

The Connecticut Mental Health Transformation Initiative
Early Mental Health Screening Workgroup
April 12, 2006

Convener: Dianne Harnad

Major Topics/Discussion Points:

Dianne Harnad announced that a major goal of the workgroup was to have a draft of a progress report by mid-June. She added that representatives from SAMHSA will attend the workgroup meeting in May.

This meeting's goal was to continue an exercise begun last week, in which meeting participants broke into four sub-groups on the following topics:

- 1) Fostering the mental health of young children
- 2) Improving/expanding school mental health programming
- 3) Screening for co-occurring disorders
- 4) Screening for mental disorders in primary health care across the lifespan

The aim of each subgroup was to clarify and consolidate--within each respective area identified above--themes generated in an earlier meeting. Themes that did not fit well into consolidated areas were placed in a "parking lot," for further consideration at a later time.

Barriers/Problems Identified:

Ideas/Recommendations:

A workgroup member announced a conference scheduled for May 5-6 2006, entitled "Turning 18: Issues Before and After Transition," addressing recent research, best practices, interventions, and innovations to assist young people who have severe mental illness in their progress from childhood to adulthood. The conference includes talks by policy experts such Maryann Davis & Hewitt "Rusty" Clark, and offers various workshops focusing on early detection/intervention efforts.

Transformation Activities in Connecticut Discussed in the Meeting:

To Do/Tasks:

Participants broke into four groups to conduct exercises to further clarify and consolidate themes identified in a prior workgroup meeting.

Next Meetings:

Wednesday 4-26-06 10am-12pm
Wednesday 5-10-06 10am-12pm
Wednesday 5-24-06 10am-12pm