

Connecticut Recovery Oriented Support System for Youth (CROSS)

Purpose: Funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) 2017 State Targeted Response to the Opioid Crisis grant (STR), The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) has contracted with the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to develop and implement a statewide substance use recovery support system specifically oriented to the needs of youth aged 16-24 years. This initiative will design, develop and implement youth recovery supports in CT. Wheeler Clinic, Inc. will have a full-time statewide youth recovery support coordinator who will lead this initiative.

Project Start: 10/1/2017

Funding Amount: \$200,000

Approach & Expectations

- Involve families and youth to design and implement
- Create the position of a statewide youth recovery support coordinator
- Facilitate the development of a statewide recovery support system for youth
- Expand the qualified workforce to implement evidence-based practices
- Implement an integrated model for recovery supports throughout CT

Opportunities Presented by the Grant

- Increase access to substance use screening
- Reduce stigma associated with screening and increase awareness of available services
- Increase collaboration and coordination among state agencies around substance use generally, and prescription drug/opioid misuse specifically
- Implement finance structures that sustain and grow evidence-based practices
- Increase the capacity of adolescent substance use providers to intervene with prescription drug/opioid misuse.

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