From the Director…

CMCS & SAMHSA Support and Encourage States to Develop Wraparound Programs

On May 7, 2013, the Center for Medicaid Services (CMCS) and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) published a bulletin intended to assist states in designing benefit plans like Wraparound Milwaukee for children with complex mental health needs and their families. The information in the bulletin is based on evidence from major U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) initiatives, like Wraparound Milwaukee, which is cited in the bulletin and shows that these services are not only clinically effective, but also cost effective. The two agencies also identify resources, including Wraparound Milwaukee, to assist states in designing and implementing a benefit package of services and supports for severely emotionally needy children and their families.

For a copy of the bulletin, which should encourage further development and implementation of wraparound programs, you can contact Jenny Miles in our Administration Office at (414) 257-7639 or go to either the CMCS or SAMHSA website.

Families that Move from REACH to Wraparound

The following article is a summary of the annual Performance Improvement Project (PIP) that Wraparound Milwaukee submitted to Medicaid for our required 2012 study. The PIP project is principally the work of Pnina Goldfarb, Ph.D., our Wraparound Researcher/Evaluator from the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families (WCCF). Considerable work goes into this study each year and in 2012 Pnina outlines some of the findings and factors for children/families who start out in the Wraparound REACH program, but eventually move into the regular Wraparound Milwaukee program under Child Welfare or Juvenile Delinquency orders. Can we predict which youth are more likely to require Court intervention and what services and supports also factor into more success in REACH?

Thanks to Pnina for her work on the 2012 PIP and the following article.

Bruce Kamradt, Director

REACH: An In-Depth Look at Youth Characteristics

The Wraparound Milwaukee REACH program was established and launched in Summer 2007. Its purpose is to serve children and youth who had not directly been involved in Child Welfare or the Juvenile Justice system, but do have serious emotional challenges that need more comprehensive mental health care, including services such as care coordination, individual and family therapy, medication management and AODA services.

During these five years, REACH has grown dramatically, serving over 600 youth. The overall consensus is that REACH has not only filled an important mental health gap in services in the community, but has also been highly successful with the majority of REACH youth. In light of ongoing improvement of the program, efforts have been made, however, to learn more about the small group of REACH youth (18%) who ultimately are transferred to regular Wraparound when their circumstances at home and in the community result in their formal involvement in the Child Welfare or Juvenile Justice systems. It is important to better understand what may be different about this group of youth. This knowledge would hopefully enable the staff to make modifications to the program in which services are more individualized, are clearly identified and are more strategic so that a greater number of youth would be able to leave the REACH program without further court involvement.

Essentially, this study looked at what variables differentiate the youth that successfully leave REACH without the need for formal intervention from the Child Welfare or Juvenile Justice system, from those REACH youth in which their circumstances have reached a level where Child Welfare or Juvenile Justice involvement is needed. Two clusters of variables were identified: 1) the individual and family characteristics that youth entered REACH with; and 2) the treatment factors of the youth while in REACH.

Through a series of statistical analyses, a cluster of characteristics emerge that if
experienced/exhibited by youth suggests a greater likelihood or higher risk for involvement with the Juvenile Justice system. This would most likely result in a transfer to regular Wraparound.

The cluster of variables that emerged is:

- High levels of aggressive and rule breaking behavior as represented on the CBCL.
- A DSM-IV diagnosis that falls into a category of Child Disorders (e.g., ADHD, Oppositional Defiant and Conduct Disorders).
- A number of hospitalizations a youth had experienced before entering REACH.
- A history of trauma related to witnessing and/or experiencing physical abuse.

Additionally, if the youth who exhibits the above characteristics is male, he is further at risk of not completing the REACH program.

Given the above combined characteristics, the probability of membership into the group that transfers to regular Wraparound is 72.7% of the time.

The other statistical analyses introduced treatment factors into the profile mix to determine if these variables could help identify which group (Substantial Progress or Transfer to regular Wraparound) a youth may be in upon disenrollment. The statistically significant treatment factors of Service Cost and Crisis Services are high on the list of predicting disenrollment outcomes. Therefore, it appears that close attention to the amount of crisis services a youth is using and escalating service costs are important guidelines when strategizing treatment options that may be helpful in diverting youth from becoming part of the Transition to regular Wraparound group.

The lesson learned is that upon admission, it is important to review these individual and family variables for a potential characteristic profile that is at greater risk of Child Welfare or Juvenile Justice involvement. It is equally as important to carefully monitor what is happening to the youth while in the program. An increase of crises services or hospitalizations suggests a greater need of supports, both formal and informal, in an effort to keep youth from delinquency and movement into regular Wraparound.

Pnina Goldfarb, Ph.D.
Researcher

A Wraparound Success Story…

Jonathan* and his family got involved with the Wraparound REACH program primarily seeking assistance and advocacy at school, with Jonathan at first very tearful and anxious before and after school each day. The Wraparound team pulled together to help Jonathan recognize his strengths, as created through artwork. Jonathan created paper dolls representing his “family and team members”, paper houses for his “needs” and paper trees for the “strategies” to help him reach his goals. This helped him to realize that the team that surrounded him was there to help make school a more welcoming place.

The team was persistent as it grew and adapted to meet Jonathan’s changing academic needs. The team attended five IEP meetings, making sure there was sufficient school support and helpful interventions throughout the school day. Ms. Smith, Jonathan’s mother, committed to spending more time after school with Jonathan and his sister Amy encouraging recreational and social skills activities. Jonathan developed a love for soccer, making several friends along the way, with Amy getting involved in volleyball and doing manicures and hair highlights with her mother. Ms. Smith also taught her children to be accountable for their actions, both at home and at school.

Over the course of his time with REACH, Jonathan went from hating school to feeling excited and confident each morning to leave his mother’s car to go to school. After a year-long journey, through some ups and downs, Ms. Smith’s determination helped motivate Jonathan to win the Martin Luther King, Jr. Peace Prize in his new 1st grade classroom. Jonathan’s class was also asked to write down the name of a classmate who always made them feel better when they were sad and who helped them most in school; all but one student wrote “Jonathan”. At his REACH graduation party at Stonefire Pizza, Jonathan and his family celebrated working together to support each other at home, in the community, and lastly, at school, which is a much more welcoming and comfortable place today for Jonathan.
Ms. Smith had many great things to say about the REACH team, saying that “the team was just amazing. They were all 100% available and supportive!” Ms. Smith added that over the course of her family’s involvement with REACH, her son “became much more outgoing and now he talks to people all the time. He’s 100 times better – he really grew from being in REACH!”

(*Names changed for confidentiality.)
Submitted by St. Aemilian-Lakeside - REACH Council …

MEMORIAL DAY - MAY 27TH

REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVED

ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL

2013 Talent Show

This year’s Fourth Annual Youth Council Talent Show was held on April 17, 2013, at the French Immersion School. We had many talented youth who worked hard to showcase their talents! Each of the performers worked very hard over the course of two months. We had a mix of dancing, singing, poetry and a skit. Each of the different performances was outstanding! Once again, it was a great turnout and a fun night!

The night began with everyone walking the “Red Carpet” and having the opportunity to pose for photos. The show began with an Art Show before performances began. Thank you to everyone who came out and supported our youth! It was an amazing night of fun and talent. We really had a great time putting everything together, as did the youth, who really enjoyed being a part of something tremendous. They also had a great time putting on an amazing show for all of those who came. We can’t wait to see what next year’s show will bring. Below is a poem written by one of our talented youth.

Rebecca Sommerfield,
Youth Council Advisor/Peer Specialist

That Girl

Yes, you can call me a girl
but not “that girl”

The girl who doesn’t have any respect for herself because she needs so much internal help
The girl you can emotionally, physically and mentally cheat, beat and defeat
I’m so much better that “that girl”
My characteristics “that girl” can’t even meet

You can call me a girl
but not “that girl”

Unlike “that girl”, I have a name, I don’t accept the games, so we’re definitely not the same.
I have pride, self-respect, a body that’s a temple and nothing less

So tell me!
What have you done to deserve my me, my body or even a kiss so sweet
Remember, I’m not “that girl”
You can’t use, abuse or consume me

See some of you may claim to own “that girl” but you own nothing of mine
My heart belongs to God
The creator of the world.

You can call me a girl
but not “that girl”

Tell me! Who is “that girl” to you?
Does “that girl” even exist?
Is there something I missed?
Because every girl deserves respect and pleasure and every girl also has potential to do better
“That girl” doesn’t exist.
It’s just that simple!
Because God gave every girl a body that’s a temple
Although “that girl” doesn’t exist.
There may be some that’s close but they have the power to change
It just takes internal growth
So you can’t label, criticize or call somebody “that girl”
because “that girl” is from an entire different world!

By: Aaliyah

Art Show / Silent Auction
This year’s Youth Council Talent Show had many talented artists submit their artwork for display
and silent auction. Each artist will receive 100% of the proceeds from the sale of their artwork. We had a variety of artwork submitted this year, from sketches to paintings and even 3D art figures. After the show, all artwork was put on display in the Wraparound Milwaukee offices on Watertown Plank Road. It was a fantastic display of art and we are excited to do it all over again next year.

Once again, the Youth Council also took part in creating a large art piece for permanent display. This year we participated in the 1,000 Cranes Peace Project. The story of the 1,000 Cranes is an ancient Japanese legend that states that anyone who folds 1,000 Cranes will be granted a wish. A young Japanese girl name Sadako Sasaki, who was battling cancer, was determined to fold 1,000 Cranes and make her wish come true. She was unable to complete this before passing away, but her friends, family and community worked together to finish in her honor. Since then, the Crane has become a symbol of peace around the world. With that being said, the Youth Council along with Wraparound Milwaukee staff, family and friends were busy folding 1,000 Paper Cranes with messages of peace written inside each one. These Cranes will be displayed in a colorful installation that will hang either in the lobby as you enter through the orange doors of the Wraparound Milwaukee offices at 9201 Watertown Plank Road or at Owen’s Place, in our new clubhouse. Once the location is selected, the Crane Project should be ready for display in May or June.

Shannon Smith, Resource Coordinator, Owen’s Place

Mobile Crisis...

In May, the Mobile Urgent Treatment Team (MUTT) will participate in several activities throughout the Milwaukee Public School (MPS) system. O.W.Homes School is offering their annual Jazz on the Playground Resource Fair for families on May 22nd, and MUTT is happy to be invited. We will also help a group of new school Psychologists learn about community resources, as part of a panel on May 10th.

As summer approaches, and a break nears for many, it is important to note how expectations play such a big role in the way we deal with change. It’s been said that the waiting is the hardest part. All kinds of thought and worries run through our minds as an important event draws near. Anticipation can be an exciting, joyous or dreadful time. The event itself almost never matches what we think it will be, whether good or bad. And we spend a great deal of time anticipating what’s about to happen. In fact, while we are not always moving, or “on the go”, we are always thinking. Even when we sleep our brains are busy trying to work things out, understand the meaning of events, and problem solve, if only symbolically. That’s why it is vital to choose your thoughts so very carefully and not get overwhelmed with negative expectations. When we are faced with a challenge, or even trying to make an everyday change, the way we think about it before it happens can have a big impact on how it will turn out. Practice positive expectations and rehearse good outcomes, using visualization when you can. You’ll likely increase your chances of success, and you will surely feel better about the moment you are living in right now.

Dr. Chris Morano, Mobile Crisis Services Director

Announcements...

Positive Recognition Awards
The following have been recipients of “Positive Recognition” awards:
Bridget Durkin – LaCausa, Inc.
Nominated by Pamela Rivera – Parent
“...has been consistent...calls back in a timely manner... consistently shows up in a crisis... has helped Sabelle
understand my role as her parent... has mediated between us during several crises.”

**Susan Bemann – Willowglen Community Care**
Nominated by Pamela Rivera - Parent
“...is very consistent... always communicates with me about important issues... offers helpful suggestions to me... is always available to help manage a crisis situation…”

**Doreen Foyer – Family Crisis Counseling**
Nominated by Mark Pinter - Parent
“Comes to the home timely, works very well with the family. Gets Alex to open up. Makes a difference in all of us.”

**Erin Rinderle – My Home, Your Home**
Nominated by Tammy McCanna & Barbara Hale-Richlen – The Hale-Richlen Center for Psychiatry
“...is always on top of any requests from our office... Often, Erin responds to us within hours... understands and respects our clinic policies... is always upbeat and friendly... can already tell she enjoys what she does and is always engaging.”

**April Cherone – AJA Counseling Center**
Nominated by Colette Bromberek – AJA Counseling
“Doing everything possible to get her work done before our computers were serviced.”

**Lajuell Leon-Guerrero – AJA Counseling Center**
Nominated by Colette Bromberek – AJA Counseling
“Doing everything to get her work done before our computers were serviced. Truly dedicated. Thank you!”

**Nichole Phillips – AJA Counseling Center**
Nominated by Colette Bromberek – AJA Counseling
“Doing everything to get her work done before our computers were serviced.”

**Pamela Jenks – Cornerstone Counseling Services**
Nominated by Treneel Bankston – Youth
“She helped me stop using.”

---

**Upcoming Events…**

**AROM 2013**

**July 4**  **HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!**
WM Offices Closed

**July 4**  Monthly Care Coordinator Inservice
1:00-3:00pm

**July 9**  New Care Coordinator Trg. – M11
8:30-12:00pm WM – Room 416

**July 9**  ARB Meetings (Tentative)
9:00-1:00pm WM – Room 253

**July 10**  New Care Coordinator Trg. – M12
1:00-4:00pm WM – Room 416

**July 10**  **FAMILY ORIENTATION**
6:00-7:30pm WM – Room 416

**July 11**  Com. Safety/Resource Dev. Consults
11:00-1:00pm WM – Room 253

**July 15**  Provider Network Forum
1:00-2:00pm @ St. Aemilian-Lakeside

**July 16**  New Care Coordinator Trg. – M13
8:30-11:30pm WM – Room 416

**July 16**  ARB Meetings
9:00-1:00pm WM – Room 253

**July 16**  CC Agency Clerical Staff Mtg.
9:30-11:00am WM – Room 212

**July 17**  New Care Coordinator Trg. – M14
8:30-3:45pm WM – Room 416

**July 17**  Family/Provider Advisory Group
10:30-12:00pm WM – Room 212

**July 17**  Partnership Council Meeting
11:00-2:00pm WM – Room 212

**July 18**  Mgmt./Supervisors Meeting
9:00-11:00am @ St. Charles Youth & Family Svs.

**July 18**  Com. Safety/Resource Dev. Consults
11:00-1:00pm WM – Room 253

**July 19**  Provider Training – Level II
9:00-3:00pm WM – Room 416

**July 22**  Synthesis Training – Part 1
9:00-11:00am WM – Room 212

**July 23**  FOCUS Meeting.
10:15-12:00pm WM – Room 416

**July 24**  HIPAA/Synthesis Trg. - Part 2
9:00-11:00am WM – Room 212

**July 25**  Com. Safety/Resource Dev. Consults
11:00-1:00pm WM – Room 253

**July 26**  New Care Coordinator Trg. – M15
8:30-3:30pm @ Children’s Court Center

**July 30**  New Care Coordinator Trg. – M16
9:00-3:15pm WM – Room 416

**July 31**  New Care Coor. Trg. – M17 & M18
8:30-3:30pm WM – Room 416

**August 2013**

**Aug. 1**  Mgmt./Supervisors Meeting
9:00-11:00am @ St. Charles Youth & Family Svs.
Aug. 1  Com. Safety/Resource Dev. Consults  
11:00-1:00pm WM – Room 253  
Aug. 1  Monthly Care Coordinator Inservice  
1:00-3:00pm CHP Auditorium  
Aug. 6  ARB Meetings  
9:00-1:00pm WM – Room 253  
Aug. 20 ARB Meetings  
11:00-1:00pm WM – Room 253  
Aug. 6  Youth Council Meeting  
4:30pm Owen’s Place (Clubhouse)  
Aug. 7  Centralized QA Committee  
9:00-11:30am WM – Room 212  
Aug. 8  Provider Invoice Training  
10:00-11:30am WM – Room 212  
Aug. 13 ARB Meetings (Tentative)  
9:00-1:00pm WM – Room 253  
Aug. 15 Mgmt./Supervisors Meeting  
9:00-11:00am @ St. Charles Youth & Family Svs.  
Aug. 15 Com. Safety/Resource Dev. Consults  
11:00-1:00pm WM – Room 253  
Aug. 15 Com. Safety/Resource Dev. Consults  
11:00-1:00pm WM – Room 253  
Aug. 16 Provider Training – Level I  
9:00-3:00pm WM – Room 416  
Aug. 20 ARB Meetings  
9:00-1:00pm WM – Room 253  
Aug. 20 Youth Council Meeting  
4:30pm Owen’s Place (Clubhouse)  
Aug. 22 Com. Safety/Resource Dev. Consults  
9:00-1:00pm WM – Room 253  
Aug. 24 FAMILY ORIENTATION  
6:00-7:30pm WM – Room 416  
Aug. 29 Com. Safety/Resource Dev. Consults  
11:00-1:00pm WM – Room 253  

Greater Milwaukee Major Events

6/1 Scottish Fest/Milw. Highland Games Hart Park, Wauwatosa (414) 828-1357
6/2 UPAF Ride for the Arts Downtown Milwaukee (414) 276-RIDE
6/7-6/9 Bead & Button Show 2013 Delta Center (800) 554-0197
6/7-6/9 PrideFest Henry Maier Festival Park (414) 272-FEST
6/7-9/5 Jazz in the Park (Thursdays) Cathedral Square Park (414) 271-1416
6/12-8/28 River Rhythms (Wednesdays) Pere Marquette Park (414) 276-6696
6/14-6/16 Polish Fest Henry Maier Festival Par (414) 529-2140
6/19 Juneteenth Day Martin Luther King Drive (414) 372-3770
6/21-6/23 Lakefront Festival of Arts Milwaukee Art Museum (414) 224-3200
6/22-6/23 Cedarburg Strawberry Festival Downtown Cedarburg (800) 237-2874
6/26-6/30 & 7/2-7/7 Summerfest Henry Maier Festival Park (414) 273-3378
7/3 Downtown Milwaukee Fireworks Milwaukee Lakefront (800) 554-1448
7/4 Wauwatosa Independence Day Parade Wauwatosa (414) 479-8988
7/11-7/14 Bastille Days East Town-Cathedral Square (414) 271-1416
7/12-7/13 Gathering on the Green Rotary Park, Mequon (262) 242-6187
7/18-7/21 Festa Italiana Henry Maier Festival Park (414) 223-2193
7/19-7/21 Garfield Avenue – Jazz Festival Garfield Avenue (414) 502-4748
7/20 Port Fish Day Port Washington (800) 719-4881
7/25-7/28 German Fest Henry Maier Festival Park (414) 464-9444
7/26-7/27 Gallery Night and Day Downtown Milwaukee (414) 273-1173
7/27 Brady Street Festival Farwell-Van Buren Streets (414) 272-3978
July Milwaukee Air & Water Show Bradford-Mckinley Beach (414) 482-2069
7/29-8/4 EAA AirVenture Oshkosh, WI (920) 426-4800