Family Connection Grant Project
Abstract/Summary

Grantee Name: Amethyst, Inc.
Grantee City and State: Columbus, OH
Grant Project Title: Family-Centered Treatment
Family Connection Program Area: Residential Family Treatment

Summary of Grant Project

Amethyst, Inc., in collaboration with The Strategic Research Group and Franklin County Children Services, will implement the program, “Family-Centered Treatment”. This program seeks to demonstrate the impact of residential treatment services for parents and their children in the areas of safety, permanency and well-being especially as they relate to family reunification and family preservation. This program will occur in Columbus, Ohio and will compare families living at two permanent supportive housing sites: (1) Amethyst, Inc., an abstinence-based program providing long-term addiction, trauma and mental health treatment to women and their children (Residential Family Treatment); and (2) The Southpoint Collaborative, a housing-first community where abstinence is not a requirement for participation and services are optional.

Many families in this population have experienced disruption – some with children placed in child welfare’s custody, others at-risk of losing custody, and some who are working to regain custody of their children. The comparison of (1) an intensive intervention involving substance abuse treatment services, early intervention, family counseling, integrated primary health care, parenting skill development, Intensive Case Management, and Supported Employment in an abstinence-based community with a (2) service-optional model involving treatment engagement and family support (i.e. children’s activities, parenting groups) in an environment that is non-abstinence based will occur.

This program will demonstrate the effectiveness of residential family treatment for children and families so that children are protected from abuse and neglect, stabilized in their homes, receive appropriate and adequate services and families are strengthened. Through this Family-Centered Model, we will demonstrate how the needs of the target population are met, how the family unit is preserved and supported, and how to create a healthy environment for family members.

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