



THE FLORIDA LEARNING SYSTEM

JUNE 2007

Volume 1 / Issue 4

National Partners

Substance Abuse & Mental
Health Services Administration



Center for Substance Abuse
Treatment



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation



Florida Partners

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Families, Substance Abuse
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EVIDENCED-BASED PRACTICE & THE FLORIDA LEARNING SYSTEM

“The challenge to mental and substance abuse professionals - and to the field as a whole - is to ensure that the services being provided, in fact, are the most appropriate for the individual and are the best possible from the perspectives of effectiveness and appropriateness. Those principles undergird the concept of evidence-based services and evidence-based practice.” –SAMHSA Report to Congress, November 2002, Chapter 4

The diffusion of evidence based practices across systems of care is essential in the current environment. SAMHSA recently established the National Registry of Evidence Based Practices and Programs (NREPP) to identify approaches to preventing and treating mental and/or substance use disorders. A tool such as this will only help to advance and enhance the services we provide and the systemic improvement sought by the Florida Learning System.

The Florida Learning System is designed to improve service delivery. As part of this effort, the System is working to develop clearer definitions for levels of care and client services among providers. It is equally important to implement procedures to validate state data against provider data and enhance procedures to capture client movement through the system. Evidence based tools are central to the State reaching these goals.

[The National Registry of Evidenced-Based Programs & Practices](#)

Join us at the FADAA Conference – August 22-24, 2007

This year’s theme, Putting a Face on Addiction and Recovery – New Knowledge, New Hope, emphasizes the renewed spirit of FADAA to lead a broader conversation regarding the impact of addiction on this state, the value of prevention and the benefit of treatment and recovery support in changing lives.

Practice improvement will be highlighted with a “track” of workshops that pertain to the Florida Learning System and the Department of Children & Families, Substance Abuse Program Office’s attention to improvement of addiction treatment.

Dean Fixsen, Ph.D., Research and Professor and Co-Director of the National Implementation Research Network at the University of South Florida together with Richard Finkbiner, Ph.D., Technical Director of the National Registry of Evidence-Based Programs and Practices at SAMHSA in Washington, DC will present a three-hour session titled: *Evidenced-Based Practices: Research and Implementation*.

Other practice improvement workshops include *Stepping Stones for Effective Practice Improvement* presented by Gerald Heisinger, MS; *When the Rubber Hits the Road: How to Apply the Stages of Change* presented by Cary Hopkins Eyles, MS, CAP; and, *Increasing Client Access Through Paperwork Reduction* presented by DACC STAR-SI Change Leader Sherri Kincade, MS, LMHC.

[FADAA Conference Brochure](#)

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Strengthening Treatment and Access Retention - State Implementation (STAR-SI) *The Sky's the Limit*

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Partners

- ★ Drug Abuse Comprehensive Coordinating Office (DACCO)
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NIATx Coach

- ★ *Dr. Pauley Johnson*

Networks

- ★ Central Florida Behavioral Health Network
- ★ Northeast Florida Addictions Network, Inc.
- ★ South Florida Provider Coalition

IN THE NEWS WEBINARS

The Department of Children & Families, Substance Abuse Program Office sponsored two Evidence-Based Practice webinars hosted by FADAA.

On June 13, Lori Beyer, MSW, MSW-AC, with Community Connection, Washington, DC presented *An Evidence-Based Approach for Women in Substance Abuse Treatment: Trauma Recovery and Empowerment Model (TREM)*. Ms. Beyer discussed in detail, the TREM model that has been recognized by SAMHSA in their National Registry of Evidence-Based Programs and Practices (NREPP). Over 70 people participated and comments included "Great webinar on such a critical topic and need for service" and, "This information is much needed and would significantly enhance positive outcomes with substance abusers".

On June 19th Barbra Phillips-Carey, C.Ad., Ph.D. presented *Cultural Competence in a World of Evidence-Based Practice*. Dr. Carey's presentation focused on the nuts and bolts of building cultural competency in a diverse environment. Over 100 people participated in this webinar and comments included "very timely topic delivered in an interesting format." Watch the FADAA website for future webinars. Both webinars are archived and available to view on the FADAA website. www.fadaa.org

PROCESS IMPROVEMENTS

DACCO has implemented six Rapid Change Cycles since November 2006

One example of a change cycle the DACCO STAR-SI team in Tampa has tackled was the decision to remove the arbitrary minimum two-week wait time between intake and first treatment contact. Counselors were instructed to assign clients to the *next* scheduled orientation and consequently, wait time was reduced from 11.8 days on average to 8.4 days. They will continue to monitor their results and the impact on retention.

In an effort to increase the counselor's engagement with clients during intake, the DACCO STAR-SI team focused on **decreasing paperwork**. At baseline, clients spent 60 minutes completing intake paperwork. After the change cycle, clients now spend 30 minutes or less filling out paperwork, which allows an extra 30 minutes for the counselor to spend engaging the client. If you would like to learn details about how DACCO was successful with this paperwork reduction change cycle, Sherri Kincade, Change Leader will present a workshop on this and other ideas about reducing paperwork at the FADAA conference in August. Don't miss it! Way to Go DACCO!



DACCO STAR-SI TEAM

FADAA Conference will host STAR-SI & Advancing Recovery Meeting

Mark Your Calendars to attend the STAR-SI / Advancing Recovery session on Wednesday, August 22, 2-3:30 pm and the follow-up "Meet & Greet" workshop on Thursday August 23, 2-3:30 pm. We want to spread the word and assist other providers who are interested in rapid change cycles and process improvement.

Look for more details in the July newsletter.

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Advancing Recovery... Leading the Way

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*Purpose:
To develop and implement
administrative and
clinical system
improvements at provider
and state levels to
facilitate the successful
utilization of selected
categories of evidence-
based practices for
addiction treatment.*

Partners

- ⇒ **Operation PAR**
Nancy Hamilton, CEO
Kay Doughty, V.P. of
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Services
- ⇒ **River Region Human
Services**
Derya Williams, CEO
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- ⇒ **Spectrum Programs/
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Coaches

- ⇒ **State Coach**
Colette Croze
Private Consultant
- ⇒ **Provider Coach**
Michael Boyle
President/CEO Fayette
Companies

IN THE NEWS

The Art of Collaboration

While both Strengthening Treatment Access and Retention (STAR) and Advancing Recovery utilize the NIATx process improvement model, a unique feature of Advancing Recovery is the premise that change may not be able to be created and sustained without a partnership between the funding body and the provider community, according to Mike Boyle, Advancing Recovery provider coach. Boyle states: "In Florida, a third, fourth and fifth party may be involved including the state Medicaid department, the manufacturer of Vivitrol and the distributor. This requires collaboration among different organizations". When all parties are not collaborating, clients and/or services can fall between the cracks.

If collaboration is key, what makes for effective collaboration? Author David Straus in *How to Make Collaboration Work*, identifies the following principles of effective collaboration:

- ⇒ Involve the relevant stakeholders: those with the power to make or block a decision, those affected by a decision and those with relevant information and experience
- ⇒ Build a consensus phase by phase: build small agreements one at a time
- ⇒ Design a process map: have a clear but flexible road map to navigate
- ⇒ Designate a facilitator: someone who ensures the group is interacting constructively and working towards solutions
- ⇒ Harness the power of the group: keep a record of ideas raised and decisions made

EVIDENCED-BASED PRACTICE

Talk About The Team

At **Operation PAR, Inc.**, the Vivitrol protocol starts with a referral to the Access Center where clients are screened for referral to **Dr. Sheehan**, Medical Director. Dr. Sheehan evaluates the clients medical status and willingness to participate in Vivitrol and if approved, coordinates with the Detox Administrator, **Izzy Bennett**, RN, to begin injections. Izzy educates the client about the injection, medication and potential side effects and evaluates their response to medication.

Izzy is one of a kind, says **Kay Doughty**, VP of Family and Community Services. She calls the clients post-injection, ensures that case managers are informed and uses every motivational technique in her repertoire. She is the "glue" that keeps the client engaged. Way To Go Team PAR !



Operation PAR Advancing Recovery Team

RESOURCE GUIDE

Helping Patients Who Drink To Much:
A Clinician's Guide

This 2005 updated guide, produced by the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, addresses assessment, medications for alcohol dependence, and brief but effective behavioral support.

Written specifically for primary care and mental health clinicians, it is also contains excellent resources for clinician support, patient education and medication management.

[Read more](#)

WEBINAR

Not Your Fathers Contingency Management

Dr. Rhonda Bohs, Vice President of Research Development at Spectrum Programs/Miami Behavioral Health Center, gave a research-based presentation on this evidence-based practice on June 21st, 2007. Grounded on operant conditioning principles and the Trans-theoretical Model (stages of change), contingency management, also referred to as motivational incentives, has been shown to reduce drug use and increase treatment attendance and participation in comparisons with standard treatment alone. It pairs well with other motivational and behavioral approaches and is a "strength-based, affirming, celebration of client successes."

A follow-up coaching session with Melissa Silhan, consultant, was held on June 26th. The webinar is available for viewing at the [FADAA website](#)

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