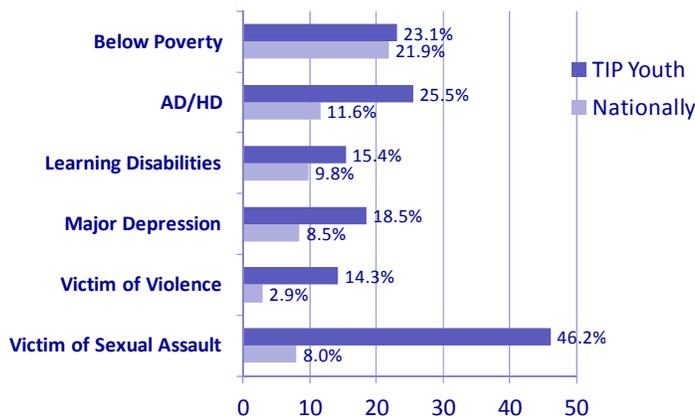


In September 2009, the Clermont County Mental Health & Recovery Board was awarded a six year Cooperative Agreement from the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to enhance Clermont County's System of Care, named FAST TRAC. Since November 2010, 63 youth have participated in TIP, including 32 females and 31 males ranging in age from 16 to 21 years old (mean 17.85). Approximately 82.5% of participants consider themselves "White", 3.2% consider themselves "Black or African American", and 14.3% consider themselves to be more than one race including "Asian", "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander", "Alaska Native", and "American Indian." At intake, 3.2% report eighth grade as their highest level of education, 19% ninth grade, 30.2% tenth grade, 28.6% eleventh grade, and 19% twelfth grade.

TIP Youth face challenges in their lives compared with peers.

KEY INDICATORS OF YOUTH WELL-BEING
TIP YOUTH COMPARED WITH OTHER NATIONAL SAMPLES



Notes: TIP data reported at program intake. The number of TIP participants varied between 13 to 50. National statistics derived from: Mulye, T.P., Park, M.J., Nelson, C.D., B.A., Adams, S.H., Irwin, C.E., & Brindis, C.D. (2009). Trends in adolescent and young adult health in the United States. *Journal of Adolescent Health, 45*, 8-24.; Child Trends Databank (<http://www.childtrends.org/databank/alphabetical-list-of-indicators/>) and; CDC Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS, <http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/YouthOnline/App/Default.aspx>).

“I wouldn't know where she would be if it weren't for TIP. She is a young lady that struggles with mental health issues. She spent the large part of her teenage years in residential facilities, so she really didn't have the skills that she needed to be out on her own at age 18 and live independently. So initially, when she was placed into her own apartment she struggled a lot. But there was a lot of support around her that TIP provided and she was able to live independently. ”

Supervisor, Children's Protective Services

“I'm thrilled about TIP because that young lady has nobody. Her dad is in prison and her mom died so she is by herself. ”

Specialized Probation Officer,
Juvenile Court

DANIELLE'S STORY

Danielle has had a complicated life. She was abused as an infant, initially placed with extended family, and later placed in foster care. At the age of 17, she was arrested for running away and it came to light that she was being neglected in her foster home. She was also pregnant.

Shortly after being removed from this home, and after spending some time in Clermont County's Juvenile Detention Center, she learned about TIP. Since participating in the TIP program, Danielle has turned things around by thinking about what she wants from life and focusing on accomplishing realistic goals "one step at a time".

TIP staff have helped her to apply for subsidized housing and find a place of her own, plan nutritious meals, look for a job, manage her money, and obtain a bus card so that she can count on having reliable transportation. She also knows that she can depend on TIP staff in a crisis.

Danielle now lives in her own apartment with her four-month old baby and works at a nearby restaurant. With only ten on-line credits left to complete, she is on track to graduate with a high school diploma next year. Danielle plans to one day graduate from college with a degree in Criminal Justice and Design. She wants to work at the Juvenile Detention Center and "be there" for other youth in need.



TIP is an evidence supported practice that has been proven to be effective in helping youth and young adults with severe emotional and behavioral difficulties. TIP helps youth learn how to use their strengths and teaches new skills to solve problems and plan for the future in the areas of physical and mental wellness, housing, employment, education, community involvement, and relationships.

TIP Youth Improve Despite Challenges

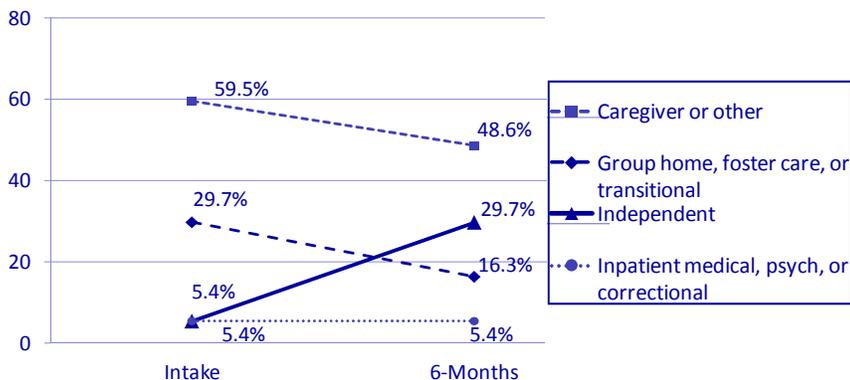
CHRIS' STORY

For much of his young life, Chris has had severe anxiety and depression. These mental health conditions have led to many challenges, such as regularly attending high school like other youth his age.

For the past 12 months, Chris has been participating in TIP where he is receiving medications, accessing needed services, and learning the coping skills required to lead an independent, successful life. When he entered TIP services he had two goals: to graduate from high school and to move into his own apartment. Today, Chris is proud of the goals he has achieved. He is the second of only two family members with a high school diploma and he lives in his own apartment which, with the help of TIP staff, he is working hard to furnish and maintain. Even trade school or college seem within reach.

Chris still has challenges, though, including feelings of loneliness as he transitions to an independent life. Reliable transportation for getting to appointments and looking for a job is also an issue. However, he plans to earn his driver's license soon and is currently saving his money to purchase a car. In the meantime, he knows that he can depend on TIP staff when he needs them. Chris reflected about how, "TIP staff are relatable and they always know what to say. They are not like a parent. They are young adults who seem to have been there. They are really like a friend."

TIP YOUTH INCREASE RESIDENCE IN LESS RESTRICTIVE SETTINGS AFTER 6 MONTHS



Notes: Demographic, daily living activities, and residential status data are derived from the NOMS Client-Level Measures Tool v.9 (CMHS, 2012) and the Daily Living Activities Scale (Scott & Presmanes, 1996). Number of TIP participants=37.

Overall, TIP youth improved during their first 6 months in the program in their ability to perform common daily living activities, with 9 of 20 indicators (e.g., money management, personal hygiene and grooming, safe and appropriate sexual behavior) moving in a positive direction.

COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS OF TIP

"She had a lot of ups and downs and did find herself without a home. She didn't always make good choices. The good thing about TIP is it allows the youth to make decisions for themselves and provides the youth guidance about the positive and negative consequences that the choice may bring. Ultimately, it's the youth's decision, but having the youth learn from the consequences of their choices is a great way for them to learn and move on."

Supervisor, Children's Protective Services

"TIP meets the youth where they are and lets the youth feel comfortable with them and feel like if they mess up it will be okay. The TIP staff have bent over backwards trying to be there for these youth and be patient with them. They have been phenomenal."

Specialized Probation Officer, Juvenile Court