

Endnotes for the Theory & Research Summary

* **The youth and young adults with *emotional and/or behavioral difficulties (EBD)*** encompass a range of psychologically based problems that significantly impair functioning over a long period of time. In the United States, the number of adolescents and young adults with these conditions has been estimated to be 6 to 12%, thus an estimate of 2.4 to 5 million young people (Davis, Sabella, Smith, & Costa, 2011).

Studies of transition-age youth and young adults in education, mental health, or general community settings have shown that these individuals tend to have histories of placements in restrictive settings, have a high prevalence of developmental snares, and often have very poor employment, education, housing, and other functional outcomes. They may have co-occurring substance abuse issues and are also often involved with the criminal court system and are frequently incarcerated in child or adult correctional institutions.

A variety of terms are often used with these youth and young adults. These adolescents or youth under 18 years of age are often labeled as having serious emotional disturbances (SED) and the young adults 18 years of age and older are often labeled as having severe mental illness (SMI). Other terms are young people with severe mental health problems, mental illness disorders, emotional and behavioral disorders (EBD), mental health disorders (MHD), or with serious mental health conditions (SMHCs).

**** In 2002, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)**, of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (DOE/OSERS) awarded about \$2.5 million annually for four years to fund five cooperative agreements to develop the *Partnerships for Youth Transition (PYT) initiative*. The five transition demonstration sites were established in different states.

SAMHSA created another competitive transition grant series in 2009 for a 5-year cycle. It was referred to as the *Health Transitions Initiative* and funded seven states and an associated local demonstration site(s) in each state. SAMHSA initiated another 5-year grant cycle in 2014, with about 15 states and associated local demonstration sites. This initiative is referred to as the *Now Is The Time: Health Transitions (NITT: Healthy Transitions)*. Both the 2009 and the 2014 grants required that, in addition to the local transition demonstration site development, the state carry out review of their policy and funding and possibly reform these to facilitate the likelihood that communities and counties would be better able to implement quality effective transition programs.

The TIP model has been adopted fully or partially in many of these local demonstration sites and many of the states have adopted fully or partially the recommended policies that Unruh & Clark (2009) framed.

In 2009, the National Institute on Disability Rehabilitation & Research (NIDRR) and SAMHSA established two Research and Training Centers (RTC) on Transition: a) *Pathways to Positive Futures*, Portland State University, Portland Oregon; and b) *Transitions RTC (Learning & Working During the Transition to Adulthood Rehabilitation)*, University of Massachusetts Medical School.