Leading by Mission and Money through Innovative Financing Models for Community-Based Youth and Family Services

The Kids Oneida Story

Keeping families together.

ssw.umaryland.edu/traininginstitutes
Steven Bulger, CEO/Executive Director

Nearly 20 years experience in behavioral health
BS in Psychology BA in Political Science
MBA in Health Services Management

ssw.umaryland.edu/traininginstitutes
Remember 1997?

- Dolly the Sheep is cloned
- Gas was $1.22/gallon
- Titanic opened and became the biggest total box office film in history
- Hanson releases “MmmBop” but Sir Elton leads tops the charts with “Candle in the Wind”
- Packers def. Patriots in the Super Bowl
- Marlins def. Indians in the World Series
- Bulls def. Jazz in the NBA Finals
- The world lost Princess Diana and Mother Theresa
- Bill Clinton inaugurated for 2nd term
- And my personal favorite...
Kids Oneida is created...

A small pilot project in an upstate community transformed the way in which services are provided to at risk children and their families, setting a new course for innovation in children’s behavioral health.
Families Deserved Better

• Developed as a 501-c-3 Not for Profit Organization in 1997 due to the strong advocacy of Oneida County Commissioners of DSS and MH as well as NYSOMH to address the increased number of children in out of home care.

• In 1996, awarded a $75K Robert Wood Johnson Grant to be used as seed money to start the program.

• 1998 KO emerged as a Article 31 Mental Health clinic (Parts 587/588) with multiple waivers. Blended funding from Oneida County DSS and Medicaid began.

• High Fidelity Wraparound Services

• Keeping Families Together
Kids Oneida: 20 Years of Keeping Families Together
Key Features of Kids Oneida

1. Client-Centered Network of Service Providers
2. Cross-System Collaboration & Coordination
3. Commitment to Community-Based Services
4. Comprehensive Continuum of Care
5. Supporting System Transformation
6. Innovative Resource Alignment Strategies
Treatment Cost Profile

**Annual Per Child Cost Comparison**

- **KO Step Down Program**
  - $15,000
  - Per Child Per Year

- **Intensive Kids Oneida**
  - $24,000
  - Per Child Per Year

- **Residential Treatment Center**
  - $150,000
  - Per Child Per Year

- **Hard to Place**
  - $182,000
  - Per Child Per Year
Kids Oneida Footprint

- 135 employees
- 45 subcontracted agencies with 215 behavioral health professionals
- 50+ services
- 17 programs in 7 counties
- 1,100 families served everyday
- 98% of families kept together
Programs of Kids Oneida

- Intensive KO/Assertive Community Treatment (ACT)/Step Down Program
- Service Provision for Individual Needs (SPIN)
- Return Home Early Project
- Kids Herkimer
- Healthy Families of Oneida County
- Healthy Families of Herkimer County
- Supervised Visitations
- Evelyn’s House
- Adult Health Home & HCBS Provision
- Children’s Health Homes
- STARRS & AIM School Based Programs
- Juvenile Justice Reform Initiatives
- NHTD/TBI Medicaid Waiver
- Parent Partner Program
- Nurturing Parenting Program

ssw.umaryland.edu/traininginstitutes
Return Home Early Project

- Established in 2008 to begin actively evaluating children in long term residential care
- Travel all over NYS to learn of each child’s story and advocate for a return home
- Children lingering in care
- 175 at Oneida County’s highest now below 50 youth
- Goals- Return Home Early, Move Closer to Home, and/or assess Appropriate Level Care
Replicating the Model

- Kids Herkimer was started in neighboring Herkimer County in June, 2008 in an effort to decrease the amount of residential placements of Herkimer County children.

- Since 2008, Kids Herkimer has grown from 2 programs to 6 programs and provides an array of supports to at risk children and families in the county.

- Self Funded Comprehensive System of Care
Kids Herkimer: Justin’s Story
No Longer Just Kids and Just Oneida

• Creation of an Adult Services division of the agency
• More than half the identified clients of Kids Oneida are now adults!
• Adult Health Homes
• Home and Community Based Services
• Nursing Home Transition and Diversion/ Traumatic Brain Injury Medicaid Waiver
Adult Services: Roberto’s Story
Prevention Starts Prenatally

• Goal quickly became to focus efforts prenatally to positively influence prevention

• Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

• Evelyn’s House

• Healthy Families Oneida and Herkimer Counties
Prevention Starts Prenatally: Charlyne’s Story
ICAN IPA

- Needed a way to bring the subcontracted provider network into the 21st Century
- KO creates a fully recognized and credentialed Independent Practice Association (IPA): Integrated Communities Alternative Network (ICAN) IPA
- Subcontracted with 5 Managed Care Organizations
- First designated children's HCBS designated IPA in NYS.
- Currently evaluating Value Based Purchasing (VBP) options
Diversification

- The Family Nurturing Center
- YEP/ CNY Health and Independence Agency (CHIA)
- Utica Children’s Museum
The Future is Now

- Founders predicted the future of children’s behavioral health services in 1997
- Transition of behavioral health services to Medicaid Managed Care
- Children’s Health Homes with HCBS/SPA wraparound services
- ICAN IPA
- Keeping Families Together
Steven Bulger, CEO/Executive Director
310 Main Street Utica, NY 13501
315-792-9039
sbulger@kidsoneida.org
www.kidsoneida.org