

# The Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™):

*Service Score Results:* Baseline

**Name of Program and Service:** Wesley Spectrum Services-Wesley Spectrum-In Home Services

Cohort Total: 124

SPEP ID: 18

Selected Timeframe: Jan. 1, 2013-Dec. 31, 2013

Date(s) of Interview(s): May 1, 2014

Lead County & SPEP Team Representatives: Doug Braden, Allegheny Co. & Shawn Peck, EPISCenter

Person Preparing Report: Shawn Peck & Doug Braden

**Description of Service:** *This should include a **brief** overview of the service within the context of the program, the location and if community based or residential. Indicate the type of youth referred, how the service is delivered, the purpose of service and any other **relevant** information to help the reader understand the SPEP service type classification. (350 character limit)*

Wesley Spectrum Services (WSS) is a private, nonprofit service agency that provides a wide array of integrated education, behavioral health and family support services to meet the complex needs of at-risk children and families throughout Western Pennsylvania. They provide integrated continuum of autism, behavioral health, as well as education and family support services.

Wesley Spectrum's In-Home Child and Family Services provide intensive family services focused interventions for children and families referred by the Allegheny County Juvenile Probation Department and or Office of Children, Youth and Families. The Program's Structural/Strategic Family Therapy Model of counseling is research based, evidence informed and outcome focused. The strategic approach focuses on the interactional patterns within the family. Families are empowered to identify strengths, competencies, resources and options. Families are directed to understand problems in new, more helpful ways and to experience new ways of interacting or solving problems. Sessions typically occur two to three times a week providing maximum flexibility in a range of intensity levels. Service delivery requires that staff be available weeknights and weekends for in home sessions as well as 24 hour crisis support or intervention. Sessions include as many family members as possible and are designed to address crimeogenic criminogenic risk factors such as unsafe and/or unstable family setting, poor parenting, adverse family interactions, and disengagement from school, community and/or work, behavioral health, substance abuse and lack of pro-social relationships. Wesley Spectrum's In-Home Child and Family Services include: assessing family functioning to aid in service plan development, providing family counseling about relationships, domestic violence, parent/child conflict, crisis management, communication, peer relationships, anger management, problem-solving, budgeting, and parenting skills development.

**The four characteristics of a service found to be the most strongly related to reducing recidivism:**

1. **SPEP™ Service Type:** Family Counseling

Based on the meta-analysis, is there a qualifying supplemental service? n/a

If so, what is the Service type? There is no qualifying supplemental service

Was the supplemental service provided? n/a      **Total Points Possible for this Service Type:** 20

**Total Points Earned:** 20      **Total Points Possible:** 35

2. **Quality of Service:** Research has shown that programs that deliver service with high quality are more likely to have a positive impact on recidivism reduction. Monitoring of quality is defined by existence of written protocol, staff training and supervision, and how drift from service delivery is addressed.

**Total Points Earned:** 20      **Total Points Possible:** 20

3. **Amount of Service:** Score was derived from examination of weeks and hours each youth in the cohort received the service. The amount of service is measured by the target amounts of service for the SPEP service categorization. Each SPEP service type has varying amounts of duration and dosage. Youth should receive the targeted amounts to have the greatest impact on recidivism reduction.

Points received for Duration or Number of Weeks: 4

Points received for Dosage or Number of Hours: 4

Total Points Earned: 8 Total Points Possible: 20

4. **Youth Risk Level:** The risk level score is compiled by calculating the total % of youth that score above low risk, and the total % of youth who score above moderate risk to reoffend based on the results of the YLS.

108 youth in the cohort are Moderate, High or Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of 10 points

16 youth in the cohort are High or Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of 0 points

Total Points Earned: 10 Total Points Possible: 25

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**Basic SPEP™ Score:** 58 total points awarded out of 100 points. Compares service to any other type of SPEP therapeutic service. (eg: individual counseling compared to cognitive behavioral therapy, social skills training, mentoring, etc.)

*Note: Services with scores greater than or equal to 50 show the service is having a positive impact on recidivism reduction.*

**Program Optimization Percentage:** 69% This percentage compares the service to the same service types found in the research. (eg: individual counseling compared to all other individual counseling services included in the research)

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## The SPEP and Performance Improvement

The intended use of the SPEP is to optimize the effectiveness of reducing recidivism among juvenile offenders. Recommendations for performance improvement are included in the service feedback report, and these recommendations are the focus of the performance improvement plan, a shared responsibility of the service provider and the local juvenile court. The recommendations for this service included in the feedback report are:

The Wesley Spectrum In-Home Child and Family Services scored a 69% Program Optimization Percentage. It is classified as a Group 3 service; Family counseling with no qualifying supplemental service. The quality of the service was found to be delivered at a Very High level. The risk levels of youth participating in this program are: 11% as Low Risk; 87% as Moderate Risk or above; and 13% as High Risk. The amount of service provided to the clients was at 50% of the recommended targeted weeks of duration and 53% of the recommended target contact hours for this service type.

Wesley Spectrum In-Home Child and Family Services could improve its capacity for recidivism reduction through:

1. Improving communication with Allegheny County Juvenile Court and other courts that use this service on the research supported amount of service that should be provided for this service type.

# The Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™):

*Service Score Results:* Reassessment

**Name of Program and Service:** Wesley Spectrum Services-Wesley Spectrum-In Home Services

Cohort Total: 259

SPEP ID: 18

Selected Timeframe: Jan. 1, 2014-Dec. 31, 2014

Date(s) of Interview(s): Sep. 21, 2015

Lead County & SPEP Team Representatives: Doug Braden, Allegheny Co. & Shawn Peck, EPISCenter

Person Preparing Report: Shawn Peck & Doug Braden

**Description of Service:** *This should include a **brief** overview of the service within the context of the program, the location and if community based or residential. Indicate the type of youth referred, how the service is delivered, the purpose of service and any other **relevant** information to help the reader understand the SPEP service type classification. (350 character limit)*

Wesley Spectrum Services (WSS) is a private, nonprofit service agency that provides a wide array of integrated education, behavioral health and family support services to meet the complex needs of at-risk children and families throughout Western Pennsylvania. They provide integrated continuum of autism, behavioral health, as well as education and family support services.

Wesley Spectrum's In-Home Child and Family Services provide intensive family services focused interventions for children and families referred by the Allegheny County Juvenile Probation Department and or Office of Children, Youth and Families. The Program's Structural/Strategic Family Therapy Model of counseling is research based, evidence informed and outcome focused. The strategic approach focuses on the interactional patterns within the family. Families are empowered to identify strengths, competencies, resources and options. Families are directed to understand problems in new, more helpful ways and to experience new ways of interacting or solving problems. Sessions typically occur two to three times a week providing maximum flexibility in a range of intensity levels. Service delivery requires that staff be available weeknights and weekends for in home sessions as well as 24 hour crisis support or intervention. Sessions include as many family members as possible and are designed to address crimeogenic criminogenic risk factors such as unsafe and/or unstable family setting, poor parenting, adverse family interactions, and disengagement from school, community and/or work, behavioral health, substance abuse and lack of pro-social relationships. Wesley Spectrum's In-Home Child and Family Services include: assessing family functioning to aid in service plan development, providing family counseling about relationships, domestic violence, parent/child conflict, crisis management, communication, peer relationships, anger management, problem-solving, budgeting, and parenting skills development.

**The four characteristics of a service found to be the most strongly related to reducing recidivism:**

1. **SPEP™ Service Type:** Family Counseling

Based on the meta-analysis, is there a qualifying supplemental service? n/a

If so, what is the Service type? There is no qualifying supplemental service

Was the supplemental service provided? n/a      **Total Points Possible for this Service Type:** 20

**Total Points Earned:** 20      **Total Points Possible:** 35

2. **Quality of Service:** Research has shown that programs that deliver service with high quality are more likely to have a positive impact on recidivism reduction. Monitoring of quality is defined by existence of written protocol, staff training and supervision, and how drift from service delivery is addressed.

**Total Points Earned:** 20      **Total Points Possible:** 20

3. **Amount of Service:** Score was derived from examination of weeks and hours each youth in the cohort received the service. The amount of service is measured by the target amounts of service for the SPEP service categorization. Each SPEP service type has varying amounts of duration and dosage. Youth should receive the targeted amounts to have the greatest impact on recidivism reduction.

Points received for Duration or Number of Weeks: 4

Points received for Dosage or Number of Hours: 4

Total Points Earned: 8 Total Points Possible: 20

4. **Youth Risk Level:** The risk level score is compiled by calculating the total % of youth that score above low risk, and the total % of youth who score above moderate risk to reoffend based on the results of the YLS.

223 youth in the cohort are Moderate, High or Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of 10 points

33 youth in the cohort are High or Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of 0 points

Total Points Earned: 10 Total Points Possible: 25

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**Basic SPEP™ Score:** 58 total points awarded out of 100 points. Compares service to any other type of SPEP therapeutic service. (eg: individual counseling compared to cognitive behavioral therapy, social skills training, mentoring, etc.)

*Note: Services with scores greater than or equal to 50 show the service is having a positive impact on recidivism reduction.*

**Program Optimization Percentage:** 69% This percentage compares the service to the same service types found in the research. (eg: individual counseling compared to all other individual counseling services included in the research)

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## The SPEP and Performance Improvement

The intended use of the SPEP is to optimize the effectiveness of reducing recidivism among juvenile offenders. Recommendations for performance improvement are included in the service feedback report, and these recommendations are the focus of the performance improvement plan, a shared responsibility of the service provider and the local juvenile court. The recommendations for this service included in the feedback report are:

The Wesley Spectrum In-Home Child and Family Service scored 58% for the Basic Score and a 69 % Program Optimization Percentage. It is classified as a Group 3 service; Family Counseling service type. These scores represent no percentage change from the baseline findings of the Initial SPEP™ Assessment scoring results. The program could continue to improve its capacity for recidivism reduction through:

1. Regarding Service Amount: Continue to communicate the recommended duration of Family Counseling with Allegheny County Juvenile Court and other courts.
2. Regarding Youth Level of Risk: Continue to accept Moderate to High Risk youth that are best suited for this service.

# The Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™):

## Service Score Results: Reassessment

**Name of Program and Service:** Wesley Family Services (WFS)-In-Home Child and Family Services  
Cohort Total: 119 SPEP ID: 18-T03  
Selected Timeframe: Oct. 1, 2016-Sep. 30, 2017  
Date(s) of Interview(s): Apr. 24, 2017  
Lead County & SPEP Team Representatives: Bill Shultz, Allegheny Co. & Shawn Peck, EPISCenter  
Person Preparing Report: Bill Shultz & Shawn Peck

**Description of Service:** *This should include a **brief** overview of the service within the context of the program, the location and if community based or residential. Indicate the type of youth referred, how the service is delivered, the purpose of service and any other **relevant** information to help the reader understand the SPEP service type classification. (350 character limit)*

Wesley Family Services (WFS) is a private, nonprofit service agency that provides a wide array of integrated education, behavioral health and family support services to meet the complex needs of at-risk children and families throughout Western Pennsylvania. They provide integrated continuum of autism, behavioral health, as well as education and family support services. Wesley Family Services provides school-based, community-based, and outpatient behavioral health services throughout Southwestern Pennsylvania.

Wesley Family Services' In-Home Child and Family Services provide intensive family services focused interventions for children and families referred by the Allegheny County Juvenile Probation Department and, or Office of Children, Youth and Families. The Program's Structural/Strategic Family Therapy Model of counseling is research based, evidence informed, and outcome focused. The strategic approach focuses on the interactional patterns within the family. Families are empowered to identify strengths, competencies, resources, and options. Families are directed to understand problems in new, more helpful ways, and to experience new ways of interacting or solving problems. Sessions typically occur two to three times a week, providing maximum flexibility in a range of intensity levels. Service delivery requires that staff be available weeknights and weekends for in-home sessions as well as 24-hour crisis support or intervention. Sessions include as many family members as possible and are designed to address criminogenic risk factors such as unsafe and/or unstable family setting, poor parenting, adverse family interactions, and disengagement from school, community and/or work, behavioral health, substance abuse, and lack of pro-social relationships. Wesley Family Services' In-Home Child and Family Services include: assessing family functioning to aid in service plan development, providing family counseling about relationships, domestic violence, parent/child conflict, crisis management, communication, peer relationships, anger management, problem-solving, budgeting, and parenting skills development.

## The four characteristics of a service found to be the most strongly related to reducing recidivism:

### 1. **SPEP™ Service Type:** Family Counseling

Based on the meta-analysis, is there a qualifying supplemental service? No

If so, what is the Service type? There is no qualifying supplemental service

Was the supplemental service provided? n/a Total Points Possible for this Service Type: 20

Total Points Earned: 20 Total Points Possible: 35

### 2. **Quality of Service:** Research has shown that programs that deliver service with high quality are more likely to have a positive impact on recidivism reduction. Monitoring of quality is defined by existence of written protocol, staff training and supervision, and how drift from service delivery is addressed.

Total Points Earned: 20 Total Points Possible: 20

3. **Amount of Service:** Score was derived from examination of weeks and hours each youth in the cohort received the service. The amount of service is measured by the target amounts of service for the SPEP service categorization. Each SPEP service type has varying amounts of duration and dosage. Youth should receive the targeted amounts to have the greatest impact on recidivism reduction.

Points received for Duration or Number of Weeks: 2

Points received for Dosage or Number of Hours: 2

Total Points Earned: 4 Total Points Possible: 20

4. **Youth Risk Level:** The risk level score is compiled by calculating the total % of youth that score above low risk, and the total % of youth who score above moderate risk to reoffend based on the results of the YLS.

102 youth in the cohort are Moderate, High or Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of 10 points

16 youth in the cohort are High or Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of 0 points

Total Points Earned: 10 Total Points Possible: 25

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**Basic SPEP™ Score:** 54 total points awarded out of 100 points. Compares service to any other type of SPEP therapeutic service. (eg: individual counseling compared to cognitive behavioral therapy, social skills training, mentoring, etc.)

*Note: Services with scores greater than or equal to 50 show the service is having a positive impact on recidivism reduction.*

**Program Optimization Percentage:** 64% This percentage compares the service to the same service types found in the research. (eg: individual counseling compared to all other individual counseling services included in the research)

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## The SPEP and Performance Improvement

The intended use of the SPEP is to optimize the effectiveness of reducing recidivism among juvenile offenders. Recommendations for performance improvement are included in the service feedback report, and these recommendations are the focus of the performance improvement plan, a shared responsibility of the service provider and the local juvenile court. The recommendations for this service included in the feedback report are:

Wesley Family Services' In-Home Child and Family Services scored 54% for the Basic Score and a 64% Program Optimization Percentage. These scores represent a decrease of 4 percentage points for the Basic Score and a decrease of 5 percentage points for the Program Optimization Percentage from the previous SPEP™ Reassessment and the initial SPEP™ Assessment. The decrease of percentages points was due to a change in service usage that affected duration and dosage. It was classified as a Group 3 service; Family Counseling service type. The quality of service delivery was found to be at a High Level. The amount of service provided to the youth was 37% of the recommended targeted weeks of duration and 35% of the recommended targeted contact hours for this service type. The risk levels of youth that received this service were 15% as Low Risk, 72% as Moderate Risk, and 13% as High Risk. This service could continue to improve its capacity for recidivism reduction through:

1. Regarding Amount of Service:
  - a. Continue to communicate the recommended duration and dosage of Family Counseling with Allegheny County Juvenile Court and other courts.
  - b. Discuss change in service usage between Wesley Family Services and Allegheny County Juvenile Court and ways to better meet targeted duration and dosage.
2. Regarding Youth Level of Risk:
  - a. Continue to accept Moderate to High Risk youth that are best suited for this service.

# The Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™):

*Service Score Results:* Reassessment

**Name of Program and Service:** Wesley Family Services - In-Home Services

Cohort Total: 101

SPEP ID: 18-T04

Timeframe of Selected Cohort: Nov. 1, 2018 - Jun. 20, 2019

Date(s) of Interview(s): Jun. 20, 2019 & Jun. 20, 2019

Lead County & SPEP Team Representatives: William Shultz, Allegheny Co. & Christa Park, EPISCenter

Person Preparing Report: William Shultz, Allegheny Co. & Christa Park, EPISCenter

**Description of Service:** *This should include a **brief** overview of the service within the context of the program, the location and if community based or residential. Indicate the type of youth referred, how the service is delivered, the purpose of service and any other **relevant** information to help the reader understand the SPEP service type classification. (500 word limit)*

Wesley Family Services (WFS) provides quality behavioral healthcare & therapeutic support services that support the needs of children, adults, & families throughout their lifespan. WFS is a non-profit organization that serves more than 30,000 individuals & families in Western PA. WFS programs address autism, intellectual disabilities, behavioral health, & education. WFS believes that caring therapists, physicians, counselors, clinicians, & caseworkers can help whenever youth & families face challenges they may be trying to navigate. Where there is help, there is always hope. With more than 65 behavioral healthcare services & support programs, WFS works closely with those served & tailors their approach to meet the unique needs of every individual. As an organization, WFS provides behavioral healthcare services & support programs to individuals in their homes, communities, & schools - whatever best meets the needs of those served. WFS' In-Home Services provide intensive family-focused interventions for children & families referred by the County Juvenile Probation Departments (JPO) and/or Office of Children, Youth, & Families (OCYF). WFS utilizes a Structural Strategic Family Therapy Model of counseling; this model is research-based, evidence-informed, and outcome-focused. The strategic approach focuses on the interactional patterns within the family. Families are empowered to identify strengths, competencies, resources, & options. Families are directed to understand problems in new, more helpful ways, & to experience new ways of interacting or solving problems. Sessions typically occur two to three times a week, providing maximum flexibility in a range of intensity levels. Service delivery requires that staff be available weeknights & weekends for in-home sessions as well as 24-hour crisis support or intervention. Sessions include as many family members as possible & are designed to address criminogenic risk factors such as unsafe and/or unstable family settings, poor parenting, adverse family interactions, disengagement from school/community/work, behavioral health, substance abuse, & lack of pro-social relationships. In-Home Services include: assessing family functioning to aid in service plan development & providing family counseling about relationships, domestic violence, parent/child conflict, crisis management, communication, peer relationships, anger management, problem-solving, budgeting, & parenting skills development. Wesley Family Services has used the SPEP™ Performance Improvement Process to enhance their delivery of In-Home Services.

## The four characteristics of a service found to be the most strongly related to reducing recidivism:

### 1. **SPEP™ Service Type:** Family Counseling

Based on the meta-analysis, is there a qualifying supplemental service? No

If so, what is the Service type? There is no qualifying supplemental service

Was the supplemental service provided? n/a

Total Points Possible for this Service Type: 20

Total Points Earned: 20  Total Points Possible: 35

### 2. **Quality of Service:** Research has shown that programs that deliver service with high quality are more likely to have a positive impact on recidivism reduction. Monitoring of quality is defined by existence of written protocol, staff training and supervision, and how drift from service delivery is addressed.

Total Points Earned: 20  Total Points Possible: 20

3. **Amount of Service:** Score was derived from examination of weeks and hours each youth in the cohort received the service. The amount of service is measured by the target amounts of service for the SPEP service categorization. Each SPEP service type has varying amounts of duration and dosage. Youth should receive the targeted amounts to have the greatest impact on recidivism reduction.

Points received for Duration or Number of Weeks: 2

Points received for Dosage or Number of Hours: 2

Total Points Earned: 4 Total Points Possible: 20

4. **Youth Risk Level:** The risk level score is compiled by calculating the total % of youth that score above low risk, and the total % of youth who score above moderate risk to reoffend based on the results of the YLS.

84 youth in the cohort are Moderate, High or Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of 7  points

29 youth in the cohort are High or Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of 8  points

Total Points Earned: 15 Total Points Possible: 25

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**Basic SPEP™ Score:** 59 total points awarded out of 100 points. Compares service to any other type of SPEP therapeutic service. (eg: individual counseling compared to cognitive behavioral therapy, social skills training, mentoring, etc.)

**Note:** Services with scores greater than or equal to 50 show the service is having a positive impact on recidivism reduction.

**Program Optimization Percentage:** 69% This percentage compares the service to the same service types found in the research. (eg: individual counseling compared to all other individual counseling services included in the research)

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### **The SPEP and Performance Improvement**

The intended use of the SPEP is to optimize the effectiveness of reducing recidivism among juvenile offenders. Recommendations for performance improvement are included in the service feedback report, and these recommendations are the focus of the performance improvement plan, a shared responsibility of the service provider and the local juvenile court. The recommendations for this service included in the feedback report are:

1. Regarding Quality of Service Delivery:
  - a. Written Protocol:
    - i. Update existing manual with a review/revision date.
  - b. Organizational Response to Drift:
    - i. Incorporate the "Measurement of Service Outcomes & Fidelity" policy directly into the In-Home Services Manual for easy reference.
2. Regarding Amount of Service:
  - a. Improve communication with Allegheny County & Westmoreland County JPO to better match research recommendations for the target amount of service and appropriate length of stay for each youth.
3. Regarding Risk Level of Youth Served:
  - a. Maintain collaboration with Allegheny County & Westmoreland County JPO to consider the appropriate risk level for each youth.
  - b. Increase collaboration with Allegheny County & Westmoreland County JPO to consider each youth's responsivity factors during treatment.



# The Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™):

**Service Score Results:** Reassessment 4      SPEP™ ID and Contact Time: 0018-T05

Agency/Program Name: Wesley Family Services

Service Name: In-Home Counseling

Cohort Total: 136

Cohort Time Frame: Youth that began the service on/after July 1, 2022 and ended on/before November 30, 2023

Referral County(s): Allegheny (136)

Feedback Report Delivery: March 5, 2024

County/Probation Officer(s) Involved: Allegheny County Juvenile Probation - Bill Shultz & Ken Chiaverini

EPIS SIS(s): Christa Park

Wesley Family Services provides quality behavioral healthcare and therapeutic support services that support the needs of children, adults, and families throughout their lifespan. Wesley Family Services is a non-profit organization that serves more than 20,000 individuals annually in Western PA. Wesley Family Services' programs address aging, autism, intellectual disabilities, behavioral health, and education.

Wesley Family Services accepts referrals to the following services specifically from the Juvenile Justice System and Child Welfare agencies to provide stability and support to individuals and families: Aggression Replacement Training® (ART®) – social skill building for teenagers with anger and aggression management issues in the community and in the schools; Family Based Mental Health Services (FBMHS) – family therapy, crisis intervention, prevention services, and service coordination for families with at least one child who is at risk for a higher level of care in the home; In-Home Family Preservation and Stabilization – stability through family therapy services for children & families in the Juvenile Justice system with risk factors that may result in a child's removal from the home; services are provided in the home, at school, in detention/shelter, or in a community setting; Court Competency Curriculum – 10-session curriculum offered to youth who have been identified as incompetent to stand trial; the curriculum is delivered by trained therapists to assist those youth in better understanding the Juvenile Justice System & processes in the hopes of increasing the youth's capacity to participate in the system; Foster Care, Adoption, and Post Permanency Services – adoption services for children and teens with need for permanency in home; Functional Family Therapy-Child Welfare (FFT-CW) – strengthens families by providing a supportive environment, assistance, and recommendations through five distinct phases of therapy for those that need to improve their relationships; and ParentWISE Education Classes – education classes for parents, caregivers and people who work with children in one of our facilities, virtually, or in the community.

The focus of this report is In-Home Services (IHS). Wesley Family Services provides intensive family-focused interventions for children and families referred by the County Juvenile Probation Departments (JPO). Wesley Family Services utilizes a Structural Strategic Family Therapy Model of counseling; this model is research-based, evidence-informed, and outcome-focused. The strategic approach focuses on the interactional patterns within the family. Families are empowered to identify strengths, competencies, resources, and options. Families are directed to understand problems in new, more helpful ways, and to experience new ways of interacting or solving problems. Sessions typically occur two to three times a week, providing maximum flexibility in a range of intensity levels. Service delivery requires that staff be available weeknights and weekends for in-home sessions. Sessions include as many family members as possible and are designed to address criminogenic risk factors such as unsafe and/or unstable family settings, poor parenting, adverse family interactions, disengagement from school/community/work, behavioral health, substance abuse, and lack of pro-social relationships. In-Home Services include: assessing family functioning to aid in service plan development and providing family counseling about relationships, domestic violence, parent/child conflict, crisis management, communication, peer relationships, anger management, problem-solving, and budgeting. Wesley Family Services has used the Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) of the SPEP™ process to enhance their delivery of IHS across multiple SPEP™ cycles.

## The four characteristics of a service found to be the most strongly related to reducing recidivism:

1. **SPEP™ Service Type:** Family Counseling

Based on the meta-analysis, is there a qualifying supplemental service? No

If so, what is the Service Type? There is no qualifying supplemental service

Was the supplemental service provided? N/A      Total Points Possible for this Service Type: 20

Total Points Received: 20      Total Points Possible: 35

2. **Quality of Service:** Research has shown that programs that deliver service with high quality are more likely to have a positive impact on recidivism reduction. Monitoring of quality is defined by existence of written protocol, staff training, staff supervision, and how drift from service delivery is addressed.

Total Points Received: 20      Total Points Possible: 20

**3. Amount of Service:** Score was derived by calculating the total number of weeks and hours received by each youth in the service. The amount of service is measured by the target amounts of service for the SPEP™ service categorization. Each SPEP™ service type has varying amounts of duration and dosage. Youth should receive the targeted amounts to have the greatest impact on recidivism reduction. Targeted duration and dosage for this service is 20 weeks, 30 hours.

<u>65</u>	youth in the cohort of <u>136</u>	received the targeted Duration or Number of Weeks for a total	<u>4</u>	points
<u>65</u>	youth in the cohort of <u>136</u>	of received the targeted Dosage or Number of Hours for a total of	<u>4</u>	points

**Total Points Received:** 8 **Total Points Possible:** 20

**4. Youth Risk Level:** The risk level score is compiled by calculating the total % of youth that score above low risk, and the total % of youth who score above moderate risk to reoffend based on the results of the YLS. The Risk Levels of Youth admitted to the service were: 24 low risk, 82 moderate risk, 25 , high risk, and 2 very high risk.

<u>109</u>	youth in the cohort of <u>133</u>	are Moderate, High, Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of	<u>7</u>	points
<u>27</u>	youth in the cohort of <u>133</u>	are High or Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of	<u>5</u>	points

**Total Points Received:** 12 **Total Points Possible:** 25

**Basic SPEP™ Score:** 60 total points received out of 100 points. Compares service to any other type of SPEP™ therapeutic service. (e.g. individual counseling compared to cognitive behavioral therapy, social skills training, mentoring, etc.)

*Note: Services with scores greater than or equal to 50 show the service is having a positive impact on recidivism reduction.*

**Program Optimization Percentage:** 71% This percentage compares the service to the same service types found in the research. (e.g. individual counseling compared to all other individual counseling services included in the research.)

### **The SPEP™ and Performance Improvement**

The intended use of the SPEP™ is to optimize the effectiveness of reducing recidivism among juvenile offenders. The service could improve its capacity for recidivism reduction by addressing the following recommendations:

The COVID pandemic had little impact on this service overall. Initially, services were stopped due to COVID restrictions; over time, delivery was adapted to accommodate virtual meetings with youth & families. The virtual sessions had a positive impact on engagement and thus were incorporated into the service. Services can now be delivered virtually and in-person, with in-person the preferred setting. The service could improve its capacity for recidivism reduction by addressing the following recommendations:

#### 1. Regarding Amount of Service:

- a. Monitor trends related to early discharge and collaborate with Allegheny County Juvenile probation to address concerns if they arise.