

State Advisory Committee

To address the process evaluation questions related to the state advisory committee the evaluation team attended state advisory committee meetings and reviewed several documents. Based on a review of the meeting minutes and notes taken by evaluation team members, several key points were identified:

☐ The State Advisory Committee met in person or via phone three times during FY2013. These meetings were routinely attended by the core membership including representation from Georgia Parent Support Network, DBHDD, and DJJ.

- Ms. Robinson Graves indicated the committee will focus on anticipated goals for the final year of the grant, including partnerships and multi-state activities.
- Discussions with the State Advisory Committee frequently addressed sustainability of the program post-grant, including how to provide emerging youth services within the current DBHDD treatment model. Additionally, DBHDD is interested in identifying how to bridge services between the youth and adult systems to adequately address needs for this population.
- DBHDD hosted a HTI Summit in February 2013, with greater than anticipated attendance. Keynote speakers were Dr. Maryann Davis of the University of Massachusetts and Gwen White, Director of EAI for the National TA Center for Children's Mental Health. The summit provided participants the opportunity to learn from staff and participants from each site. Additionally, the group brainstormed possible practice and policy changes, including training all frontline/clinical staff on appropriate services for transition-age youth and creating a bridge between child/adolescent and adult systems through partnerships with other state agencies (Vocational Rehabilitation, Department of Housing, Department of Corrections, Department of Health, etc.). These suggestions were compiled to become a starting point for discussions during the annual grantee meeting.
- Representatives from DHBDD, Gateway, CHRIS Kids, the Carl Vinson Institute of Government, and consumers attended the annual grantee meeting in Portland from May 21 through 23. During the meeting, EAI states presented on program activities regarding policy change, peer support, and sustainability/replication efforts. During the grantee meeting, state breakout sessions focused on policy issues impacting transition-aged youth in the current service delivery system. From the conversation, it appears the state is in need of practice guidelines for transition-aged youth, including methods of engagement, program environment, and assisting in the transition from youth to adult service programs.