

Beaver County Project Recovery

Supported Employment (SE)

Fact Sheet May 2012

Beaver County Rehabilitation Services (BCRC) began providing Supported Employment services in October of 2010. Supported Employment (SE) is an evidence based practice for providing “vocational rehabilitation for people with serious mental illnesses that emphasizes helping them obtain competitive work in the community and providing the supports necessary to ensure their success in the workplace.”¹ This fact sheet focuses on data from October 2011 to March 2012.

Demographics

- 39 individuals received SE services between October 2011 and March 2012
- 48.7% were female, and 51.3% were male
- The majority of clients were white (84.6%)
- 74.4% were between the ages of 24 and 54
- The top three primary diagnoses were depression (46.3%), bipolar (26.8%), and schizophrenia (9.8%)

Where are they coming from?

- Clients are referred from a wide variety of sources including:
 - Self referrals
 - Mental Health Association
 - Staunton Clinic
 - Glade Run
 - Beaver County Behavioral Health
 - Gateway Rehabilitation Center
 - NHS

Service Provision

- 56.1% received less than 5 hours of services
- 17.1% received more than 20 hours of services
- A comprehensive array of services was provided to clients, including resume help, application assistance, practice with interview skills, medical benefits counseling, and follow-up supports
- 94.9% of individuals received multiple services
- The majority of clients received resume help (97.4%), application assistance (92.3%), help with interview skills (84.6), and medical benefits counseling (59.0%)
- 79.5% of those receiving services also received follow-up supports such as therapy, employment support, and support groups



¹ From the Supported Employment Tool Kit: <http://store.samhsa.gov/product/Supported-Employment-Evidence-Based-Practices-EBP-KIT/SMA08-4365>

Outcomes

- 41.0% of the individuals who received services from October 2011 to March 2012 have obtained a job, maintained employment, are volunteering or are enrolled in some kind of educational/training program
- 41.0% of SE clients achieved at least one of their personal goals
- One individual's sole source of income is employment

Fidelity²

- Fidelity was assessed through interviews with the SE leader, the employment specialist, and 2 consumers as well as through a review of invoices, intake forms, and the SE brochure
- Interview responses were highly consistent across all 4 interviewees
- BCRC's SE program received a score of 66 (out of 75) on the SE Fidelity Scale, which indicates that the practice is being implemented according to the protocol
- The program received a score of 53 (out of 60) on the General Organizational Index, which gauges an organization's understanding of and commitment to an evidence based practice
- Areas in need of improvement include integration of mental health services (meaning employment specialists are part of mental health treatment teams with shared decision making) and being community based (meaning vocational services are provided in community settings)

The goal of Supported Employment is to help individuals with a mental health diagnosis and a desire to work learn to successfully work competitively.

² Fidelity means to be faithful to or adhere to. It is measured to ensure that an evidence based practice is being implemented as intended

“[The employment specialist] is the best human service worker I have ever met.”

“[The SE leader] is very helpful in all aspects. If she doesn't know the answer to something, she will contact someone who does.”

“[The employment specialist] takes my values and interests into account when looking for jobs.”

“She is very compassionate, and we accomplish a lot in our sessions. She helps me to create action/vocational plans and make contact with individuals that I need to.”