

LIT Connections

April 30, 2024

I define connection as the energy that exists between people when they feel seen, heard, and valued; when they can give and receive without judgement; and when they derive sustenance and strength from the relationship. ~ Brene Brown



Present: Beth Sausville, Cheryle Wilcox, Amy Lincoln Moore, Diane Bugbee, Donna Sherlaw, Krista Barbagallo, Dawn Rouse, Alice Maynard, Kerri Duquette-Hoffman, Cinn Smith, Elizabeth (Liz) Dumayne

Topics:

- **System of Care report**
 - Asked if any LITs have looked at the report—no LITs reported having looked at it yet.
 - Hoping for local teams to review the report and let Beth and Cheryle
 - Question was asked if Case Review Committee (CRC) guidelines have been updated-last updated in 2017. Amy Lincoln Moore will bring this to CRC tomorrow.
 - Is there any missing information in the report? Alice asked if in the Act 264 survey if they should add a question to their annual survey asking about this? What would make the report most useful? Do we have the right information in there for local teams?
 - Report is valuable but haven't had the time with it this year yet due to the focus of so many families in need of supports.

- **Residential and the Number of youth out of state—what is happening to bring them back?**
 - The Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility funding is still in the process of waiting for final budget approval to see if the funding comes through the legislature. The contract is being worked on at the same time.
 - There is a small group across DCF-FSD, DMH, and DAIL that is meeting to talk about youth turning 18 and needing community programs to come home to over the next 8-9 months.
 - Qualified Residential Treatment Programs—DCF-FSD has funding through their Families First Prevention Services Program Act (FFPSA) legislation. Families Come First is the way Family Services is talking about this work--a workgroup just convened last week to look at residential placements and best practice. In-state residential programs are committed to working with the state to have best practices in their programs.
 - There is funding in FFPSA that can be used for evidence-based practices. The two being supported by Vermont are:
 - Motivational Interviewing (there are two contracts spreading that work across the state)
 - Parent Child Interaction Therapy across Vermont. DMH and FSD are coordinating around this work as several Designated Agencies are providing this clinical therapy as well.
 - In the process of putting together a contract for a small (4-bed) secure treatment facility temporarily in Middlesex.
 - 2-bed short term crisis stabilization program being stood up in Southern VT.
 - Looking to stand up contracts and work for after-care support for youth and their families when they come out of residential care.

- **HireAbility**
 - Used to be called Voc Rehab
 - Could we have someone come here to LIT Connections to talk about the work they are doing?

- **Idea was brought up having a presentation to this group** (maybe once a quarter) about programming or pilots that are doing innovative work in the state.