

# Why Might Your Community with Wraparound Also Consider the *TIP Model™*?

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## How does the Wraparound approach work for youth and young adults?

- ❖ “Wraparound” is generally viewed as a “family planning process” (National Wraparound Initiative website).
- ❖ The Wraparound approach is used throughout the country. Unfortunately, the process and quality of it varies greatly from area to area and team to team. And without high fidelity, its results are not better than “services as usual” (Bruns, 2008; National Wraparound Initiative website).
- ❖ How well does Wraparound do at involving youth?
  - Findings from Walker and Schutte (2005) regarding attendance at Wraparound sessions suggest a very low percentage of youth attend even half of most sessions:
    - Pre-teens and teenagers were present at about 39% of the sessions evaluated (ages 9 to 18 year of age).
    - For youth 14 to 18 years of age, these individuals were present at about 50% of the sessions evaluated.
    - Observations indicated that youth, even when present, were not engaged in the process.
    - This finding regarding the lack of participation and engagement by youth in their own care, education, or treatment is not limited to the Wraparound approach, and is supported by other studies as well (Powers, Gil-Kashiwabara, Powers, Lee, & Singh, 2005; Gyouth and young adultmfi, Keens-Douglas, & Medin, 2007).
  - Youth are dissatisfied with Wraparound, and older youth (up to 20 years of age) are even more dissatisfied than their younger counterparts (Walker, Pullmann, Moser, & Bruns, 2012).
- ❖ The National Wraparound Initiative has set standards for “High Fidelity Wraparound”. This does improve the satisfaction ratings of the process by parents and there is some suggestion that it improves the satisfaction ratings by younger youth (Walker, Pullmann, Moser, & Bruns, 2012).

## Is something being done to strengthen Wraparound to better engage youth?

- ❖ An evolving supplemental program is being developed to try to better engage teenagers in the Wraparound approach.

- ❖ *Achieve My Plan* (AMP for Care Coordinators) and *Achieve My Plan +* (AMP+ for Peer Specialists; Walker, Seibel, & Jackson, 2016) are being created and tested to assist in better engaging youth in the Wraparound process.
  - Some of the recent studies on AMP have involved a 6 week training program to prepare University Intern Coaches (i.e., undergraduate and graduate students) to assist youth in preparing for attending their family’s Wraparound sessions (Walker, Gaonkar, Powers, Friesen, Child, & Holman, 2007; (nwi.pdx.edu, Walker webinar, March 29, 2016).
  - These AMP studies are showing some improved engagement by youth and pointing to further refinements that are being made to strengthen this approach even further.

**Even with the enhanced AMP, will Wraparound be effective for all young people?**

- ❖ The voice and choice of most older youth and young adults suggest that:
  - They no longer want to sit around with a group of older adults and discuss their situation or goals.
  - They would prefer to select who they want to meet with regarding a given topic, issue, or goal.
- ❖ Many young people do not have a viable “family” -- in reality or from their perspective.
  - Youth and young adults who are referred to services may be with their family of origin or may have extensive histories of out of home placements – and possibly face challenges such as:
    - Being alienated from their families based on parent or youth perspectives.
    - Living in the foster care system, homeless/runaway and/or other group shelter care facilities, living on the streets, incarceration, and/or hospitalizations for severe mental health conditions.
    - Poor school and academic experiences.
    - Co-occurring substance use (e.g., Cannabis Dependence, polysubstance dependence), developmental trauma, &/or multiple-system involvement.
  - Many of these youth who do have a “family” do not choose to participate with their family in Wraparound or other intervention or therapy.
    - Often these youth and their families are “system worn” or “system savvy” and do not find or trust the service system to be helpful to them.
  - Some of these youth or young adults have their “family of choice” that does not match the system’s perspective on what a “family” should be for involvement in the service system.
  - Even those older youth and young adults who have an intact family of origin are typically wanting to “break free” of their parents and pursue their own pathway.
  - The older the youth the less likely they are to want to participate in Wraparound (Walker, Pullmann, Moser, & Bruns, 2012). This would be particularly true for young adults, i.e., emerging adults at 18 to 30 years of age).
- ❖ Conclusion:

- Having a high fidelity Wraparound approach with AMP in a community will be helpful for many children and teenagers for some period of time.
- However, the engagement and service needs of many older youth and young adults are not going to be address through this approach.

### **How does the *TIP Model™* engage these youth and young adults?**

- ❖ The underlying principle of the *TIP Model™* is youth “voice and choice”.
  - This is not only reflected in the TIP Futures Planning process (i.e., self-determination), but also through other features of the model designed to further empower the youth and young adults, such as:
    - Guiding and teaching of a problem solving and decision making method so that the young person will be positioned to make better decisions for herself.
    - Teaching of not only relevant social skills, but also the emotional regulations skills that a young person might need to be able to use this social repertoire in everyday life situations (i.e., TF has an eye on difficulties a young person might have in coping with situations and others due to her emotional state and/or chronic trauma experiences).
    - Assisting the young person in building her social support network of valued friends, family, and other relevant people who may become supportive players over time (e.g., TF guiding a young person in understanding the reciprocal nature of relationships).
    - Maintaining a “Futures Focus” with a young person on what her “vision” for herself might look like -- short-term and/or long-term (e.g., across relevant Transition Domains).
  - As was stated earlier, unless the youth or young adult has a sense that she is being heard and allowed to engage freely in a discussion and process, it is unlikely that she’ll be committed to following though with actions or goals for her future.
- ❖ The *TIP Model™* even encourages the youth or young adult to select who she wants to plan with for a given topic, issue, need, or goal (i.e., *TIP Model* concept of “Planning Partners & Necessary Connections”).
  - The young person is not waiting for a “standing committee” to gather to fully sanction her choices.
  - The TF remains proactive and available with the young person so that she can engage and plan as things evolve in her life.
- ❖ When adults face a problem or decision point in their lives, who do they typically seek out for guidance?
  - A personal friend, close family member, or other trusted informal key supportive person.
  - A professional person in a field that is relevant to the issue.
  - Seldom does an adult call lots of people (even a group a close friends) to come together to meet as a group to discuss his concern or problem.

- ❖ Thus, it is appropriate to assist a young person in learning how to use her informal and formal key supportive players in a way that is appealing, non-stigmatizing, and benefits her in reviewing and addressing the problem, issue, or decision she faces.

**Chart: Dimensions that are common or different between the approaches of: Wraparound, Wraparound with AMP, and the *TIP Model™***

| <b>Principle, Activity, or Structure of the Process</b>   | <b>Wraparound</b>   | <b>Wraparound with Enhanced AMP</b>   | <b><i>TIP Model™</i></b>  |
|---|---------------------|---|---|
| <b>“Youth Voice &amp; Choice” principle</b>   | Family focused      | Family focused, but AMP provides youth supports to improve “youth focus” & engagement | Youth & young adult focused, with family involvement as relevant  |
| <b>“Self Determination” principle: Developing Self-Determination skills of the young person</b> | Not a primary focus | Yes   | Yes   |
| <b>Operates with a Standing Planning Committee</b>  | Yes                 | Yes   | No  |
| <b>Who determines with whom the youth is doing the planning?</b>                                | Parent              | Parent or Care Coordinator, with youth being prepared on the side for the meeting     | Youth/Young Adult decides with whom she wishes to plan for a given topic  |
| <b>Who is the youth’s primary connection to the process?</b>                                    | Youth’s parent      | Wraparound Care Coordinator or a Peer Young Adult                                     | Transition Facilitator. May also include another supportive person(s) &/or a Peer Specialist if the young person see their involvement as being relevant to her current topic, issue, need, or goal |
| <b>Designed to serve youth</b>  | Yes                 | Yes   | Yes   |
| <b>Designed to serve young adults (18-30 years of age)</b>                                      | No                  | No  | Yes   |