

LITS Bulletin

**Louisiana Integrated Treatment Services Technical Assistance Bulletin (TAB)
Issued by the LA Behavioral Healthcare Taskforce
TAB No. 2**

At the recent LITS Leadership Summit, each Local Steering Committee had the opportunity to identify two Louisiana Integrated Treatment (LIT) Specialists to participate in a specialized breakout session that focused on their role as local change agents for the LITS initiative. Below is a description of the duties of the LIT Specialists, as well as a list of resources that will be made available to assist their work at the local level.

Louisiana Integrated Treatment (LIT) Specialists

Local Change Agents

LIT Specialists serve as local change agents by developing expertise in integrated treatment services in order to promote ongoing training, technical assistance and onsite “championing” of holistic and integrated services. The purpose of this specialized support is to ensure the LITS initiative is owned by each local area and endures past COSIG grant activities. These LIT Specialists will be supported to promote fidelity to the LITS model in local adaptation and also provide case specific assistance when needed. They will be supported to facilitate the development of clinical procedures and protocols, implementation of continuous quality improvement measures, provision of peer support in supervising clinicians and counselors providing LITS services, and identifying addressing knowledge gaps including those related to cultural competency and working with people whose co-occurring disorder is further complicated by special conditions.

An important component of this process is for the LITS Specialists to function as a team of change agents throughout the system, to share expertise and provide a network of peer support for problem solving and dissemination of information and ideas.

Specialized Supports

The following are learning and consultation opportunities to provide ongoing efficient support and technical assistance to the LIT Specialists team:

- 1) monthly conference calls that will provide access to national experts in the field of co-occurring, such as David Mee-Lee and Ken Minkoff, for advanced training on clinical issues, case supervision, and assistance with system development (to begin July 05);
- 2) direct access to COSIG staff and participation in state level committees to discuss service development problems and specific needs in promoting the local change effort (ongoing);
- 3) Technical Assistance Bulletins issued by the state level Taskforce in accordance with changing policies and procedures (ongoing);
- 4) access to web-based technical assistance bulletin board (in development, projected date of access (Sept 05).
- 5) access to other LIT Specialists for consultation and problem-solving (ongoing).