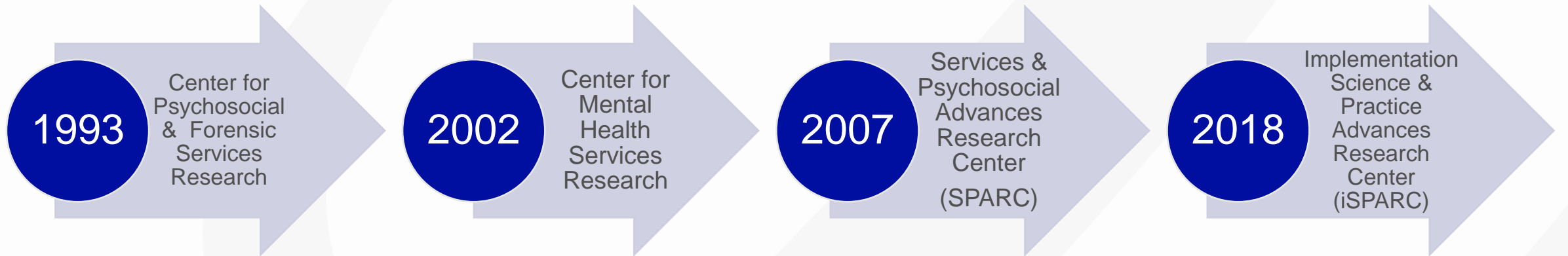


## Massachusetts Department of Mental Health (DMH) Research Center of Excellence

**Our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a DMH Research CoE is July 1, 2023**

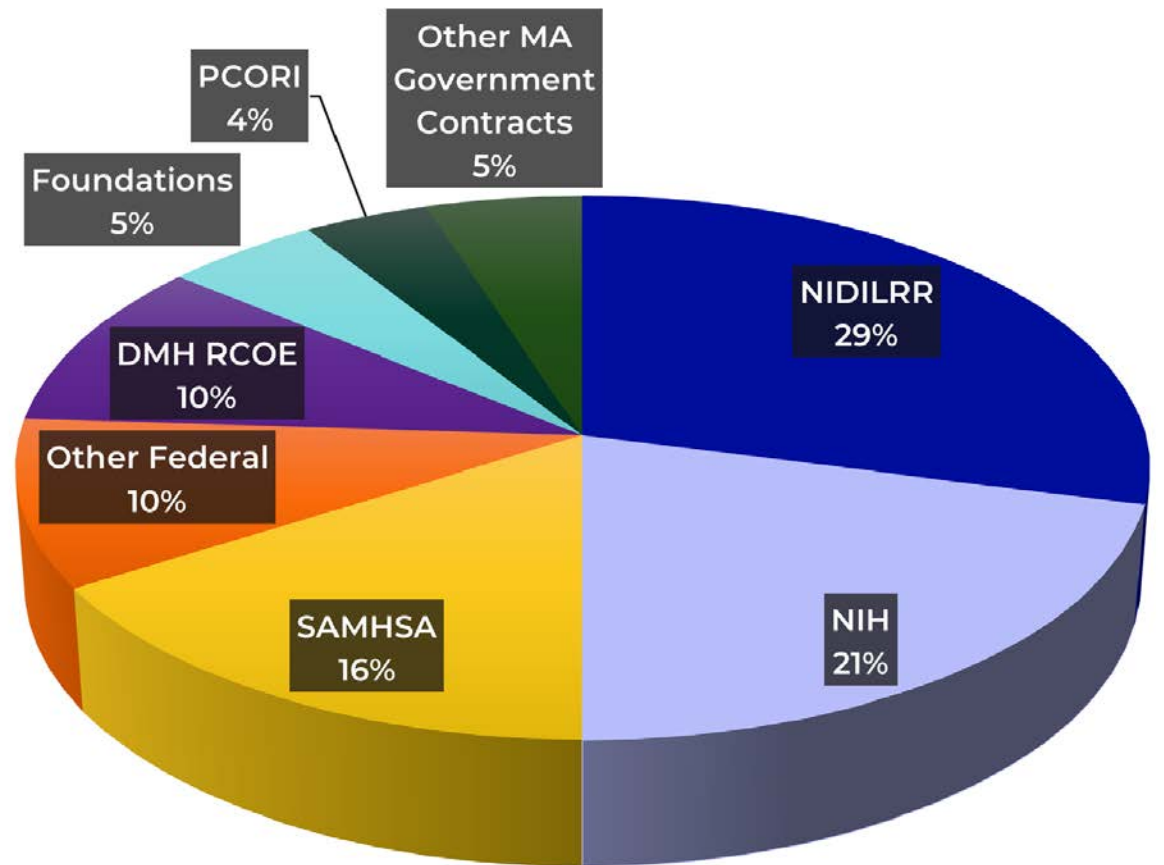
# Massachusetts Department of Mental Health (DMH) Research Center of Excellence



# iSPARC Funding Sources FY 2022

The investment that DMH makes in its funding of iSPARC as a Research Center of Excellence provides an impressive return on this investment to the Commonwealth.

Every \$1 invested by DMH in FY22 brought to UMass Chan and the Commonwealth a return of about \$9 in funding for our portfolio of research, training, technical assistance, and service delivery.



**Department of Psychiatry**  
Chair: Kimberly Yonkers, M.D.

**Emergency Medicine**  
Chair: Gregory Volturo, M.D.

**Population & Quantitative Health Sciences (PQHS)**  
Chair: Jeroan Allison, M.D., M.S.

**Implementation Science & Practice Advances Research Center (iSPARC)**  
**A DMH Research Center of Excellence**  
Director: Maryann Davis Deputy Director: Melissa Anderson

**Public Mental Health & Implementation Research Program**

**Stakeholder Engagement Program**

Stakeholder Advisory Boards  
Family  
Youth & Young Adults  
weSPARC Insight

**Technical Assistance, Communications, & Consultation Program**

**Faculty Development Program**

**Workforce Enrichment Program**

# Stakeholder Engagement Program (SEP)

1. **As-needed consultation** - provided to iSPARC investigators and research teams, tailoring advice and resources to the investigator's and study's goals, which has enhanced our investigators' capacities to do community-based participatory research
2. **Stakeholder advisory boards**
  - **weSPARC insight** –adults with lived experience of mental health conditions
  - **Young Adult Advisory Board** – national board of 18-29 year olds with lived experience
  - **Family Advisory Board** – family members of individuals with lived experience
3. **Annual Assessment of Stakeholder Engagement** - system to assess the level of stakeholder engagement and participatory methods across all ongoing iSPARC research studies. SEP collates the findings for feedback and provide education on how to infuse stakeholder engagement throughout a study's life cycle.

## Population of Focus: *Those with Mental Health Conditions and/or Substance use Disorders*

### Special Populations:

- Forensic/Justice System-Involved
- Transition Age Youth
- Individuals who are Deaf
- Women who are Perinatal
- Marginalized Populations

### Areas:

- Evidence-based programs/practices/service delivery
- Screening & clinical decision making
- Implementation
- Promising practices/policies
- Population needs

### Interventions of Focus:

- Trans-diagnostic and specific diagnostic treatments
- Employment/Career Supports
- Education Supports
- Recidivism Reduction
- Smoking Cessation

# Selected Impacts of our Work – 1993-2023

## Law & Psychiatry

1. **Risk Assessment in Juvenile Justice: A Guidebook for Implementation** - Produced and disseminated this first (and only) Guidebook on how to effectively implement risk/needs assessment and case planning in justice settings.
2. **Massachusetts Youth Screening Inventory-2 (MAYSI-2)** - Developed, normed, and nationally normed this most widely used behavioral health screen in juvenile justice in the United States.
3. **MacArthur Competence Assessment Tool – Criminal Adjudication & Juveniles Adjudicative Competence Instrument** – These standardized instruments – one for adults and one for juveniles - improved the quality and procedures for competence to stand trial evaluations in the U.S..

# Selected Impacts of our Work – 1993-2023

## Transitions to Adulthood Center for Research

1. **Multisystemic Therapy for Emerging Adults** – intervention to reduce antisocial behavior, and mental health and substance use disorder symptoms in 17-25 year olds. The only intervention to date with evidence of efficacy to reduce recidivism in young adults.
2. **Healthy Transitions Initiative** – A SAMHSA-funded program that has provided grants to 25 states to improve services for transition-age youth with or at risk of serious mental health conditions. Our research provided the rationale for its launch in 2002 and additional funding of the program over time.
3. **TEST- CTE Guide** –guide to promoting Career and Technical Education (CTE) is one of a 3-part set for practicing /implementing best practices in transition planning for secondary students with serious mental health conditions. Promoted in the Department of Labor-funded *Social Security Income Youth Solutions* as one of “Twelve Ideas to Promote Employment for Youth with Disabilities...”.



# Selected Impacts of our Work – 1993-2023

## DeafYES! Center for Deaf Empowerment and Recovery

1. **Dr. Alexander Wilkins**, Co-Director of DeafYES, is currently on the path to achieving independence as a clinician-scientist – to our knowledge, the first Deaf person in the nation to serve as a behavioral therapy clinical trials researcher.
2. **Deaf-accessible version of the Question Persuade Refer (QPR) suicide prevention training** – created by the DeafYES team in partnership with the MA Department of Mental Health. This training is designed for Deaf community members and is available at <https://deafyes.org/our-training/>
3. **Video: “Sign Here: How to Conduct Informed Consent with Deaf Research Participants”** - is part of NIH’s “Guidelines on Communicating Informed Consent for Individuals Who are Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing and Scientists”

<https://www.nih.gov/health-information/nih-clinical-research-trials-you/guidelines-communicating-informed-consent-individuals-who-are-deaf-or-hard-hearing-scientists>

# Selected Impacts of our Work – 1993-2023

## Lifeline for Moms

1. **MCPAP for Moms** - is an internationally recognized statewide mental health service delivery approach that improves treatment rates and outcomes for perinatal mental health and substance use disorders. It has become a national model for perinatal mental health care, inspiring federal and state-level funding for additional Perinatal Psychiatry Access Programs across the US.
2. **Lifeline for Moms National Network of Perinatal Psychiatry Access Programs** - There are now 24 funded and operational Perinatal Psychiatry Access Programs in 21 US states with the potential to cover nearly 54% of the 3.7 million US births each year, in addition to two programs available across the US and one Ottawa-based program.
3. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists disseminates our **practice-level approach for helping obstetric practices detect, assess, and treat perinatal mood and anxiety disorders**.

# Selected Impacts of our Work – 1993-2023

## Communications Team

1. **>180 written products** - developed to provide current education and information to inform and empower the community of mental health stakeholders in Massachusetts and beyond
2. **≈ 300,000 downloads** - of iSPARC's written products on our website/ e-journal *Psychiatry Information in Brief*
3. **Social Media Impact** –
  - 61,336 views worldwide of our >200 videos
  - 269 followers of our Facebook pages
  - 2,000 Twitter followers
  - 291 Instagram followers
  - 470 LinkedIn followers
4. **30 webinars with over 3,000 participants in 5 years**
5. **>670 Peer Reviewed Publications**