



THE FLORIDA LEARNING SYSTEM

June 2008

Volume 11 / Issue 9

National Partners

Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration



Center for Substance Abuse Treatment



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation



Florida Partners

Department of Children & Families, Substance Abuse Program Office

- *Stephenie Colston, Executive Sponsor*
- *Sheila Barbee, AR/STAR-SI Project Director*
- *Chris Weller, AR Program Analyst*
- *Ximena Johnson, STAR-SI Administrative Assistant*



Florida Alcohol & Drug Abuse Association

Mark Fontaine, Executive Director
Polly Ryan, Project Coordinator
Melissa Silhan, Consultant



SAAS/ NIATx Conference

The State Association of Addiction Services (SAAS) National Conference and the Network for the Improvement of Addiction Treatment (NIATx) Summit were combined this year in Orlando, June 23-25. The event theme, *Inspiring Leaders/Forging Tools for Organizational Leadership* was evident in the variety of plenary sessions and workshops offered.

Captain Jim W. Peterson, USN (Retired) and Rear Admiral (Retired) J. Michael Johnson presented the opening plenary session: *Inspiring Leadership*. They delighted the audience of 600+ with “sea stories about what formed and molded their leadership experience.” Each former military leader gave examples of the similarities between the substance abuse field and military service. They pointed out that, in both work environments, lives are at stake; we both experience constant turnover; and we often have to operate with incomplete or inaccurate “intelligence”.

Rear Admiral Johnson explained, in detail, his leadership “givens”.

1. Lead from the front— you can’t lead from behind the desk;
2. Forge identity— every team has a name;
3. First do what’s right and ask forgiveness later;
4. Embrace self –fulfilling prophecies;
5. Everybody can say yes but only the boss can say no—never accept no from someone who does not have the authority to say yes;
6. Have a sense of humor and compassion—particularly in a crisis;
7. Say what you mean then do what you say;
8. Ensure expectations are clear and then back them up.

See more conference details on page two and in future newsletters.

Florida Learning System Advisory Council Meets

The second meeting of the Florida Learning System Advisory Council was held on June 11 in Orlando. Stephenie Colston, Department of Children and Families Substance Abuse Program Office Director called the meeting to order and reviewed the genesis of the Florida Learning System. Ms. Colston explained that the Strengthening Treatment Access and Retention-State Implementation (STAR-SI) grant served as the foundation for the System. Additionally, based on the Robert Wood Johnson – Advancing Recovery grant, there is clearly a need to develop a coherent, organized and systematic mechanism to link the various elements into a quality improvement framework.

The Florida Learning System Advisory Council members include substance abuse treatment agency directors, managing entity directors, DCF regional directors and other policy level professionals. John Bryant, Substance Abuse Program Office, Chief of Operations, discussed client treatment process flow and Paul Rollings, Circuit 1 Program Supervisor, presented a data reporting system which has the potential to be a model for use in other areas of the state. The workgroup also identified quality indicators for targeted service delivery. Ms. Colston reports she is very pleased with the progress the council has made thus far and looks forward to continued work on issues of quality improvement such as system and performance measures, systems capacity and evidence-based practices.

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Strengthening Treatment Access and Retention - State Implementation (STAR-SI)

The Sky's the Limit

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Partners Year One

- ★ Drug Abuse Comprehensive Coordinating Office (DACCO)
Tampa
- ★ Lakeview Center, Inc.
Pensacola
- ★ Manatee Glens Corporation
Bradenton
- ★ Meridian Behavioral Healthcare
Gainesville
- ★ Stewart-Marchman Center
Daytona Beach

Year Two

- ★ A.C.T.S.
Tampa
- ★ Family Resource Center
Miami
- ★ Gateway Community Services
Jacksonville
- ★ Harbor Behavioral Health Care
New Port Richey
- ★ Jackson North Community Mental Health Center
Miami
- ★ LifeStream Behavioral Center
Leesburg
- ★ The Village
Miami

Peer Mentors

- ★ Center for Drug-Free Living
Angie Maldonado
Dr. Helen Benn
- ★ Southwest Florida Addiction Services
Kevin Lewis
Chrissy DeWerff

NIATx Coach

- ★ *Dr. Pauley Johnson*

Networks

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

In The News

NIATx Summit Highlights

Process Improvement Diffusion Models from the Strengthening Treatment Access and Retention—State Implementation Project was the workshop presented at the NIATx Summit in Orlando by Fran Cotter, Quality Improvement Leader, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment; DeAnn Decker, Bureau Chief of Substance Abuse, Iowa Department of Public Health; and Sheila Barbee, Performance Management & Improvement Director, Florida Substance Abuse Program Office.

Fran Cotter set the stage by describing the national aim of the STAR-SI project, the progress thus far and the importance of diffusion. Sheila Barbee explained to the workshop audience the Florida STAR-SI aims and highlighted some of the progress made by our provider agencies. Ms. Barbee said that data entry flow is where Florida plans to focus during year three of the grant.

DeAnn Decker described the evolution of the STAR-SI project in Iowa. She stated that, in Iowa, a consumer had only a 57% chance of receiving treatment after first contact with a provider before STAR-SI. She said that only half of those consumers who entered treatment, completed treatment before STAR-SI. Ms. Decker detailed the five core components of the Iowa STAR-SI:

1. Leadership;
2. Payer/provider partnership;
3. Access and retention through a process improvement network;
4. Data & results—state performance management;
5. Sustainability & spread.



*DeAnn Decker and Sheila Barbee
at the NIATx Summit*

Registration Open for FADAA Annual Conference

Plan now to attend the Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association's Annual Conference, August 20-22 at the Hyatt Grand Cypress Resort in Orlando. This year's conference: *Embracing Change: Shaping the Future of Addiction* offers workshops on practice improvement; emerging trends including medication-assisted treatment; prevention; special-needs populations; co-occurring disorders; recovery-oriented systems of care and workforce issues. Featured plenary speakers include Dr. Robert Ackerman the founder of the National Association for Children of Alcoholics and Dr. Arthur Evans who was instrumental in the change to recovery-oriented systems of care in both Connecticut and the city of Philadelphia.

Two pre-conference workshops are offered on August 19. Dr. Kenneth Minkoff, one of the nation's leading experts on integrated systems for treatment of individuals with co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders will present a day-long workshop. David Washington, an expert on trauma-informed systems of care will be the other pre-conference presenter.

For more details and to register go to: www.fadaa.org.

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Advancing Recovery... *Leading the Way*

June 2008

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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
Family and Community
Services
- ⇒ **River Region Human
Services**
Derya Williams, CEO
Minerva Bryant VP,
Clinical Operations
- ⇒ **Spectrum Programs/
Miami Behavioral
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Research Development

Coaches

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

IN THE NEWS Collaborative Partnerships

If partnership is the core component in Advancing Recovery, what makes a partnership work? That's the question Tom Mosgaller, Director of Change Management, NIATx National Program Office, addressed at a recent Advancing Recovery Learning Session. According to Tom, partnerships vary in degree from cooperation to coordination to collaboration. Several factors influence the success of a collaboration. Citing research by the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation, Tom identified the following as the most critical:

- ⇒ History of collaboration in the community;
- ⇒ Mutual respect, understanding and trust among members;
- ⇒ Appropriate cross section of members (affected parties);
- ⇒ Members have a stake in the process and outcomes;
- ⇒ Multiple layers of decision-making (understood and communicated);
- ⇒ Open and frequent communication (internal and external);
- ⇒ Sufficient resources (staff, funds, materials, time);
- ⇒ Skilled conveners (effective leadership)



Todd Mosgaller

Want to evaluate the strength of your collaborative? Complete The Wilder Collaboration Factors Inventory at http://surveys.wilder.org/public_cfi/index.php

What's Happening Now?

Lessons Learned

An on-going evaluation of Advancing Recovery is taking place, conducted by teams at the University of Georgia and the Oregon Health and Science University. Speaking recently to Advancing Recovery participants, Dr. Paul Roman, Principal Investigator and Distinguished Research Professor and Center Director at the University of Georgia, described the focus of their efforts. "Whether or not a particular evidence-based practice works is not the issue. We do not need more clinical trials. What we want to evaluate is how effectively we can get the practice into place". According to Dr. Roman, this includes examining the extent to which each partnership:

- * Introduces and sustains systems-level thinking;
- * Implements systems level changes and whether these are sustainable;
- * Involves everyone in the implementation (completeness of the organizational field).

In addition to Dr. Roman, the University of Georgia evaluation team includes Amanda Abraham, Ph.D., Aaron Johnson, Ph.D., and Lauren O'Brian, MA, Institute of Behavioral Research, Center for Research on Behavioral Health and Human Services Delivery. Look for the evaluation of the first evidence-based practice implementation for wave 1 grant recipients (including Florida) by late summer.

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