Ohio Expands Assertive Community Treatment with Training Series, Learning Communities from Center for EBPs

—by Paul M. Kubek

Columbus & Cleveland, OH—The State of Ohio continues to make Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) a top priority for people with severe mental illness who are most at-risk of homelessness, psychiatric crisis and hospitalization, and involvement in the criminal justice system. The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and Department of Medicaid

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People who receive ACT services often experience fewer emergency department visits, psychiatric crisis services, and psychiatric hospitalization.

ABOUT ACT
ACT is one of the oldest and most widely researched evidence-based practices in behavioral healthcare for people with severe mental illness. ACT takes a multidisciplinary team approach to service with assertive outreach in the community. The consistent, caring, person-centered relationships have a positive effect upon outcomes and quality of life. People receiving ACT services tend to utilize fewer intensive, high-cost services and tend to have less involvement with criminal justice. They also experience more independent living and higher rates of treatment retention.

TRAINING SERIES & LEARNING COMMUNITIES
Our training series and learning-community events are supported by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) and Ohio Department of Medicaid and include the following:
- Assertive Community Treatment (ACT): Making the Case and Getting Started
- ACT Program Leaders Training
- Regional Meetings for ACT
- ACT Program Leader Conference Calls
See page 3 for more information.
November 2, 2016
Assertive Community Treatment (ACT): Making the Case and Getting Started
- Location: Cleveland, Ohio
- Time: 9 am to 4:30 pm
- Presenter: Jeremy S. Evenden, MSSA, LISW-S
- CEUs: Up to 6

November 3, 2016
Assertive Community Treatment (ACT): Making the Case and Getting Started
- Location: Columbus, Ohio
- Time: 9 am to 4:30 pm
- Presenter: Scott Gerhard, MA, LSW
- CEUs: Up to 6

November 8, 2016
Regional Meetings for ACT (Central)
- Location: Columbus, Ohio
- Time: 10 am to 12 pm
- Presenter: Scott Gerhard, MA, LSW
- CEUs: N/A

November 9, 2016
Regional Meetings for ACT (Northeast)
- Location: Akron, Ohio
- Time: 9:30 to 11:30 am
- Presenter: Jeremy S. Evenden, MSSA, LISW-S
- CEUs: N/A

November 16, 2016
ACT Program Leader Conference Calls
- Location: WebEx (Teleconference)
- Time: 9 am to 10 am & 12 to 1 pm
- Presenters: Consultants and trainers from our Center
- CEUs: N/A

This professional peer-networking event is a learning community that provides program managers and team leaders with opportunities to ask questions and share lessons-learned about ACT implementation.

November 29, 2016
Assertive Community Treatment (ACT): Making the Case and Getting Started
- Location: Mentor, Ohio
- Time: 9 am to 4:30 pm
- Presenter: Deana Leber-George, MEd, LPCC-S
- CEUs: Up to 6

December 7, 2016
Assertive Community Treatment (ACT): Making the Case and Getting Started
- Location: Athens, Ohio
- Time: 9 am to 4:30 pm
- Presenter: Ric Kruszynski, MSSA, LISW, LICDC
- CEUs: Up to 6

December 8, 2016
Assertive Community Treatment (ACT): Making the Case and Getting Started
- Location: Cincinnati, Ohio
- Time: 9 am to 4:30 pm
- Presenter: Jon Ramos, BA
- CEUs: Up to 6

January 30, 2017
Assertive Community Treatment (ACT): Making the Case and Getting Started
- Location: Toledo (Maumee), Ohio
- Time: 9 am to 4:30 pm
- Presenters: Deana Leber-George, MEd, LPCC-S & Deborah Myers, MEd, LPCC-SC
- CEUs: Up to 6

March 29-30, 2017
ACT Program Leaders Training
- Location: Columbus, Ohio
- Time: 9 am to 4:30 pm
- Presenters: Consultants and trainers from our Center
- CEUs + Supervision Credits: Yes / TBA
The ACT daily team meeting is a gathering of service providers from multiple disciplines who are dedicated to team cohesiveness, team collaboration, and the recovery of people with severe mental illness and co-occurring substance use disorders. The daily team meeting has two basic components: format and pace. The meeting format is simple. It is a gathering of service providers from multiple disciplines who are dedicated to team cohesiveness, team collaboration, and the recovery of people with severe mental illness. All team members discuss what they know about each client’s life experiences and recovery in the last 24 hours and the next 24 hours.

The team leader keeps the pace of the meeting by focusing on the roster (list) of names of people enrolled in ACT services. The team leader keeps the discussion focused on the 24-hour cycle. This close look at yesterday and today is very important. It helps keep the pace of the meeting.

Team Members
ACT teams are multidisciplinary and usually consist of the following:
- Team Leader
- Program Assistant
- Prescriber (e.g., psychiatric care provider)
- Nurse
- Case Manager (e.g., community support provider, qualified mental health provider)
- Substance Abuse Specialist
- Peer Support Specialist
- Vocational Specialist
- Counselor/Therapist

To learn more, get these resources from our website:
- Daily Team Meeting Video & Learning Guide
  www.centerforebp.case.edu/resources/tools/act-video-part-1
- ACT Team Meeting Tools
  www.centerforebp.case.edu/resources/tools/act-team-meetings
Our Center has provided technical assistance for ACT and/or integrated ACT-IDDT in these states and in the Netherlands:

- Ohio
- Colorado
- Georgia
- Indiana
- Kentucky
- Maryland
- Michigan
- New Mexico
- North Carolina
- North Dakota
- Pennsylvania
- Washington
- Wisconsin

Many ACT teams use Integrated Dual Disorder Treatment (IDDT), the evidence-based practice for people with co-occurring severe mental illness and substance use disorders. IDDT acknowledges that abstinence from alcohol and other drugs is a long-term goal that occurs in stages of change and treatment over time. IDDT utilizes a person-centered, motivational, and stage-wise approach.

IDDT is a natural fit for ACT. It is estimated that as many as 80 percent of people with severe mental illness who receive ACT services may also have a co-occurring substance use disorder. Organizations that implement ACT often implement IDDT to address substance use disorders.

For more information about IDDT, consult these resources from our website:

- [www.centerforebp.case.edu/practices/sami/iddt](http://www.centerforebp.case.edu/practices/sami/iddt)
- [www.centerforebp.case.edu/resources/tools/iddt-overview](http://www.centerforebp.case.edu/resources/tools/iddt-overview)
- [www.centerforebp.case.edu/resources/tools/clinical-guide-for-iddt](http://www.centerforebp.case.edu/resources/tools/clinical-guide-for-iddt)

Learn more about ACT and our technical-assistance services for ACT:
[www.centerforebp.case.edu/practices/act](http://www.centerforebp.case.edu/practices/act)
Resources & Tools

A List of ACT Resources
$0 / Free / A list of resources and tools for implementing Assertive Community Treatment (ACT), the evidence-based practice, recommended by consultants and trainers from the Center for Evidence-Based Practices at Case Western Reserve University. Funded by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS).

www.centerforebp.case.edu/resources/tools/act-list

ACT | Making the Case
$0 / Free PDF / This mini-poster introduces organizations to the benefits of implementing Assertive Community Treatment (ACT), the evidence-based practice. Use this resource to educate policymakers, community stakeholders, service providers, and advocates about the benefits of ACT services. Build consensus in your organization and community.

www.centerforebp.case.edu/resources/tools/act-making-the-case

ACT | Getting-Started Guide
$0 / Free PDF / This booklet helps organizations prepare to implement Assertive Community Treatment (ACT), the evidence-based practice. This planning document is organized in 6 sections that include frequently asked questions about ACT, answers, recommended reading, and next steps for your organization. ACT improves outcomes for people with severe mental illness who are most at-risk of homelessness, psychiatric hospitalization, and institutional recidivism.

www.centerforebp.case.edu/resources/tools/act-getting-started-guide

ACT | Implementation Guide
$0 / Free PDF / This 4-page booklet helps organizations implement Assertive Community Treatment (ACT), the evidence-based practice. This document is organized as a checklist of activities in 5 stages of change and implementation. ACT improves outcomes for people with severe mental illness who are most at-risk of homelessness, psychiatric crisis and hospitalization, and involvement in the criminal justice system.

www.centerforebp.case.edu/resources/tools/act-implementation-guide

ACT | Daily Team Meeting: Video & Learning Guide
$0 / Free Video & Learning Guide (PDF) booklet / This Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Daily Team Meeting Video demonstrates how a multidisciplinary ACT team functions to support and advance the recovery of people enrolled in ACT services. The ACT team in this video demonstrates an adherence to the format, pace, and content of a daily team meeting that is consistent with high-fidelity ACT services.

www.centerforebp.case.edu/resources/tools/act-video-part-1
ACT | Team Meeting Tools
$0 / Free Downloads / Use the tools on this resource page in your ACT daily team meetings, staging meetings, and treatment-planning meetings. The tools are designed to help Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) teams manage information and coordinate daily activities as team members collaborate with each other to support the recovery of people enrolled in ACT services.

www.centerforebp.case.edu/resources/tools/act-team-meetings

ACT | Dartmouth Assertive Community Treatment Scale (DACTS)
$0 / Free PDF / The Dartmouth Assertive Community Treatment Scale (DACTS) helps organizations implement Assertive Community Treatment (ACT), the evidence-based practice. It is part of the ACT Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) Kit produced by SAMHSA. ACT improves outcomes for people with severe mental illness. / Created by Dartmouth Psychiatric Research Center and published by SAMHSA.

www.centerforebp.case.edu/resources/tools/act-dacts

ACT | Tool for Measurement of Assertive Community Treatment (TMACT): Summary Scale
$0 / Free PDF / The TMACT Summary Scale helps organizations implement Assertive Community Treatment (ACT), the evidence-based practice. It is designed to be used with the TMACT Fidelity Scale. ACT improves outcomes for people with severe mental illness who are most at-risk of homelessness, psychiatric crisis and hospitalization, and involvement in the criminal justice system. / Created by M. Monroe-DeVita, L.L. Moser & G.B. Teague and published by Hazelden.

www.centerforebp.case.edu/resources/tools/act-tmact

ACT | SAMHSA Evidence-Based Practices Kit
$0 / Free PDF / ACT Evidence-Based Practices Kit helps organizations implement Assertive Community Treatment (ACT), the evidence-based practice. It is produced by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). ACT improves outcomes for people with severe mental illness who are most at-risk of homelessness, psychiatric crisis and hospitalization, and involvement in the criminal justice system.

www.centerforebp.case.edu/resources/tools/act-samhsa-ebp-kit
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ABOUT US
Evidence Matters is a newsletter that highlights online stories from the Center for Evidence-Based Practices at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. We welcome and encourage your comments, questions, and suggestions. A free PDF of this publication may be obtained online:

www.centerforebp.case.edu/stories/ohio-act-training-series

The Center for Evidence-Based Practices at Case Western Reserve University is a partnership between the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences and the Department of Psychiatry at the Case Western Reserve School of Medicine. The partnership is in collaboration with and supported by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS).

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ONLINE & OFFLINE!
Share with team members, collaborators, community stakeholders, advocates, and students. Attach to grant applications.

Free PDF