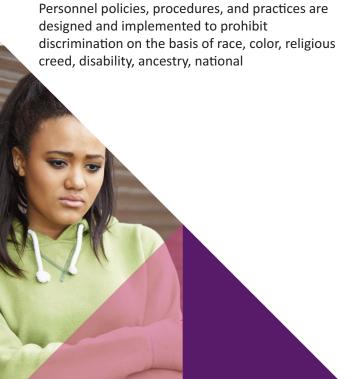
#### **A History of Service**

Wesley Family Services is a comprehensive human service agency that provides a wide variety of programs, services and activities for children, families, and adults living in the Western Pennsylvania region. We remain committed to our mission...

#### To empower children, adults and families by providing transformational care.

Our services are developed in accordance with national service organizations, the Alliance for Strong Families and Communities, and the National Council for Community Behavioral Health and are accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children. Certification by the Council on Accreditation means that Wesley Family Services meets the highest national standards for professional performance in human services. Personnel policies, procedures, and practices are designed and implemented to prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, religious creed disability ancestry national





## Empowering People. Strengthening Communities. Transforming the Future.

Every day, the caring, highly trained staff of Wesley Family Services empowers children, adults and families to overcome challenges so that they can be part of a stronger community with a brighter future. When you or a loved one needs help, we'll be there.



For more information about the ENGAGE program, call 412-694-6142

www.wfspa.org



# The word psychosis is used to describe conditions that affect the mind where there has been some loss of contact with reality. When someone becomes ill in this way it is called a psychotic episode. Current efforts at treatment are focused on sharing information learned from original studies in treating individuals who experience their first episode of

psychosis (FEP).

#### **ENGAGE**

Wesley Family Services is part of a statewide effort looking for additional ways to improve the lives of people experiencing first-episode psychosis. One of those efforts is ENGAGE (Educate, Navigate Grow and Get Empowered). ENGAGE involves exploring new areas and ideas for treating first-episode psychosis such as identifying ways of decreasing the duration of untreated psychosis.

#### **Goals of ENGAGE Program**

- help decrease the likelihood of future episodes of psychosis,
- reduce long-term disability, and
- help people to obtain a quality of life worth living however that is defined by the individual in treatment.



### The Use of Coordinated Specialty Care

Coordinated Specialty Care (CSC) is a recovery-oriented treatment program for people with first-episode psychosis. CSC promotes shared decision making and uses a team of specialists who work with the client to create a personal treatment plan. The specialists offer psychotherapy, medication management geared to individuals with FEP, family education and support, case management, and work or education support, depending on the individual's needs and preferences.

Current findings show that it is important to do the right thing at the right time. Initial papers from a national study (RAISE-IES and RAISE-ETP) describe the current state of care for early psychosis in the United States and demonstrate that coordinated specialty care can be successfully delivered in community practice settings.

Additional papers show that CSC is cost effective, and that clients feel that the CSC treatment is helping them. Researchers also found that CSC is more effective than usual treatment approaches, and that CSC is most effective when the client has a shorter duration of untreated psychosis, i.e., the length of time between the beginning of psychotic symptoms and the beginning of antipsychotic treatment.

#### **For More Information**

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