The Family Assessment of Needs and Strengths (FANS)

Fitting the Pieces Together

Children’s Mental Health Services
Staff Development Training Forum
December 3, 2013
Saratoga Springs, New York
Affordable Care Act
Medicaid Managed Care
Family Support
Regional Centers of Excellence
The Opportunity is Now

• National and State Behavioral Health Systems are focused on improving care via a greater focus on integration and resiliency especially for youth and families with “high” needs high costs.

• Family and Youth Peer Support Services are regarded as critical resource and an appealing, engaging, community based positive support that assists families in gaining hope and self-efficacy.
Seizing the Opportunity

Moving Forward Family Support Programs need to demonstrate a:

- Qualified workforce
- Well defined service model
- Service model that is effective and efficient and achieves positive, measurable results for families
Focus of Workshop

How to demonstrate that Family Support is an effective and efficient intervention that achieves positive, measurable results for families.
Approach

Family Support Providers will complete a FANS assessment upon admission and discharge (at a minimum) with families who are:

- Enrolled in the Home and Community Based Waiver
- Working 1:1 with families in a community

The FANS will be inputted into the existing OMH Children and Adult Integrated Reporting System (CAIRS) with the goal of compiling aggregate data on the programmatic outcomes of Family Support Programs.
IMPLEMENTATION TIME LINE

2014

Family Support Providers in all Waiver programs trained in FANS- OMH requirement
Community-based Family Support Providers trained in FANS-OMH endorsed,

2-3rd Quarter 2014

Family Support Providers trained in CAIRS Platform
Family Support Providers inputting FANS into CAIRS platform

4th Quarter 2014

Scheduled FANS Train the Trainer in each region for throughout 2015
Outcomes

FAMILY SUPPORT
Family Support Program Directors in collaboration with Dr. John Lyons developed outcomes to demonstrate that when parents are connected with the Family Peer Support experience they increase their knowledge and enhance skills needed to meet the challenges of raising a child with social, emotional, developmental, a/o behavioral challenges.
- knowledge of needs
- knowledge of rights and responsibilities
- knowledge of service options
- satisfaction with youth’s living arrangements
- satisfaction with youth’s educational arrangements
- satisfaction with school participation
- self-efficacy

- satisfaction with current services
- listening ability
- communication ability
- organizational skills
- talents/interests
- recreation
- stress & burden
- social resources
- optimism
- involvement
Transform

= Success

Parent Goals

Parent Empowerment Program (PEP)
Training
Family Peer Advocate Credential

Child Serving Systems

Family Support Program

Supervision Role and Goal

Local County Region State

Trends Quality Improvement Informs

Family Peer Advocate Skills
• Keeps the focus on Hope, Empowerment, Efficacy Recovery & especially the Future

• Creates the platform on which to articulate a shared vision of the work to be done in partnership parents (Lyons 2012)

• Parent has a clear understanding of their individual strengths

• Decrease feelings of being in crisis all the time

• Keeps everyone continually engaged on why family peer support services are involved

• Helps everyone identify skill development needs

• Supervision .. “Role & Goal”
• Parents are pro-active as agents of change at local, county, region & state
• Better understanding of how systems work
• Decrease feelings of being overwhelmed
• Greater confidence in personal ability and skills to handle daily life
• Know how to make changes
• Document success and the need for continued inclusion, development & expansion of Family Peer Support in all systems from top down
FANS results indicate high levels of parent needs in the areas of FSS expertise, and successfully targeted the areas of greatest need identified by parents and caregivers.
IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES
- Ourselves!

- Family Peer Support Programs are **NOT** clinical programs

- Keep true to family peer practice standards AND implement outcomes in a meaningful way.

- Tool needed to have validity from the beginning

- Family Peer Support is about the parent strengths and needs. Our work is **NOT** specifically linked to an identified child’s strengths and needs

- Development of standardized processes to collect and document
Next Steps

• Develop Regional FANS training teams
• Work with local and state evaluation teams to coordinate FSS data with clinical data to better understand what helps and what / where gaps in services appear
• Improve statewide support for programs to collect, trend & use data in qualitative manner at all levels and with all systems
• Continue Skill development training Family Peer Advocates using Parent Empowerment Program (PEP) model for uniformity
• Continue Family Peer Advocate Credentialing
Quality Service

Strong Skilled Workforce

Amazing Outcomes