Psychosis is defined as a loss of contact with reality. It typically involves at least one of two experiences:

- Hallucinations which can be auditory in nature (e.g., hearing voices), less commonly visual experiences and more rarely, smelling things that no one else perceives. For the person who experiences hallucinations, they are very real.
- Delusions which are false fixed beliefs, which may involve paranoia (e.g., a man who believes the FBI is chasing him) or mistaken identity (e.g., a woman who believes her mother is an imposter). What makes beliefs delusional is that they do not change when a person is presented with new ideas or facts that demonstrate they are false.

<https://www.nami.org/psychosis/report>

First episode psychosis simply refers to the first time someone experiences psychotic symptoms or a psychotic episode. People experiencing a first episode may not understand what is happening. The symptoms can be highly disturbing and unfamiliar, leaving the person confused and distressed. Unfortunately negative myths and stereotypes about mental illness and psychosis in particular are still common in the community.

<https://medicine.yale.edu/psychiatry/step/psychosis/firstepisode.aspx>



Reprinted from Newsworks Article: March 13, 2017
by Joel Wolfram

N.J. clinics offer psychosis treatment tailored to young patients

Rutgers University has opened one of New Jersey’s first clinics dedicated to treating psychosis in teens and young adults, the time of life when symptoms usually first appear.

The clinic at Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care in Edison treats patients ages 15 to 35 who have had their first episode of psychosis in the last two years. Steven Silverstein, a psychologist who is the clinic’s director, said early treatment for these episodes — which can be indicative of schizophrenia — gives patients the best chance of recovery.

“The longer people live with psychosis,” he said, “the harder it is to treat.”

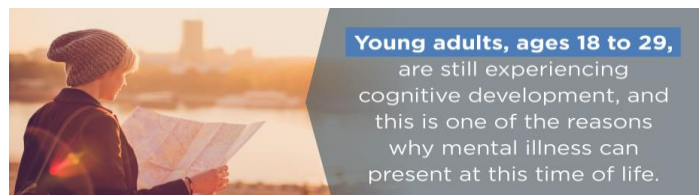
People who have been showing symptoms for only a few years, Silverstein said, benefit more from certain treatments. Besides the usual medications and therapy, **Rutgers is using a research-backed model that provides supportive services to help these younger patients face challenges as they pursue their education or start careers.**

“These are things that young people, after a first episode, have said are the most important reasons why they stay in treatment,” Silverstein said.

Psychosis refers to symptoms like hearing voices in your head or having delusions, which are common in schizophrenia. While other psychological disorders can cause these symptoms, Silverstein said that treatment at his clinic is tailored to people whose underlying diagnosis is schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder, a related condition.

Rutgers is one of three New Jersey clinics using the new model that opened in the past few months with the help of federal block grant funding. Congress required that states set aside 10 percent of mental health block grant funding in 2016 for early intervention programs like these, and states across the country are opening clinics using similar treatment models.

<https://patch.com/new-jersey/newbrunswick/rutgers-opens->



Resources



<http://apse.org/chapter/new-jersey/>

The Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE), founded in 1988, is the only national organization with an exclusive focus on integrated employment and career advancement opportunities for individuals with disabilities. APSE is a 3,000+ and growing national non-profit membership organization. The organization supports the only annual national conference focused solely on the advancement of integrated employment.



<https://www.dol.gov/odep/categories/workforce/CustomizedEmployment/what/>

Customized employment is a flexible process designed to personalize the employment relationship between a job candidate and an employer in a way that meets the needs of both. It is based on an individualized match between the strengths, conditions, and interests of a job candidate and the identified business needs of an employer. Customized Employment utilizes an individualized approach to employment planning and job development — one person at a time . . . one employer at a time.



<http://store.samhsa.gov/product/Supported-Employment-Evidence-Based-Practices-EBP-KIT/SMA08-4365>

FREE: Supported Employment- Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) KIT-Provides practice principles about supported employment, an approach to vocational rehabilitation for people with serious mental illnesses. Promotes the belief that everyone with a serious mental illness is capable of working competitively in the community.

The NJ Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services has funded three first-episode psychosis programs: Google any of these three organizations to learn about theirs.



First Episode Psychosis (FEP) provides in-home and in-community coordinated specialty care for individuals experiencing psychotic symptoms for less than 2 years. The program follows Recovery After Initial Schizophrenic Episode (RAISE), a SAMHSA endorsed evidence-based practice developed by the National Institute of Mental Health. The overall goal is to reduce the likelihood of long-term disability and help individuals lead productive, independent lives.