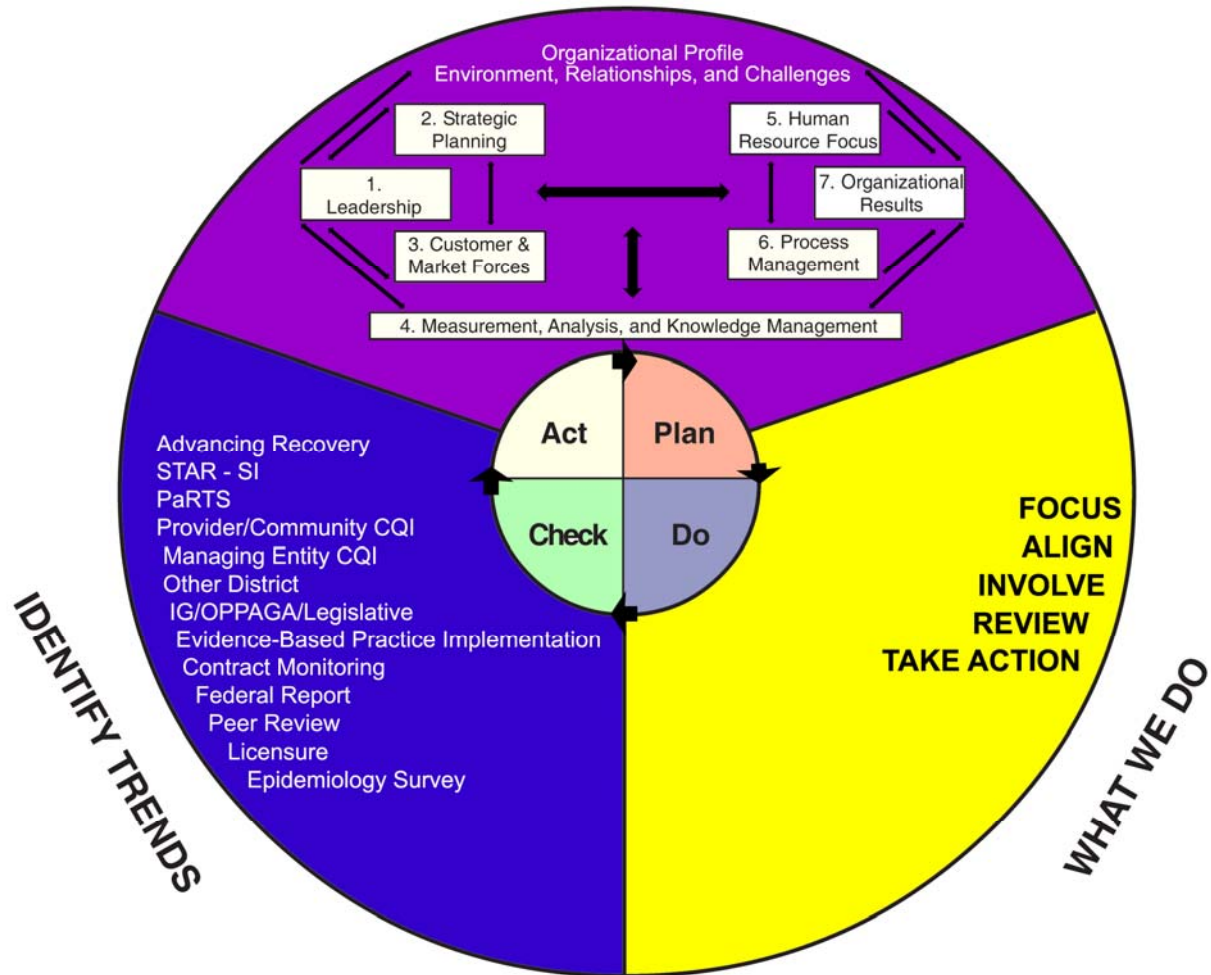


THE FLORIDA LEARNING SYSTEM

March 2007

Volume 1 / Issue 1

HOW WE DO IT



Quality Improvement and Evidence-Based Practice - The Florida Learning System

The Florida Learning System (FLS) is a strategic management design that will allow the Substance Abuse Program Office to continuously review statewide service trends, needs profiles, service delivery, monitoring results/trends, performance outcomes, and resource utilization. The FLS will help to ensure that the systems of care and administrative oversight process operate efficiently and effectively. Obtaining feedback and input from consumers, stakeholders, and partners is critical to designing services and systems that are both effective and responsive to the needs of clients and their families. Concentrating on improving efficiencies, FLS emphasizes early intervention and services. This proactive approach will help to disrupt the cycle of substance abuse/dependence and reduce the need for expensive residential crisis and treatment services.

Mission: This newsletter is designed to share information, findings, resources and lessons learned from two state-wide partnership practice improvement initiatives.



Advancing Recovery... *Leading the Way*

March 2007

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National Partners:

- ⇒ Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
- ⇒ Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- ⇒ NIATx

Florida Partners:

- ⇒ Department of Children & Families, Substance Abuse Program Office
Stephenie Colston, Executive Sponsor
Sheila Barbee, Project Director

- ⇒ Florida Alcohol & Drug Abuse Association
Mark Fontaine, Executive Director
Polly Ryan, Project Coordinator
Melissa Silhan, Consultant

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 Health Center

Bruce Hayden, CEO
Rhonda Bohs, V.P. of Research Development

State Coach

Collete Croze

Provider Coach

Michael Boyle

IN THE NEWS

FLORIDA RECEIVES GRANT TO PROMOTE USE OF EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE

NATIONAL EFFORT TO IMPROVE ADDICTION TREATMENT QUALITY MOVES FORWARD

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) has selected six state-provider partnerships (Delaware, Florida, Kentucky, Maine, Missouri, Rhode Island) to improve the quality of alcohol and drug addiction treatment in the United States. The grant funding is provided through the Foundation's *Advancing Recovery: State/Provider Partnerships for Quality Addiction Care* national initiative, which seeks to promote the use of evidence-based clinical practices through innovative partnerships between the substance abuse treatment provider organizations that deliver care and single state agencies. The six state provider partnerships will participate in a learning network that will provide the tools to improve the delivery of addiction treatment.

EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES

As recipients of the Advancing Recovery grant, The Substance Abuse Program Office, in collaboration with the Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association (FADAA) and substance abuse provider agencies, will collaborate to identify and address clinical and administrative practices at both the state and provider levels that impede the implementation of evidence-based practices (EBP) within the alcohol and other drug treatment system.

The evidence-based practices to be implemented during this two year project include:

- Vivitrol, a medication-assisted treatment for alcoholism.
- Case management using a motivational enhancement model.

What's Happening Now?

- ⇒ *Funding streams are being identified at the state level*
- ⇒ *Medication protocols finalized*
- ⇒ *133 staff trained on the use of Vivitrol state-wide*

WEBINAR: Vivitrol & Alcoholism

On January 29th, Dr. David Gastfriend, Vice President of Medical Affairs for Alkermes, Inc., gave an informative presentation on the use of **Vivitrol** in the treatment of alcoholism.

Dr. Gastfriend explained the purpose and value of using medication in conjunction with psychosocial therapies. Over 30 individuals participated in the webinar.

Based on the strong response, a follow-up coaching session was offered to participants on March 6th, facilitated by Rick Hankey, Executive Director of the Northeast Florida Addiction Network, Inc.

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

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- ★ NIATx

Florida Partners:

- ★ Department of Children & Families, Substance Abuse Program Office
Stephenie Colston, Executive Sponsor
- Sheila Barbee, Project Director*
- Fredrick Hicks, Systems Process Improvement Coordinator*

- ★ Florida Alcohol & Drug Abuse Association
Mark Fontaine, Executive Director
- Polly Ryan, Project Coordinator*

- ★ Drug Abuse Comprehensive Coordinating Office (DACCO)
Mary Lynn Ulrey, Executive Director
- Liz Harden, Executive Sponsor*
- Sherri Kincade, Change Leader*

- ★ Lakeview Center, Inc.
Gary Bembry, CEO
- Pam Kolek, Executive Sponsor*
- Larry Davis, Change Leader*

- ★ Manatee Glens
Mary Ruiz, President/ CEO
- Deborah Kostroun, Executive Sponsor*
- Karen Berner-Arcuri, Change Leader*

- ★ Meridian Behavioral Healthcare
Richard Anderson, VP, Executive Sponsor
- Rosa West, Change Leader*

- ★ Stewart-Marchman Center
Chet Bell, CEO
- Toni Barrett, Executive Sponsor*
- Amy Schoen, Change Leader*

- ★ The Village South
Richard Steinberg, CEO
- Lina Castellanos, Executive Sponsor*
- Yalice Ramos, Change Leader*
- Lourdes Barrios, Change Leader*

IN THE NEWS

SAMHSA AWARDS \$6.7 MILLION IN GRANTS TO STATES TO STRENGTHEN SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT ACCESS / RETENTION

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) announced in October 2006 the award of seven cooperative agreements totaling \$6.7 million over 3 years under the *Strengthening Treatment Access and Retention - State Implementation (STAR-SI)* grant to help states identify and implement methods to enhance individual access to and retention in community-based outpatient substance abuse treatment programs.

SAMHSA's STAR-SI program builds on the work of the Network for the Improvement of Addiction Treatment, a joint initiative by SAMHSA and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, which tested process improvement methods to improve substance abuse treatment access and retention. Grants were awarded to the following states: Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Ohio, South Carolina and Wisconsin.

PROCESS IMPROVEMENTS

Florida STAR-SI grant activities are focused on the achievement of three outcomes:

- ⇒ Reduction in average time between first contact and initial screening or assessment
- ⇒ Reduction in average time between initial screening or assessment and outpatient counseling session
- ⇒ Increase number of persons completing detox and entering outpatient treatment

The Lakeview Center Change Team is working on a process improvement targeting clients admitted to detox through the Marchman Act. Their goal is to increase by 100% the number of Marchman Act clients who engage in outpatient treatment. During baseline, the team determined that only 4% of their target group received outpatient treatment services following discharge from detox. Since January, several change cycles have been implemented. March data indicates a 38% increase in clients of this target group.

NIATx COACH

PEER MENTORS

Center for Drug-Free Living <i>Angie Maldonado</i> <i>Dr. Helen Benn</i>	Southwest Florida Addiction Services <i>Kevin Lewis</i> <i>Chrissy DeWerff</i>
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*Dr. Pauley
Johnson*

NETWORKS

Central Florida Behavioral Health Network	Northeast Florida Addictions Network	South Florida Provider Network
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...More About the Florida Learning System

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CONFERENCE AND TRAINING CORNER 1st Semi-Annual Florida Learning Session

The 1st Semi-Annual Florida Learning Session was held February 12-14, 2007, in Orlando, Florida. This session served as an opportunity to address and obtain feedback from participants in both grant programs. The three day event was attended by representatives from the Substance Abuse Program Office, NIATx, FADAA, participating provider agencies, and representatives from Alkermes. Attendees participated in various presentations and work groups that were led by content experts on topics related to substance abuse treatment, process improvement and evidence-based practices.

Please see below for a list of presentations.

<u>Presentation</u>	<u>Presenters</u>
Creative Thinking	Ms. Pauley Johnson and Ms. Pam Kolek
Data, A Four Letter Word	Mr. Kevin Lewis
Executive Sponsor-What is the Business Case and How Do You Communicate This to Your Staff?	Ms. Pauley Johnson and Mr. Rick Hankey
The Florida Learning System	Ms. Stephenie Colston
Improving Documentation in a Clinical Setting	Dr. Helen Benn and Ms. Angie Maldonado
Integrating an Improvement Model with JCAHO Requirements	Ms. Diane Dusenbury
Naltrexone: An Evidence-Based Practice	Dr. David Gastfriend
Peer Mentors/Roles and Future Directions	Mr. Kevin Lewis, Ms. Chrissy DeWerff, Dr. Helen Benn and Ms. Angie Maldonado
The Process Improvement Model	Mr. Todd Schneider, Tallahassee Memorial Hospital
State Activities	Mr. John Bryant and Ms. Sheila Barbee

Select presentations are available on the [STAR-SI/ AR website](#).

What's Happening Now?

The Network for the Improvement of Addiction Treatment (NIATx) will host the first NIATx Summit in San Antonio, Monday-Wednesday, April 23-25. Addiction treatment providers, payers, policymakers and clinicians will come together to celebrate recent successes in treatment access and retention, unveil a national campaign and learn cutting-edge practices to improve the quality of treatment service. The Substance Abuse Program Office will submit storyboards for the RWJF Advancing Recovery program as well as for STAR-SI.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/medicalnews.php?newsid=64589>

WEB-WATCH LINKS

[ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION](#)

[SAMHSA](#)

[NIATx](#)

[FADAA](#)

“Quotable”

“We are going to work as a team and think as a system”

Ms. Stephenie Colston, at the First Semi-Annual Florida Learning Session

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