

NCTSN Mini-Grant Initiative: Fact Sheet

Name of Project: Community Dialogue and Needs Assessment for Addressing Traumatic Stress Among Resettled Refugee Youth in New Hampshire

<p>Target Area</p>	<p>Which under-funded area did your mini-grant initiative address?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Making child-serving systems more trauma-informed <input type="checkbox"/> Enhancing cultural competence <input type="checkbox"/> Enhancing family and youth involvement
<p>Project Description</p>	<p>Title of project: Community Dialogue and Needs Assessment for Addressing Traumatic Stress Among Resettled Refugee Youth in New Hampshire</p> <p>Briefly describe your project, including project goals and target population (e.g., abstract): The mission of the New Hampshire Project for Adolescent Trauma Treatment (PATT) has been to disseminate evidence-based practices for youth who have been exposed to traumatic events and seek care in the New Hampshire community mental health system. The introduction of standardized trauma assessments and Trauma Focused-Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) training and supervision across all 10 Community Mental Health Clinics in the state have given promise of greatly improved care for traumatized children in NH. However, a sizeable and growing group of multiply traumatized and highly vulnerable refugee and non-English speaking minority youth in the state are still in need of services. This project involves a needs assessment of refugee youth</p>

	<p>mental health services in New Hampshire. We conducted interviews with providers (mental health, primary care, school, church, state government, and African Ethnic leaders) as well as youth and families and then utilized community dialogue strategies for integrating youth, family, provider, school and community knowledge and expertise towards identifying necessary next steps for creating trauma informed systems of care for African refugee youth.</p>
<p>Project Evaluation</p>	<p>Please describe the evaluation plans for your project. Assessment of effectiveness in meeting deliverables (data collected by targeted stakeholders), completion of dialogue groups, formation of advisory group, and dissemination (written and oral presentations).</p> <p>What was the outcome of your evaluation plan? Deliverables in terms of interview data surpassed target goals; attempts at a survey supplement was stopped because there was limited time for this task and the additional information would not have added significant value to the interview data to justify limiting the interviews. The dialogue groups were well attended by the various stakeholder representatives. There was unanimous agreement that the meetings were valuable to begin to address the needs of traumatized resettled youth and families.</p> <p>Based on your evaluation findings, is there an aspect of the project you would have done differently? Would not have been as ambitious in proposing both interview and survey data collection.</p>
<p>Outcomes</p>	<p>Is there a product or resource that you have developed as part of this initiative? A final report will be available to stakeholders in New Hampshire and will also be disseminated widely through partner, New Hampshire Endowment for Health, and used by that foundation to guide funding for subsequent intervention efforts. Manuscripts are also in preparation for submission to journals for wider dissemination.</p>

	<p>In what way does your project contribute to the field of child traumatic stress (e.g., products, knowledge)? These products will have direct impact on the development of trauma-focused interventions for resettled African refugees and will add to the knowledge-base of adjustment of youth and families, specific to African refugees but also more generally for future waves of refugees.</p>
<p>Cultural Considerations</p>	<p>For which specific cultural group(s) is your project tailored for? If none, please respond “not specifically tailored.” African resettled refugee youth and families</p> <p>How are cultural issues specifically addressed in your project? Ethnic African leaders and cultural brokers have been included in data collection efforts (recruitment and translation for non-English speaking participants), review of findings, and development of suggested next steps to be outlined in dissemination products. Existing literature (first person accounts, academic writings) and multi-media resources have been examined to help researchers gain a better understanding of cultural background and context of political violence related to trauma for resettled African refugees.</p> <p>If there was a product or resource developed as part of your project what culturally specific issues arise with its use? We are unable to translate our final written report into the multiple African languages of participating families. However, we will encourage the ethnic community leaders to provide discuss with community members the findings and suggested interventions gathered through the dialogue group process.</p>
<p>Partnerships</p>	<p>If you collaborated with other agencies or organizations over the course of this project, please describe this experience. Partners included New Hampshire Endowment for Health (provided matching funds) and New Hampshire Charitable Foundation (supplemental funds), and Wellesley College and University of Massachusetts Medical School (provided salary cost share).</p>

<p>Future Directions</p>	<p>What would you like to see done next to build upon this project? Our partner, New Hampshire Endowment for Health, will use findings generated by this needs assessment to develop a call for pilot/demonstration project proposals for trauma-focused interventions in response to suggestions prioritized through the dialogue group meetings.</p> <p>If you have developed a product or resource what is your plan for dissemination? We intend to work with New Hampshire Endowment for Health to disseminate the final report, including presentations to local stakeholders. In addition we plan to develop several manuscripts for submission to journals for wider dissemination. As part of the manuscript development we will be submitting a conference proposal for the 2009 Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association.</p>
<p>Additional Comments</p>	<p>Because of the supplemental funding provided by New Hampshire Endowment for Health and the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation we have extended the end date of the project to December 31, 2008. This will allow further analysis of additional interview and dialogue group data as well as additional opportunities for dissemination.</p>
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