Supported Education
Jackson County Mental Health

Presented by
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Supported Education Specialist
Building from the ground up!

Need:

- At Jackson County Mental Health, 61% of clients during their initial assessment report that they would like help achieving their educational goals.
- An average of 60% would equal nearly 300 people a quarter or 1200 a year.
- We can currently serve up to 35 individuals through this program.
Getting Started:

- JCMH started with a Mental Health Block Grant that covered the expenses for the creation and building of the Supported Education program.

- Initially started the program with serving only clients that were interested in higher education.
  - We started seeing clients in August 2014.
Promotion:

Providers-
- Created a referral process and form
- Designed flyers
- Attended Team meetings
- We started with one team then expanded

Clients-
- Providers help identify client interest
- Client flyer
- Educational Assessment
- School partners promoting to students
Building Partnerships in the Educational Community:

Southern Oregon University

- Graduation outcomes and retention rates
- Mission & educational outcomes
- Who to approach
- Memo of Understanding
Building Partnerships in the Educational Community:

Rogue Community College

- Point of contact & finding the right person
- Prior concepts of services and agency
- Rebuilding a partnership
Delivery of Services:

- Client caseload is up to 35 clients.
- Educational Assessment is the tool used to gauge client need and educational interest.
  - Educational Assessment
    - Past educational experiences
    - Educational interests
    - Current barriers
    - Mental health
    - Resources needed
    - Disclosure
Populations Served:

- We have a wide variety of degree seekers, ages, and teams served within Supported Education.
  - Age: Current range is 19-56
  - Degree: GED-Masters
  - Gender: Currently 15 Female, 13 Male

Wide range of need, challenges and mental health issues.
Delivery of Services:

Supported Education Specialists can help clients navigate schools in a multitude of ways:

- **Typical:** TRiO, tutoring, financial aid, academic advising, & disability services
- **Other:** Internships, clubs, housing, transportation, budgeting, time management, etc.
- **Funding through the Mental Health Block Grant** has provided the ability to purchase items for clients including: glasses, books, supplies, bus passes, planners, and credits/debts
Delivery of Services:

Access at RCC and SOU include:

- Use of office space for client appointments
- Library room access
- Integrated into informational systems
  - Email, degree audit, SISweb, etc.
- Staff introductions, meeting and trainings
- Monthly meetings
- Advisory board member
- Time for staff to develop connections and knowledge.
Delivery of Services:

- **Advisory Board**
  - Includes representatives from each educational institution, community member, Supported Ed. Staff, Case Manager, Therapist, Client, and Peer Support Specialist.

- Our goal is to discuss the program to help develop and identify goals & challenges.

  Our barriers have included:
  - Needing G.E.D services, transportation, Financial Aid, and the short term care model used at JCMH.
Program Outcomes:

- We have had a good response to this program both internally and through our partnerships with the Educational Institutions.
- JCMH was recently able to add two additional Supported Education Specialists.
- On the client satisfaction surveys, 100% of students strongly agree that:
  - My meetings with my education specialist are helpful and I usually feel good about them
  - If I do not contact my education specialist, he or she stays in touch with me through telephone calls, mail, email or community visits.
  - My education specialist is helping me accomplish my education goals.
Questions?

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