

The Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™):

Service Score Results: Baseline

Name of Program and Service: The Summit Academy-Summit Academy Gun-Violence Education (SAGE)
Cohort Total: 42 SPEP ID: 190-T01
Selected Timeframe: Jan. 12, 2016-Sep. 29, 2016
Date(s) of Interview(s): Jan. 18, 2017 & Jul. 27, 2017
Lead County & SPEP Team Representatives: Bill Shultz, Allegheny Co. & Shawn Peck, EPISCenter
Person Preparing Report: Bill Shultz and 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)*

The Summit Academy is a private, residential school for court-adjudicated and dependent male youth ages 14-19 in grades 9-12. The program is multi-faceted, interweaving academics, counseling, trades training, and athletics. Youth with drug and alcohol issues reside on a different floor than those without drug and alcohol issues.

The Summit Academy Curriculum on Gun Violence Education consists of two curriculum merged into one by Summit Academy to form their own service of Gun Violence named SAGE (Summit Academy Gun Violence Education). SAGE is the combination of two existing services: 1-Gun Violence Prevention Workbook (developed by Loysville, Bureau of Juvenile Justice Services and Dauphin County Juvenile Probation), and 2-Get Real about Violence (developed by the State of California). The Summit Academy merged the two protocols into SAGE in 2015, to add content to the Gun Violence Prevention Workbook, which is 8 weeks. The addition of Get Real about Violence adds approximately 10 weeks to the SAGE curriculum, giving SAGE 18 weeks of service. Students are offered one lesson each week with two classes on that lesson per week, for 18 weeks, totaling 36 hours.

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

1. **SPEP™ Service Type:** Group 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: 30

Total Points Earned: 30 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: 10 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: 0

Points received for Dosage or Number of Hours: 0

Total Points Earned: 0 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.

42 youth in the cohort are Moderate, High or Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of 12 points

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

Total Points Earned: 20 Total Points Possible: 25

Basic SPEP™ Score: 60 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)

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 Summit Academy Gun-Violence Education (SAGE) scored a 60 for the Basic Score and a 64% Program Optimization Percentage. It is classified as a Group 4 service type. The quality of service was found to be at a Medium Level. The amount of service provided to the clients was 0% of the recommended targeted weeks of duration and 0% of the recommended target contact hours for this service type. The risk levels of youth admitted to the program were 0% as low risk, 74% as moderate risk, and 26% as high risk. The program could improve its capacity for recidivism reduction through:

1. Regarding Quality of Service Delivery:

- a. Written Protocol: i. Develop a schedule to update the protocols and date the latest version.
- b. Staff Training: i. Develop documentation of the specialized training of SAGE components. ii. Develop documentation for the On-the-job Training Process of SAGE. iii. Develop booster/refresher training, or ongoing training for delivery. iv. Develop documentation that supervisors are trained to deliver service.
- c. Staff Supervision: i. Develop a schedule to review each group and lesson of SAGE. ii. Develop a process to monitor the over-arching policy/procedure that encompasses the entirety of this service.
- d. Response to Drift: i. Develop existing procedures/policies into an overarching policy/procedure that includes specific action steps to prevent drift. ii. Ensure that the policies and procedures in response to drift include action steps, an if-then approach to ensure drift does not occur.

2. Regarding Amount of Service:

- a. Increase the amount of time youth remain within the program to match the research recommended 24 weeks of service. This can be accomplished through collaboration with probation services to increase the expectation for the number of weeks in the program.
- b. Increase the current curriculum of 18 weeks to 24 or more weeks of service (duration) and 36 hours to 40 or more hours of service (dosage) by including a pre-test and a post-test, a final exam, and a review/feedback session.

The Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™):

Service Score Results: Reassessment 1

SPEP™ ID and Time: 0190-T02

Agency Name: The Summit Academy
Program Name: The Summit Academy
Service Name: Summit Academy Gun Violence Education (SAGE)
Cohort Total: 44 for Amount of Service; 41 for Risk Level
Timeframe of Selected Cohort: Mar. 25, 2019 - Dec. 31, 2019
Referral County(s): Adams (1); Allegheny (12); Beaver (1); Berks (1); Chester (2); Clinton (1); Crawford (2); Dauphin (1); Delaware (2); Fayette (1); Huntingdon (1); Lebanon (1); Monroe (3); Montgomery (1); Philadelphia (5); Schuylkill (1); Westmoreland (5); York (3)
Date(s) of Interview(s): Dec. 9, 2019 & Feb. 12, 2020
Lead County: Allegheny
Probation Representative(s): William Shultz
EPIS Representative: Christa Park

Description of Service:

The Summit Academy is a private residential school for young men, ages 12-18 in grades 7-12 who are overcoming delinquency, dependency, and addiction issues. The school provides a multi-faceted approach to treatment, rehabilitation and recovery for youth who have experienced substantial trauma and challenges in their past. Summit Academy's trauma-informed milieu interweaves academics, substance abuse treatment, mental health service, evidence-based counseling, family support services, trades training, community service, arts and athletics to provide a transforming opportunity and holistic support system. The unwavering encouragement and comprehensive competency skill development they receive enables them to redirect their lives and focus on healthy and positive futures.

Summit Academy Gun Violence Education (SAGE) is a group counseling curriculum offered by Summit Academy which offers two evidence-based components: "Get Real about Violence" and the Pennsylvania DPW Gun Violence Prevention workbook. Get Real about Violence (GRAV) is designed to address a wide range of violent behavior. The GRAV curriculum is supplemented by a second segment which incorporates the Pennsylvania DPW Gun Violence Prevention workbook. The curriculum was modified during the PIP process to become a 24-week curriculum; SAGE is facilitated one hour, twice per week. Topics include: introduction to gun violence, scope & impact of gun violence problem, victim impact, risk factors, what you can do, and being peaceful.

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

1. **SPEP™ Service Type:** Group 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:** 30

Total Points Received: 30 **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 contact hours. 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 Contact Hours or Number of Hours: 6

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.

32 / 41 youth in the cohort are Moderate, High, Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of youth 7 points
16 / 41 in the cohort are High or Very High YLS Risk Level for a total of 13 points

Total Points Received: 20 **Total Points Possible:** 25

Basic SPEP™ Score: 78 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: 82% 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. 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 juvenile probation department.

SAGE received a 78 for the Basic Score and an 82% Program Optimization Percentage. These Basic Scores represent an increase of 18 percentage point(s) from the initial SPEP™ Assessment. These POP Scores represent an increase of 18 percentage point(s) from the initial SPEP™ Assessment.

The service was classified as a Group 4 service; Group Counseling Service Type. There is no qualifying supplemental service found in the research. The Quality of Service Delivery was found to be at a High Level. For Amount of Service, 39% of the youth received the recommended targeted weeks of duration and 60% of the youth received the recommended targeted contact hours for this service type. The Risk Levels of Youth admitted to the service were: 22% low risk, 39% moderate risk, 39% high risk, and 0% very high risk. The service could improve its capacity for recidivism reduction by addressing the following recommendations:

1. Regarding Quality of Service Delivery:
 - a. Written Protocol:
 - i. Enhance existing policy to include utilization of the YLS (i.e., risk, needs, and responsivity factors) when identifying youth appropriate for the service.
 - ii. Include review/revision date on binder materials.
 - b. Staff Training:
 - i. Within the written protocol, outline current practices regarding initial employee orientation on group services and process for annual booster trainings (e.g., “Dan’s” annual schedule).
 - ii. Use information gathered from direct observation of service delivery to identify topics for potential booster trainings (e.g., facilitation issues, strengths, etc.).
 - c. Organizational Response to Drift:
 - i. Review the “Response to Drift” policy on a pre-determined basis and note such review on the policy itself.
 - ii. Enhance the drift policy to include examples of service-specific drift and include an “if-then” approach for corrective action steps to be taken for service-specific drift.
 - iii. Enhance current practices to include data collection specific to service delivery.
 - iv. Enhance current practices to include data analysis specific to service delivery and utilize analysis to impact service delivery.
2. Regarding Amount of Service:
 - a. Maintain communication with referral 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. Collaborate with referral JPO to consider the appropriate risk level for each youth.
 - b. Collaborate with referral JPO to consider each youth’s responsivity factors during service delivery.