



THE FLORIDA LEARNING SYSTEM

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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

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



Florida Alcohol & Drug Abuse Association

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Advancing Recovery Spring Learning Session

The Ritz Carlton in downtown Atlanta was the setting for the Advancing Recovery (AR) Spring Learning Session, April 23-24. Representatives from the 12 states that are recipients of the Robert Wood Johnson, Advancing Recovery Grant were in attendance. The three Florida providers Operation PAR in Tampa, River Region Human Services in Jacksonville and Spectrum Programs/Miami Behavioral Health Center each had AR team members at the two-day meeting.

David Gustafson, Ph.D., NIATx National Program Director was the opening keynote speaker and shared *Lessons from the NASCAR Pits*. Dr. Gustafson effectively drew the correlation between the function of the crew pits and the Chronic Care Model in “continuing care” treatment of addiction. Breakout sessions were centered on barriers and solutions for implementing medication assisted treatment, continuing care, wrap-around services and motivational interviewing.

Each state displayed a storyboard representing their chosen evidence-based practice – implementation and progress.

The closing session included an award ceremony honoring each state that is nearing completion of the 2-year grant project. The Florida contingency was delighted to be presented with a plaque from our coaches, Mike Boyle and Colette Croze marking the end of a learning-filled journey.



The Florida Advancing Recovery group at the Spring Learning Session in Atlanta

The DCF Substance Abuse Program Office Is Seeking Your Input!

Substance abuse treatment and detox agencies are invited to complete an online survey regarding the current use of medication-assisted-treatment (MAT). The information obtained through this survey will help the state learn more about current practices within the state, determine the state's current capacity to support MAT, and the level of interest by agencies to initiate or expand the MAT use.

Please take a few minutes to complete an online survey which will be posted from May 19 to June 6, 2008 at:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=IRxCsaqRiKUWSAFnDAMeSQ_3d_3d.

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

The Sky's the Limit

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Volume 11 / Issue 8

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

Gateway Community Services Embraces Rapid Change Cycles

Gateway Community Services joined the (STAR-SI) project in November 2007 and has implemented dramatic changes as a result. Anthony Britton, serves as the Change Team Leader and loves to talk about the teams progress. Other team members include the Executive Sponsor, Candice Hodgkins; Director of Medicine, Dr. Yvonne Kennedy; Director of Nursing, Brenda Tucker; Billing Manager, Janet Rowe; Budget Director, Ron Kuhn; Certified Nursing Assistant, Maryland Corey; and Assessment Team Leader, James Tarver.

Anthony says the first aim the team tackled was after they identified a 40% AMA (leaving against medical advice) rate in detox. He admits now that the initial change cycle they attempted was too broad. But, after working with the team's peer mentor, Rick Hankey, they fully embraced the rapid change cycle concept and have really dug-in.

Continuing to address the AMA rate in detox, the team decided to upgrade the detox facilities. Anthony reports: "we painted the rooms a glowing green which really brightened things up." They also looked at the effect of customer service on the patients in detox. The Director of Nursing implemented a training program to help staff improve how they interact with patients. They also added recovery-oriented services to detox including chaplain visitation and additional case management support. The staff has designed a client survey and have seen a significant improvement in how clients rate their experience in detox. Anthony reports April data shows a drop in the AMA rate to 30%.

The sky really is the limit for this STAR team!

Two Great Upcoming Training Opportunities

Registration is now open for the **3rd National Conference on Women, Addiction and Recovery** at the Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel and Marina in Tampa, FL, September 15-17. This 2 ½ day conference will bring together a diverse audience with an interest in substance abuse treatment for women and women with children, as well as program administration and management. For more conference details and to register go to www.fadaa.org/women

Plan to attend the Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association — **FADAA Annual Conference**, August 20-23 at the Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress, Orlando. Registration will open soon so watch the FADAA website: www.fadaa.org



Gateway Change Team members (from left) Ron Kuhn, Janet Rowe, Anthony Britton, Candice Hodgkins and Dr. Yvonne Kennedy

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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
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

Coaches

⇒ **State Coach**
Colette Croze
Private Consultant

⇒ **Provider Coach**
Michael Boyle
President/CEO Fayette
Companies

IN THE NEWS *Going Up?*

Is it possible to effectively communicate an important message in, say, the time it takes to ride up in an elevator? Yes, says Jennifer Glover, M.S., LPC, Advancing Recovery Coach, who described how, at the recent Advancing Recovery Learning Session in Atlanta. Dubbed the “**elevator speech**”, Jennifer described it as a 35-40 second monologue that sells your ideas or promotes your work. To prepare your speech:

- ✓ Know your audience and clearly target your remarks;
- ✓ Define what you are offering, what problems you can help solve and the benefits;
- ✓ Start with a brief outline, brainstorming bullets;
- ✓ Finalize your speech by turning each bullet into a sentence, making each flow into the next and eliminate any long, unnecessary words and jargon.



Jennifer Glover at the AR meeting in Atlanta.

Your speech should be no longer than 90 words. Find a “hook” that will engage the listener and deliver your message with warmth and enthusiasm. And if possible, end it with an “ask”. What you don’t want to do, according to Jennifer, is leave your listener thinking “So what”? Jennifer said experts disagree as to whether you should memorize your elevator speech but you should know it well enough so you express yourself without sounding as though the speech is memorized. Practice, practice, practice.

EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE

Most Likely to Succeed

What are the characteristics of organizations that are likely to adopt innovations and what are the barriers? According to Hannah K. Knudsen, Ph.D., Department of Behavioral Science at the University of Kentucky, these are the key questions being researched regarding the use of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) in publicly-funded community-based addiction treatment services. As part of the National Treatment Center Study (University of Georgia), face to face interviews were conducted with administrators selected from a random sample of programs. Investigating the utilization of a variety of addiction medications and selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRI’s), surveyors examined organizational type, staffing, funding and information resources.

Overall, only 61.2% reported the use of any medications. Of those that are, most are using only psychotropic medications. Government-owned centers (city/county) were twice as likely to use medications as non-government owned programs. The presence of nurses and physicians was highly associated with the use of MATs and contact with pharmaceutical companies has a positive effect as well. Greater reliance on public funding and state regulations were identified as barriers. Further investigation is needed as to why some programs employ physicians and nurses (70% and 63% of those surveyed do not) and on the implications of state funding and regulations.

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