

LIT Connections

February 10, 2022

10:00-11:00



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: Alicia Hanrahan, Suzanne Legare Belcher, Donna Sherlaw, Cheryle Wilcox, Jessica Coleman, Keith Williams, Cinn Smith, Kheya Ganguly, Krista Barbagallo, Alice Maynard, Sandi Yandow, guest-Becky Day

Thank you for joining us at LIT Connections today.

Our discussion today included the following:

- **Hearing from Rutland Mental Health about their Mobile Response Pilot ~ *Becky Day***
 - This is a new grant initiative being piloted in Rutland. Intention is to help off set the calls that have been coming through crisis. Rutland had the highest use of children waiting in ED.
 - The family calls-rather than a referral coming from somewhere else—it is intended to be family initiated.
 - Families can call for any reason-child behavior, refusal to go to school, however the family defines the crisis.
 - They have seen a lot of schools calling to refer families and Rutland is trying to see if families can make the call to reach out.
 - Currently have one clinician and one case manager and Becky as Director. Hoping to hire at least 6 more staff also include peer supports.
 - Currently available, 8:30-4:30 at this point due to staffing. Hoping to increase to evening hours and weekends when they are fully staffed.
 - The team can do follow up and services for 6 weeks
 - This isn't always enough time to link to other services and supports that families are needing.
 - During the 6-week period of services, depending on the volume of calls coming in the time families can be outreached to varies.
 - Pandemic has definitely increased the need of children and families for mental health supports.
 - Have seen some families who reach out because their child has significant medical needs.
 - How frequently is mobile response being accessed? It has been variable—when it was getting started there were no calls as information was getting out, then doctors and schools started calling—8-10 calls a week through the fall, dropped after the holidays, now it is increasing.
 - RMH created a flyer to give folks to shar information about this resource.
 - UCS has a 12-hour a day mobile response effort and Kheya Ganguly recommended Becky reaching out to them to talk about their program.

- **Need to update the CSP form on the IFS website** so it is a word document for downloading. The version up is a pdf.

- **System of Care Report is up on the IFS website electronically--How do we get folks to read this?**
 - Do we want to print some copies to distribute so there are some hard versions out there?
 - Could do a summary document to print and include the website and why they would want to read it.
 - Alicia sent out to special education administrators list serve-Vermont Council of Special Ed Administrators. For anyone who wants to send anything out in our weekly field memo: https://education.vermont.gov/sites/aoe/files/documents/edu-weekly-field-memo-submission-guidelines-11-24-21_0.pdf
 - How do we get it out to principals, superintendent, guidance counselors? Could do the weekly field memo through AOE. Alicia will send Cheryle the link for posting.
 - Vermont Foster Parent Association—Barb Joyal-can you help with this?
 - Reviewing the System of Care in LITs—NK has it on their agenda, Howard Center senior leadership is reviewing, think of teams who would benefit from seeing this and discussing, school teams meetings.
 - Getting the information to representatives in House and Senate. Highlight the successes outlined in this as well.
 - WCAX? Press Release. Good things can and do happen.
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