

Boston University: Biannual Summary

1. Reporting Period: February 1, 2014 to July 31, 2014
2. RFA Number: TI024733
3. Project Director: Dr. Jordana Muroff

Program at a Glance

What are the current technologies being utilized by the grantee?

The *Smartphone Technology to Reduce Relapse Among Latinos with Mental Health and Substance Abuse Disorders* project is a partnership between Boston University School of Social Work and a local substance abuse treatment provider, Casa Esperanza. The project utilizes the University of Wisconsin's Addiction Comprehensive Health Enhancement Support System (A-CHESS) smartphone mobile application modified for Spanish speakers and with an additional medication adherence module (referred to as CASA CHESS). The goal is to provide 40 smartphones to clients each year for the 3 year period*. A case manager and peer specialist are available to provide around the clock support.

*The year 1 GPRA intake goal was adjusted to 30 clients to account for time to develop/launch the CASA CHESS mobile technology. The change was approved by SAMHSA on March 4, 2014.

Are there any notable changes this reporting period?

Translation, cultural adaptation, development, and programming of CASA CHESS is complete. Program staff are engaged in maintaining/adapting the technology and actively enrolling clients.

A "train-the-trainer" program has been established to help Casa Esperanza staff work with clients to use the technology. A training guide and appropriate consent forms (for study purposes) were also developed.

A bi-cultural, bi-lingual lead case manager has been hired to provide case management support for clients graduating from residential treatment.

The program noted that randomizing study participants into the intervention group that receives the smartphone with the CASA CHESS application or the control group that receives standard services has been challenging because it causes an issue of the "haves" verses the "have-nots." Staff have opted to amend the randomization timeline so that the two groups are separated by longer periods of time.

The program has completed extensive evaluation activities to inform modifications (as needed).

What are the grantee's GPRA rates?			
	Target	Actual	Percent
Intakes (Baseline)	<i>30</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>96.7%</i>
6-Month Followup	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>110%</i>
If intake or followup is below 80 percent, has the grantee described its plan to increase GPRA rates?			
The grantee is performing sufficiently well and has met (or nearly met) established GPRA intake and follow-up goals.			
Does the grantee need technical assistance? If yes, does the grantee have a request in SAIS?			
The grantee does not appear to be in need of technical assistance at this time.			
Are there any areas of concern in the report that require GPO attention?			
There are no concerns identified at this time.			