Summary of Responses to : System and Policy Considerations for Strong Career Launches in Young Adults”

Transitions RTC: State of the Science Meeting
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Panel
Crystal Blyler,
Shannon CrossBear,
Mark Courtenay,
Melanie Green,
Kim Mueser,
Tina Osher

Prepared by:
Marianne Farkas
Boston University, Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation

Responding panel felt that strengths of the paper included:

- Identifying core issues (e.g. lack of availability of services; lack of inter – system communication)
- Providing examples of projects that worked well
- Identification of important research topics that need further exploration

Responding panel felt that the paper would be strengthened by:

- **Defining target population and its implications more specifically/more expansively**
  - Defining diagnostic groups included/excluded
  - Defining ethnic and gender breakdown relative to points being made
  - Defining rationale for age range used/need for developmental focus and cross cultural applicability
  - Adding those involved in systems other than MH and VR who deal with employment & education
  - Individuals with co-occuring disorders?

Responding panel felt that the paper would be strengthened by:

- **Addressing assumptions and/or overall framework upon which conclusions were based**
  - Discuss assumptions (eg unified adult mh system? “the” system to enter; unified children’s system to exit? Issue of what is “age appropriate” and why? Over 30 get better services? young people should get them? Services in children’s system are age appropriate?)

Responding panel felt that the paper would be strengthened by:

- **Addressing assumptions and/or overall framework upon which conclusions were based :**
  - Tie paper to "Pathways for Youth Strategic Plan"
  - Examine possibility of changing paradigm for adult services-rather than integration

Responding panel felt that the paper would be strengthened by:

- **Exploring additional topics related to employment topics** –
- eg disincentives to work;
- implications of ACA;
- potential role of DOL;
- role of consumer operated programs;
- role of disability wide organizations;
- role of private insurance;
- place of rigorous research in promoting examples;
- explore international examples for applicability)

Possible additional research topics

Examples:

- Rigorous research on TIP model
- long term outcomes of young adults who do compared to those who do not gain/opt for access to adult mh/disability services
- Impact of providing age appropriate services in terms of system costs
- Impact of input of young adults & families on policies relative to system change and/or improvement in education and employment outcomes
- Incentives for making system change; identifying roles for who should /could most effectively make system level change