UT PATH Theory of Change

Key Context

- Pending Medicaid Expansion waiver (state match, eligibility level, EPSDT not included for youth ages 19-20 under waiver)
- Medicaid match rate-expanded services require expanded match (Providers)
- •Fee for Service structure for expansion population
- Family First-realignment to focus on prevention
- Cultural norm: Parents are responsible for their kids, so why should the government get involved
- •Belief: lack of services reflects a lack of caring about this population

Assumptions

There is a common understanding of who Youth in Transition are and what they need.

This group has the time and resources to devote to making change happen.

Inputs Outputs

Shift in thinking that recognizes TAY as an important population

Commitment from DSAMH

Support between agencies

Strong family voice through DSAMH (and building with JJS, DCFS)

Formal channels for youth voice (DCFS, JJS, MH, SA)

Initial data and research to inform the process

External TA from CLASP

Grant funding to start implementation

Medicaid committed to brainstorm

Time

Collaboration with:

- Racial minority communities
- •LGBTQ Community
- Homeless Community

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Results of Focus Groups

Gaps in services for YIT identified

Guidelines for youth peer support specialists

Current consolidated resource list fir youth in transition

Baseline number of youth peer support specialists

Recommendations from Medicaid

Cross-training between youth and adult systems

Youth advocacy training

Shared vision for youth in transition office

Outcomes (Utah)

Systems Changes

- Youth are more integrated into policy decisions
- Infrastructure for youth in transition services
- Infrastructure/ pathways for youth input
- Development of referral/support process

Policy Changes

- More youth receiving targeted services
- Data systems in place to track impact of new structure

Impacts

Seamless Collaboration Between all Youth Serving Systems

- Youth in Transition Office
- Plan to sustain the office in law, regulation, etc. as appropriate
- Sustainable funding for YUTAC/Youth in Transition Office

Change in Medicaid Policy to support:

- New services for youth
- Integrated service delivery for youth
- Easy way for services to be reimbursed

Different systems have a better understanding of transition age youth

More centralized data to show outcomes

More collaboration with underserved populations

Less homeless youth