# Agency Priority Goal Action Plan

# Serious Mental Illness

Goal Leader(s): Anita Everett, Chief Medical Officer, SAMHSA and Robert Heinssen, Director, Division of Services and Intervention Research, NIMH

Themes: Administration of Justice / Education, Training, Employment and Social Services / Health / Income Security / Medicare / Social Security / Veterans Benefits and Services

### Overview

#### **Goal Statement**

o Improve treatment for individuals with Serious Mental Illness (SMI). By September 30, 2019, HHS wants at least 280 evidence-based CSC programs providing services to individuals with FEP, representing a 7-fold increase in the number of such programs compared to 2014.\*

#### Challenge

- Individuals experiencing psychosis often wait two years or more before accessing treatment for FFP.
- O During this time without treatment, symptoms and functional impairments worsen, and individuals experience high risks of school dropout/unemployment, isolation, criminal Justice involvement, and involuntary hospitalization, including ED use.
- o Most communities lack the infrastructure and programming to address this critical period.

#### Opportunity

- o CSC, an evidence-based practice that uses an interdisciplinary team approach to provide care and support to individuals with a first episode psychosis, addresses the challenges listed above.
- o NIMH-supported research shows that CSC programs for FEP increase engagement with treatment, improve symptoms, functioning, and quality of life, drive greater involvement in work and school, and reduce medication-related side effects. CSC programs are cost effective, particularly when treatment is offered soon after the onset of FEP.
- O A required 10% early intervention set-aside within the SAMHSA mental health block grant provides a platform for states to build these programs.

<sup>\*</sup>This target assumes stable funding at the federal and state level and may need to be adjusted if there are major unanticipated changes in either.

# Leadership

#### Core Team:

#### Goal Leads:

Anita Everett, Chief Medical Officer, SAMHSA

Robert Heinssen, Director, Division of Services and Intervention Research, NIMH

# ACL Jennifer Klocinski, Edwin Walker

# ASPE Joel Dubenitz



# IHS Miranda Carman, Diane Leach



# Paolo Delvecchio, David de Voursney, Darren Fulmore

# **Goal Structure & Strategies**

This goal seeks to improve services for people with SMI by increasing the availability of evidence-based CSC models. This will be accomplished by supporting states through 4 stages of program development, increasing the number of states with programs and the total number of programs nationally.

Exploration Stage:
States identify
needs, assess
capacity, and
identify programs
for
implementation.

#### **Installation Stage:**

States begin making changes necessary to implement chosen program models.

#### Implementation Stage:

Ranges from partial implementation when the program is being established in chosen communities to full implementation when staffing is complete, caseloads are full, services are provided, and funding is stable.

#### Program Sustainability:

Full implementation has been achieved, quality assurance mechanisms are in place, and the program is expanded beyond set-aside funding to additional communities.

To move states along the program development continuum, federal partners use several strategies, including the block grant set aside, technical assistance and evaluation, and leveraging other state and federal resources. Implementation of the set aside, technical assistance, and evaluation happen through a partnership between SAMHSA, NIMH, and ASPE. Other HHS partners are needed to help leverage other federal and state resources to bring these programs to scale.

Program development through the 10% SMI Early Intervention Set Aside

**Technical Assistance and Evaluation** 

**Leveraging Other Federal and State Resources** 

# Summary of Progress – FY18 Q1

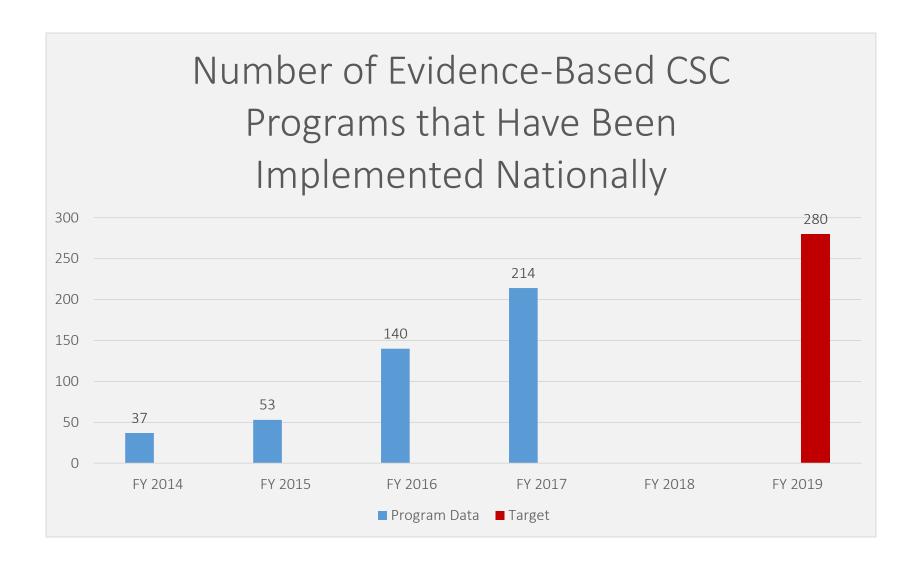
To be updated in future versions.

# **Key Milestones**

- HHS partners are working to increase the number of evidence-based CSC programs being implemented across the country.
- SAMHSA, NIMH, and ASPE have been working for the past three years to develop these critical programs by building on the SMI early intervention set-aside in the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant. In the past year, these partners launched an evaluation to examine programs supported by the SMI early intervention set-aside.

Milestone Summary		
Key Milestone	Milestone Due Date	Milestone Status
FY 2017 data collected, analyzed, and reported	Q1, FY 2019	On-Track
Evaluation Completed	Q4, FY 2019	On-Track
FY 2018 data collected, analyzed, and reported	Q1, FY 2020	On-Track

# **Key Indicators**



# Data Accuracy and Reliability

Information related to the implementation of CSC programs is collected from states on an annual basis by the National Association of State Mental Health Programs Directors Research Institute (NRI). NRI uses a standard interview protocol to collect this information to ensure consistency in data collection.

## Additional Information

#### **Contributing Programs**

#### Organizations:

- o SAMHSA, ASPE, and NIMH See below
- Other HHS partners Other HHS partners are needed to continue to develop evidence-based CSC programs beyond the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant Set-Aside.

#### Program Activities:

- o SAMHSA Community Mental Health Services Block Grant Includes a 10 percent set-aside to support early intervention for serious mental illness. These funds are used by states to support the development of evidence-based CSC programs.
- O SAMHSA and NIMH Technical Assistance Guides states in their development evidence-based CSC programs.
- o SAMHSA, NIMH, and ASPE Set Aside Evaluation From FY 2017 through FY 2019 The evaluation is focusing on 38 Coordinated Specialty Care sites across the U.S. that use the MHBG funds to provide services to individuals experiencing a first episode of psychosis (FEP). It will examine outcomes, process, and fidelity to established models at these sites.
- O HHS will work across operating divisions to ensure that these activities are coordinated with other related efforts through the Behavioral Health Coordinating Council and the Interdepartmental Serious Mental Illness Coordinating Committee.

#### <u>Stakeholder / Congressional Consultations</u>

This work has happened as a result of congressional direction and a partnership across SAMHSA, NIMH, and ASPE. Coordination with Congress has been continual over the course of the program to ensure that we are meeting their intent.

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