May 16th, 1:45 PM

Implementation of SAMHSA-funded Offender Re-Entry Programs Addressing Substance Use and Co-occurring Disorders among Justice Involved Latino Adults

Angela Wangari Walter
University of Massachusetts Lowell

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.
Follow this and additional works at: https://escholarship.umassmed.edu/cts_retreat

Part of the Health Services Administration Commons, Race and Ethnicity Commons, Substance Abuse and Addiction Commons, and the Translational Medical Research Commons

Repository Citation

Creative Commons License
This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-Share Alike 3.0 License. This material is brought to you by eScholarship@UMassChan. It has been accepted for inclusion in UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science Research Retreat by an authorized administrator of eScholarship@UMassChan. For more information, please contact Lisa.Palmer@umassmed.edu.
IMPLEMENTATION OF SAMHSA-FUNDED OFFENDER RE-ENTRY PROGRAMS ADDRESSING SUBSTANCE USE AND CO-OCcurring DISORDERS AMONG JUSTICE INVOLVED LATINO ADULTS

Angela Wangari Walter, PhD, MPH, MSW\(^1\), Jessica Hall, MSW\(^2\), Deborah Chassler, MSW\(^2\), Rachel Mullins, BS\(^2\), Diliana DeJesus, MTS\(^3\), Emily Stewart, BA\(^3\), Lena Lundgren, PhD\(^2\)

\(^1\)Department of Public Health, College of Health Sciences, University of Massachusetts Lowell; \(^2\)Boston University School of Social Work, Center for Addictions Research and Services; \(^3\)Casa Esperanza, Inc.

**Objectives:** Racial and ethnic minorities have high rates of incarceration and persons entering the criminal justice system have disproportionate rates of mental health and substance use disorders. Justice involved individuals do not receive adequate treatment resulting in greater risk of recidivism and relapse. This study examines the facilitators and barriers to implementing a SAMHSA-funded Offender Re-Entry Program (ORP) to better understand the factors that influence successful implementation of integrated bilingual/bicultural treatment, recovery, and re-entry services for recently incarcerated adult Latino individuals with substance use and co-occurring behavioral health disorders.

**Methods:** Structured interviews were conducted with leadership, direct staff, and non-direct staff involved in the development and implementation of the *Rumbo a Casa* ORP at Casa Esperanza, Inc. Using the Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research (CFIR), we investigated the domains and constructs that were critical to successful implementation. Interviews were analyzed using NVivo 11 software.

**Results:** Qualitative analyses show that across all domains, inner setting, particularly the implementation climate of an organization, is reported most often as influencing (positively or negatively) the implementation of the program. Findings show that the current process structure and the characteristics of individuals are greatly impacting program implementation as reported by direct staff. These findings demonstrate that the process of implementation which includes planning, engaging, executing, reflecting and evaluating constructs is essential for the successful implementation of an offender-reentry program. Dedicated leadership is necessary to enhance implementation of fundamental program activities using a Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) quality improvement cycle.

**Conclusion:** An established implementation research framework can identify key issues critical to the implementation and evaluation processes. This study provides a deepened understanding of components critical to the successful implementation of an ORP and adds to the limited implementation research knowledge on evidence-based care approaches for justice involved Latino adults.

**Contact:**
Angela Wangari Walter Ph.D., M.P.H., M.S.W.
University of Massachusetts Lowell
Angela_Walter@uml.edu