

**ANNOUNCING**  
**The Virginia Wraparound Center of Excellence**  
***Opening February 11, 2013***

The Virginia Wraparound Center of Excellence (COE) has been established through a four-year federal *Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)* grant to bring the High Fidelity Wraparound model to scale statewide. The Center of Excellence is based at the Office of Comprehensive Services, supervised by the Executive Director of the Office of Comprehensive Services, and supported by an Advisory Committee composed of representatives of key stakeholder groups.

The Virginia Wraparound Center of Excellence will:

- 1) Provide opportunities for local FAPT and CPMT members to enhance understanding of the core values and guiding principles underlying the Systems of Care philosophy and the High Fidelity Wraparound model.
- 2) Provide for the training of Intensive Care Coordinators in the High Fidelity Wraparound model.
- 3) Oversee training and ongoing activities of individuals who will serve as coaches responsible for ensuring adherence to the High Fidelity Wraparound model in the delivery of Intensive Care Coordination.
- 4) Oversee the collection and analysis of data regarding implementation of the High Fidelity Wraparound model.

Wraparound is defined by the National Wraparound Initiative as “...an individualized, team-based service planning and care coordination process underpinned by a strong value base intended to improve outcomes for youth with complex behavioral health challenges and their families (Bruns, et al., 2010).” In her February 2012 report, “Statewide Implementation of Wraparound,” Barbara J. Bazron, Ph.D. states, “This intensive process has been used historically to integrate youth back into their families and communities from out-of-home placements; these include residential treatment centers, psychiatric hospitals, juvenile justice facilities, group homes, and foster care placements. The wraparound process is also used to keep youth at immanent [sic] risk of costly out-of-home placement in their families, schools, and communities. The populations of focus include youth with complex behavioral health needs who are involved in one or more of the following systems: child welfare, juvenile justice, mental health, and/or special education.”

Dr. Bazron’s description clearly describes Virginia’s CSA focus, mission, and population. Embedding the strong principles of the national Wraparound model into existing local FAPT and multidisciplinary team processes will enhance the delivery of services to youth across the Commonwealth. Virginia’s commitment to the effective coordination of care for youth in, or at risk of, out of home placements is evidenced in its statutory requirement for each local CPMT to establish policies for the provision of Intensive Care Coordination services.

**Contact information for the Center of Excellence**

Deborah Pegram, Coordinator  
[Deborah.pegram@csa.virginia.gov](mailto:Deborah.pegram@csa.virginia.gov)  
(804) 662-9781