Special Issue of the Journal of Family Social Work


This special issue of the *Journal of Family Social Work* features seven articles on topics pertinent to family support and systems of care, as well as a forward by Gary De Carolis, Chief of the Child, Adolescent and Family Branch of the Federal Center for Mental Health Services Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration. Below we have provided a list of these articles and a brief description of their content.

**Title:** Promoting Family Empowerment Through Multiple Roles  
**Authors:** S.L. McCammon, S.A. Spencer, & B.J. Friesen  
**Summary:** Explores roles for families in systems of care and expands upon previously established roles by including family members as educators and trainers. Discusses the benefits to service providers of expanded family roles.

**Title:** In Quest of an Interdisciplinary Helping Process Framework for Collaborative Practice in Systems of Care  
**Authors:** J.Y. Powell, A. Privette, S.D. Miller, & J.K. Whittaker  
**Summary:** Describes the creation of a symposium to help build a unifying framework for collaborative, interdisciplinary practice in systems of care. Provides summaries of presentations and responses to questions posed to Drs. Miller and Whittaker.

**Title:** Words Can Be Powerful: Changing the Words of Helping to Enhance Systems of Care  
**Authors:** L.L. Bass, D.A. Dosser, & J.Y. Powell  
**Summary:** The authors propose a schema for helping providers and consumers shift away from the provider-as-expert approach to a model in which partnerships are forged between providers and consumers. The schema has six steps and promotes a user-friendly language format.

**Title:** Challenges of Providing Interdisciplinary Mental Health Education  
**Authors:** D. Handron, J. Diamond, & J.L. Zlotnik  
**Summary:** The authors describe a conceptual framework for interdisciplinary graduate education of health professionals and potential barriers to its implementation. Strategies are presented to help create a positive interdisciplinary learning environment.

**Title:** Including Families’ Spiritual Beliefs and Their Faith Communities in Systems of Care  
**Authors:** D.A. Dosser, A.L. Smith, E.W. Markowski, & H.I. Cain  
**Summary:** Notes the importance of system of care values regarding flexibility and the availability of non-traditional services for families. Suggests that families’ spiritual beliefs and faith communities are often overlooked as resources in systems of care and provides strategies for greater inclusion of both.

**Title:** Service Learning and Systems of Care: Teaching Students to Learn from Clients  
**Authors:** J.H. Pierpont, R. Pozzuto, & J.Y. Powell  
**Summary:** Discusses the concept of service learning and describes a service learning project designed to help graduate students recognize the link between social work practice and policy. The service learning project took place within a system of care and encouraged students to learn from their clients about the impact of social policies.

Prepared by the Research and Training Center on Family Support and Children’s Mental Health, Portland State University, 1912 SW 6th, Rm. 120, Portland, OR 97201, (503) 725-4040 in collaboration with the Research and Training Center for Children’s Mental Health, University of South Florida. Contact frieseb@rrt.pdx.edu, or www.rtc.pdx.edu.

Funds to support this activity come from the Child, Adolescent and Family Branch, Federal Center for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration.
Title: The Complexities of Implementing a Wraparound Approach to Service Provision: A View from the Field
Authors: K. McGinty, S.L. McCammon, & V.P. Koeppen
Summary: Provides the perspectives of a psychiatrist, psychologist, and service coordinator on benefits and barriers encountered in the implementation of a wraparound program. The authors suggest the need for ongoing assessment of wraparound implementation.

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