

Transforming Local Practice: Success and Strategies So Far

Youth Empowered Solutions!

September 6, 2017

Presenters:

Judy Vanryzin, LCSW (Outagamie County)

Sara Zwiig, LCSW (Jefferson County)

Youth Empowered Team!

Youth Empowered Solutions! Partners

Who we are...

SAMHSA

Substance Abuse and
Mental Health Services
Administration

NOW IS THE TIME GRANT

YES! DHS Grant Partners

Children, Youth and Families Section
Chief

Bureau of Prevention, Treatment &
Recovery Division of Care and
Treatment Services

-Teresa Steinmetz

YES! Grant Principal Investigator

-Sally Raschick

YES! Project Director

Kaitlin Toliver

Youth Coordinator

Kayla Sippl

Communication Specialist

Bridget Buell

Evaluators from
Population Health
Institute

YES! Jefferson County Grant Partners

Jefferson CCS Supervisor

-Tiffany Congdon

YES! Project Director

-Sara Zwiag

Transition Facilitator

-Amy Muth

-Anna Falci

-Emily Enstad

Youth Coordinator

-Brandie Veronikas

YES! Outagamie County Grant Partners

Outagamie CCS Supervisor

-Judy VanRyzin

Grant Coordinator

-Joe Horsch

Mental Health Professional

- Abby Hendrix

Transition Facilitators

-Ann Arft

-Lea DeBauche-

-Ashley Zellner

-Amanda Hietpas

Youth Coordinator

-Caitlyn Phillips

Parent Liaison

-Donna Haberland

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Purpose of the Now is the Time “Healthy Transition (HT) Grant

Purpose: To provide services and supports to address serious mental health conditions, for co-occurring disorders and at risk, for developing serious mental health conditions among youth 16-25 years old.

This will be accomplished by:

- Increasing awareness
- Screening and detection
- Outreach, and engagement
- Referrals to treatment
- Coordination of care
- Trauma-informed treatment for this age group

Goal:

Keep young people from “falling through the cracks,” particularly after they leave high school.

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What did the Department of Health and Human Services (DHS) need to do to accomplish this?

STEP 1:

- Pick Two Local Pilot Sites



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2014	
Total Population per County	
Jefferson 83,751	Outagamie 176,777
Estimated # of youth aged 15-24	
12,060	23,334
It was estimated that about 30% of young adults (aged 18-24) experienced any mental illness in a year.	
Estimated Youth who would need mental health needs each year	
Jefferson 3,618	Outagamie 7,000

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STEP 2: Develop a Vision and Mission Statement for Wisconsin

Wisconsin's Youth Empowered Solutions **VISION:**

Young adults in Wisconsin, with a sense of security and choice, will successfully transition to independence.

Wisconsin's Youth Empowered Solutions **MISSION:**

Youth Empowered Solutions staff will non judgmentally supports young adults to build skills to become aware of and access resources and peer support as they achieve independence.

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Step 3: Initial Topics to be focused on:

- Engagement Strategies
- Sustainability after the YES! grant/CCS
- Program eligibility
- Enrollment procedures
- Outreach strategies
- Common Language
- Incorporation of Evidence Based Practices
- Youth Domains
- Marketing materials to capture youth attention
- Communication styles

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Step 4: Where we started

- Community Survey
- Focus groups with youth
- Kick-Off at Outagamie County
- Identified Community Partners
- Identified who had done this work with youth before
- Visited Youth Experts
- Identified Barriers with DHS, Jefferson & Outagamie
-Including how the mission fit and did not fit into CCS

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Step 5:

1. Visited Project O Yeah in Milwaukee
2. Met with the staff at Center for Evidence Based Practice at the University of Maryland.
3. Read relevant literature on current practices
4. Reviewed current CCS policies for incorporation of practice.

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Step 6:

- Trained Service Facilitators within Comprehensive Community Services Program
- Identified current consumers who were age 16-25 (within & outside of Human Services)
- Provided education on young adult philosophies to the community
- Marketing and Outreach of YES! philosophy and program
- Identified the differences between youth mental health needs and “current” CCS practices.
- Began enrollment into Comprehensive Community Service Program.

Identified the differences between mental health needs of youth/young adults and “current” CCS practices.

- Engagement Strategies were questioned
- Ensuring Medical Assistance requirements are being met to remain financially responsible.
- Communication strategies/texting & youth language
- Youth Domains
- Evidence Based Practices
- Relationship building
- Barriers for serving youth within CCS program.

What did we think we knew vs. what is reality/best practice when working with youth...

Engagement Strategies were questioned

- Length of time needed for engagements are longer than typical
- Basic needs must be addressed
- Where to meet in the community, where not to meet in the community
- How staff should dress (take off your worker badge, dress casual)
- Treatment is not a priority to many youth/young adults
- Stage-wise interventions are critical
- Number of canceled appointments
- Patience, Patience, Patience

What did we think we knew vs. what is reality/best practice when working with youth...

Communication

Communication tools

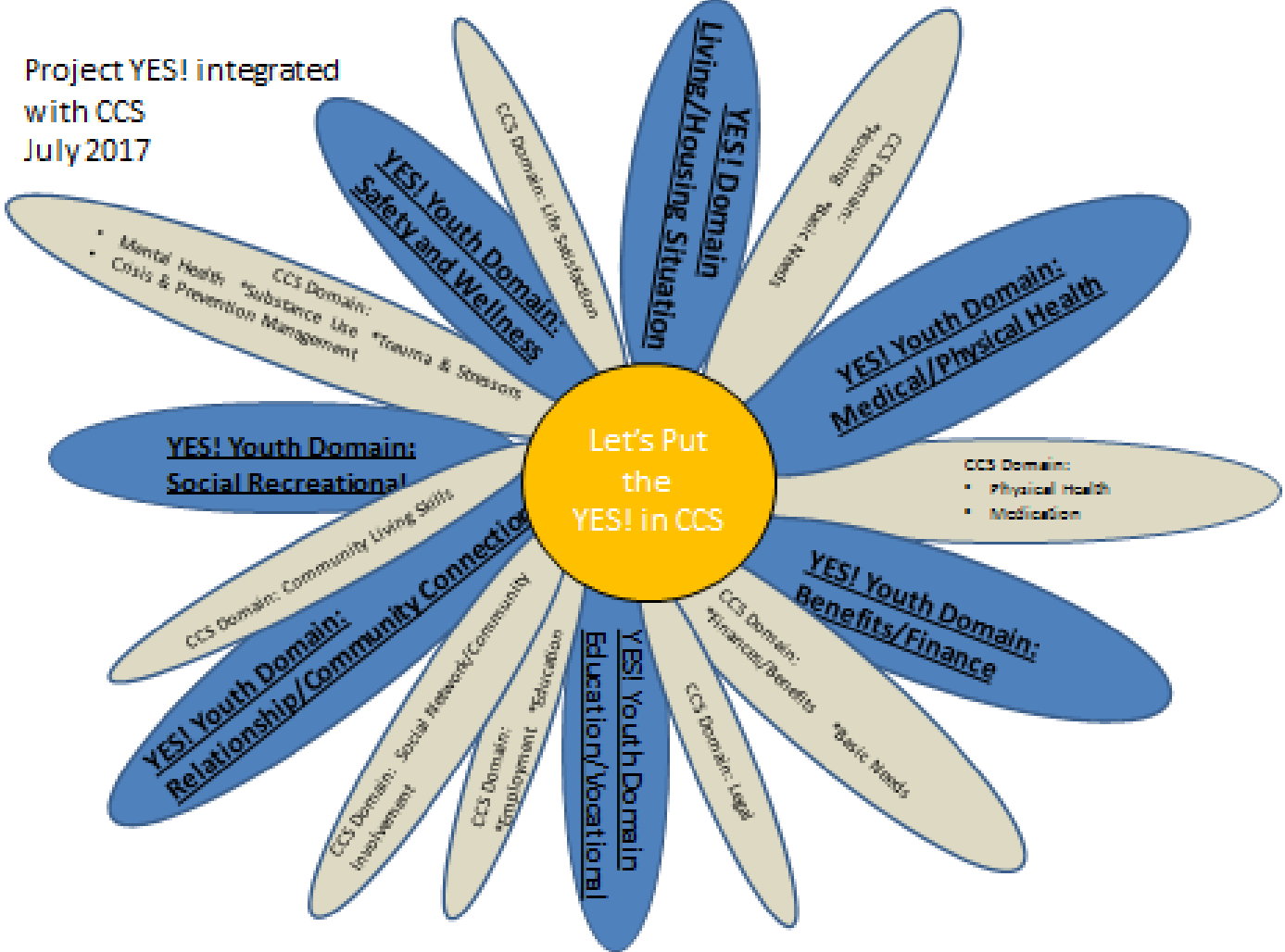
- Texting
- Phones-No phone/Flip Phone
- Emails
- Realize that not everyone has smart phone
- Facebook/Instagram/Snapchat/Twitter
- Drop In Center

Language

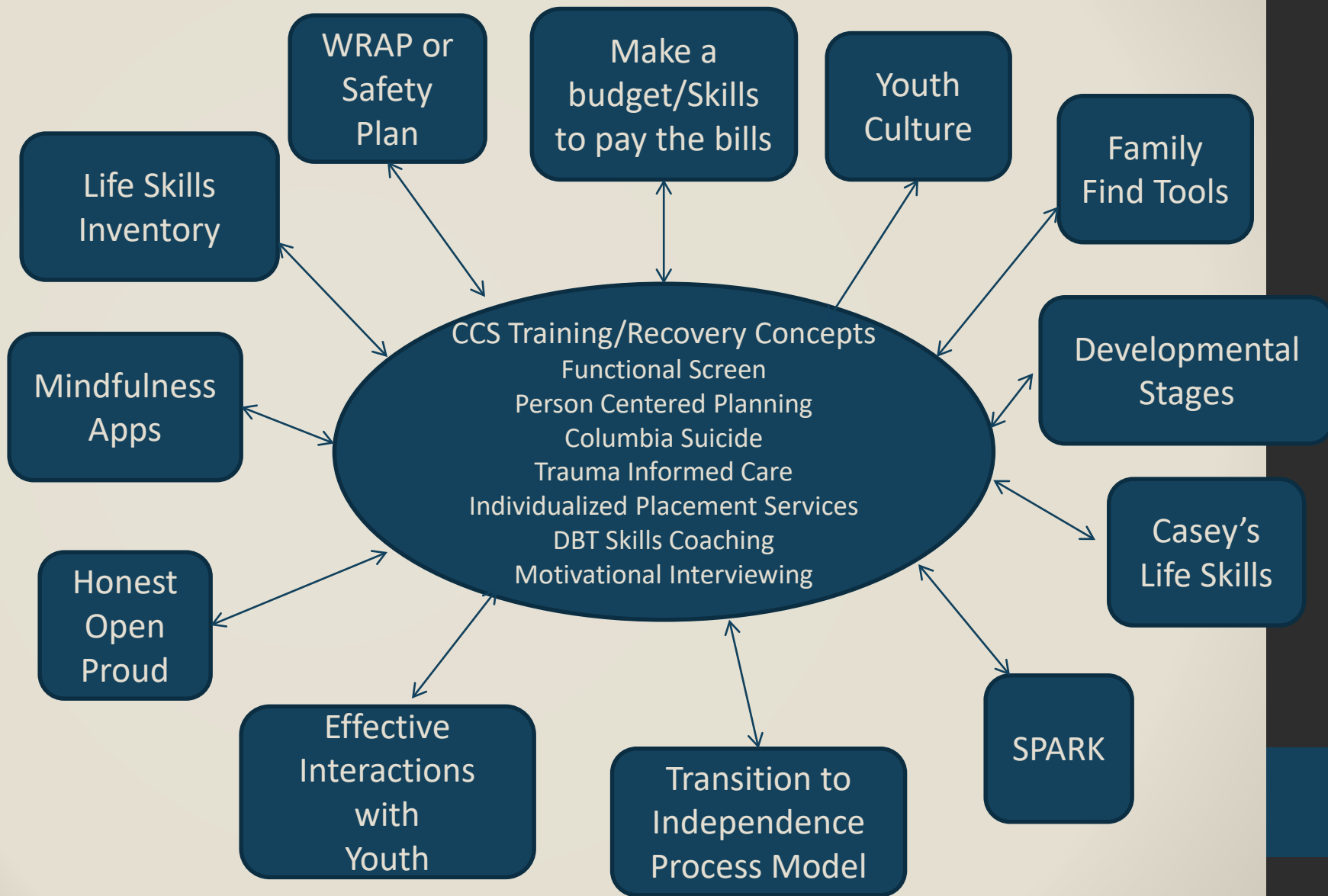
- How are we talking to youth about their needs
- Terms youth identify with:
 - Recovery vs. Discovery
 - Case Manager vs. Transition Facilitator
 - Service Plan vs. Future's Plan
 - Pronouns

Youth Domains

Project YES! integrated
with CCS
July 2017



Evidence Based Youth Training Tools Used with Youth/Young Adults



Relationship Building Best Practice when Working with Youth/Young Adults

- Warm Handoffs are best
- Market the Healthy Activities/youth focused events
- Identify natural supports
- Role of parent/other agency workers
- Youth Voice- “Nothing about me without me”
- Youth Coordinator
- Meeting youth where they are at
- Relationship with peers

What have we accomplished

- Progress for sustainability
- Relationships with community partners
- Psychoeducational offers



We are the Same, Yet Different

Jefferson County



Outagamie County



Where do we go from here

(YEAR 4)

- Develop a Model to be replicated
- Dissemination throughout the state to adopt youth/young adult best practice
- Complete sustainability
- Emerging into school districts
- Youth Advocacy Coalition/Voice





Questions