

Key Takeaways

- We must improve access to services, particularly in rural areas
- Collaboration is necessary to identify people who need help, to get those people into treatment, and put them on the pathway to success. Partnerships are critical to leverage funding streams, identify and train critical staff, and other opportunities.
- Data linkages – lawyers across programs are collaborating on data sharing and are beginning to have success.
- Drawing connections between programs (TANF, child support, treatment) and linking them to vocational rehabilitation services reduces barriers to employment.



Key Takeaways -continued

- Very limited access to treatment for youth, including MAT, despite patterns or increased use broadly similar to older people with SUD. Teens and youth offer a critical opportunity for early intervention



Key Takeaways -continued

- Different youth face different issues and have differing needs that indicate the need for varying and tailored services and approaches. Experiences of kids of different ethnicities and marginalized communities, abuse of different drugs/substances for different reasons which often require different treatments, and different experiences with SUD—some kids have SUD themselves, while others LIVE with SUD in parents and other family members and need supports with this (source of ACEs, etc.)



Key Takeaways -continued

- One systemic barrier is that early childhood staff – Head Start teachers, home visitors – are not trained to have these “difficult conversation” with parents with substance use in the home. Programs are often not equipped to provide training for their early childhood workers. But one state (Massachusetts) does have staff who are trained BOTH as recovery coaches and as early childhood providers. This is a promising model.



Key Takeaways -continued

- 1. Ohio agencies are engaging in data sharing thanks to a leadership push encouraging it. Attorneys from the Medicaid and Behavioral Health departments developed a universal release of information for that cities and counties can use.
- 2. Recovery friendly workplaces such as the New Hampshire Recovery Friendly Workplace, and Beldin Manufacturing in Indiana which employs people who have screened positively on a drug test.
- 3. Work with regional workforce boards to place people in employment after SUD treatment

