

VETN Advisory Board

March 10, 2023

Ali Johnson, MBA | Quality Improvement Specialist

Today's Agenda

- Historical Context
 - Hillary Wolfley, VPOHC
- Demonstration Project Update
 - Alison Davis, Rutland Regional Medical Center
 - Karl Jeffries, Brattleboro Retreat
- Evaluation
- ATA Updates
- Timeline & Project Updates
- Wrap-Up



Historical Context

Hillary Wolfley, MSPH

Associate Director

Vermont Program for Quality in Health Care



Demonstration Project Update

Dr. Alison Davis, MD, FACEP
Medical Director, Emergency Department
Rutland Regional Medical Center

Dr. Karl Jeffries, MD
Chief Medical Officer
Brattleboro Retreat

Brattleboro-RRMC Pedi Telepsych Update

VETN

March 10, 2023



Overview

- Project started just after New Years, 2023
- Eligible patients include
 - Children and adolescents up to age 18
 - Meet criteria for inpatient treatment
 - Referred to Brattleboro Retreat (or potentially eligible for Brattleboro on a case-by-case basis)
- Consults happen Monday and Thursday afternoons (with some flexibility)
- Charting performed remotely within the RRMC EMR

Data to Date

- Child/Adolescents presented to ED: 32
 - Child/Adolescents discharged home: 23
 - Child/Adolescents transferred to BBR: 8
 - Child/Adolescents transferred to other: 1
 - Telepsychiatry consults ordered: 9
 - Telepsychiatry consults completed: 5 (incl. 1 follow-up)
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- The other four patients were accepted and transferred to Brattleboro before a consult was available.

Feedback from Staff and Patients

- Staff reports increased satisfaction managing pediatric mental health patients because of the proactive management we can offer
- Creating a therapeutic relationship with a Brattleboro provider has convinced some reluctant patients/families to agree to transfer
- Only sticky situation involves patients or parents only wanting a lower level of care (NFI) or initially refusing Brattleboro referral

Brattleboro Retreat Feedback

- Providers report positive experience with the consultations, appreciating being able to initiate treatment early, noting smoother transitions into the hospital.
- Appreciate the great tech support from the RRMC team.
- Relationship building with the RRMC ED referral team is proving valuable, with expanded communications and improved understanding of the referrals helping to expedite the admissions process.



Evaluation

Evaluation



Evaluation Subcommittee

Volunteers?



- One kick-off meeting
- One meeting per month
 - Advise RTI



ATA Updates



**From *Now What?* to *How To!*
The Vision and Realities of Telehealth
Adoption**

- DEA's Proposed Rules on Telemedicine Controlled Substances Prescribing after the PHE Ends
- Telemental Health Special Interest Group (SIG)
 - Any good guidelines or best practice on audio-only?
- Expanding Access
 - Every provider practicing at the top of their license
 - Sending stable patients back to primary care
 - Expanding peer support & care navigators
 - Interstate licensure (compacts are somewhat helpful)
- Capitalize on Partnerships
 - Helps high needs pts get referral out
 - For pediatrics, families have someone to talk with



Timeline & Project Updates



Timeline

FEB

- Assess CAH readiness
- Select CAH for demonstration project
- Publish RFI
- Interview potential vendors
- Submit legislative proposal

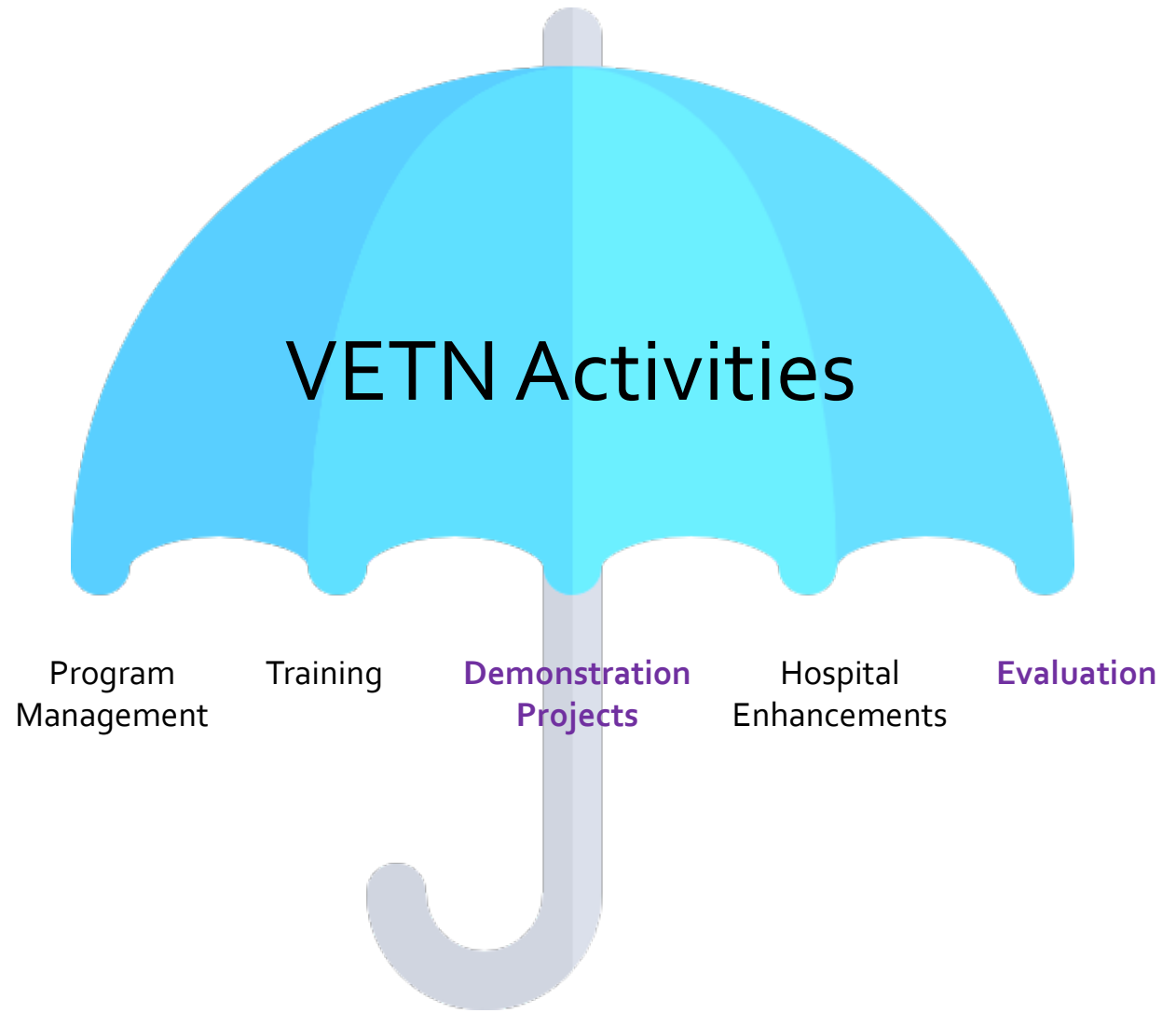
APR

- Gather best practice
- Create web-based training
- Order equipment
- Credential CAH vendor
- Order equipment

MAR

- Contract with CAH for demonstration project
- ID vendor for CAH demo project
- Request best practice
- Scan for training content
- Convene Evaluation Committee
- Identify evaluation questions

Project Updates



CAH Readiness Assessment

- Eligibility**
 - Copley
 - NVRH
 - Porter
 - Springfield
- Incentive**
 - \$10,000
- Due Date**
 - March 15
- Next Steps**
 - Two of four hospitals have completed the survey.
 - Review team will score responses.

Request for Information

Due Date • February 24

Responses • 3

Next Steps

- Review team will score proposals.
- Potential vendors will be interviewed.
- Recommendations will be made to CAH.

VERMONT EMERGENCY TELEPSYCHIATRY NETWORK (VETN)

A statewide system helping Vermont emergency departments provide timely psychiatric care via telehealth for individuals with mental health needs.

RFI: Emergency Telepsychiatry Services - VETN Demonstration Project

RFI Q&A February 2023 Presentation | Meeting Recording | Q&A Document

For more information, visit <https://www.vpqhc.org/vermont-emergency-telepsychia>.



Wrap-Up



Next Meeting

- Friday, April 14
- 12:00 p.m.



Final thoughts?

Contact

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