

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH COUNCIL'S INSTITUTE FOR MANAGERIAL AND CLINICAL CONSULTATION (IMACC) AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FAMILY TALK PREVENTIVE INTERVENTION

The Community Mental Health Council, also known as The Council, helps individuals and families who are challenged with mental illness. The Council is driven by their belief that quality behavioral health and wellness services should be available to everyone, particularly those who believe that health and hope are unattainable. Its initiatives are led by the strategic vision of the President and CEO, Dr. Carl C. Bell, and governed by The Council's Institutional Review Board and a volunteer Board of Directors. The organization's operations are managed by the Senior Vice Presidents, Juanita Redd and Hayward Suggs, who jointly share administrative responsibilities. The Council's values and philosophies are designed to support its mission and vision. The basic underlying strategy to achieve its vision is, "to be recognized as a premier leader in the field of Behavioral Healthcare" through "Innovation and Teamwork".

The Council has a global reputation of providing quality, evidence-based, culturally sensitive, behavioral health, and wellness services. The agency continues to move towards its goals through four distinct entities: Direct Services, a Wellness Institute, Research, and Consultation Services. Each entity operates to meet the shared goals of the organization. The consultation services are delivered through The Council's Institute of Managerial and Clinical Consultation, most often referred to as IMACC.

Core services of the Council include: training and education; executive and managerial coaching; organizational assessment; team design and development; strategic planning and strategic staffing; training and education; and transitional management. For additional information, please call 773.734.4033 ext. 136 or email hsuggsmb@aol.com.

Family Talk Chicago Implementation

The Family Talk Preventive Intervention program is a pilot project between the Chicago Department of Public Health, Community Mental Health Council, Inc., and Children's Hospital Boston/Judge Baker Children's Center. More than twelve local agencies, organizations, and systems of care in the Chicago area were recruited to learn the Family Talk Preventive Intervention and integrate it into their continuum of care in order to strengthen children, families, and communities at greatest risk. The pilot agencies represent multiple treatment settings across diverse communities including community mental health centers, medical facilities, alcohol and substance abuse treatment facilities, child welfare agencies and public health agencies. The

Chicago pilot implementation began in May 2010 and will continue through December 2011. IMACC consultants completed a readiness assessment with all partner agencies prior to implementation to determine its capacity to support the intervention at the service delivery and administrative levels. Following training on Family Talk, IMACC consultants provide bi-weekly supervision for preventionists as needed and quarterly administrator conference calls to support overall implementation. Additionally, a core group of agencies received enhanced training to support the delivery of the Family Talk Community Presentation, developed by the Chicago implementation team. This curriculum was developed to assist partner agencies in increasing their capacity to provide community education and expand service delivery. Final steps for each partner agency include the evaluation of the intervention delivery methods, assessment of applicability with its core consumers and agency settings, and provision of feedback to the Chicago Department of Public Health about greater service expansion within the Chicago area.

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