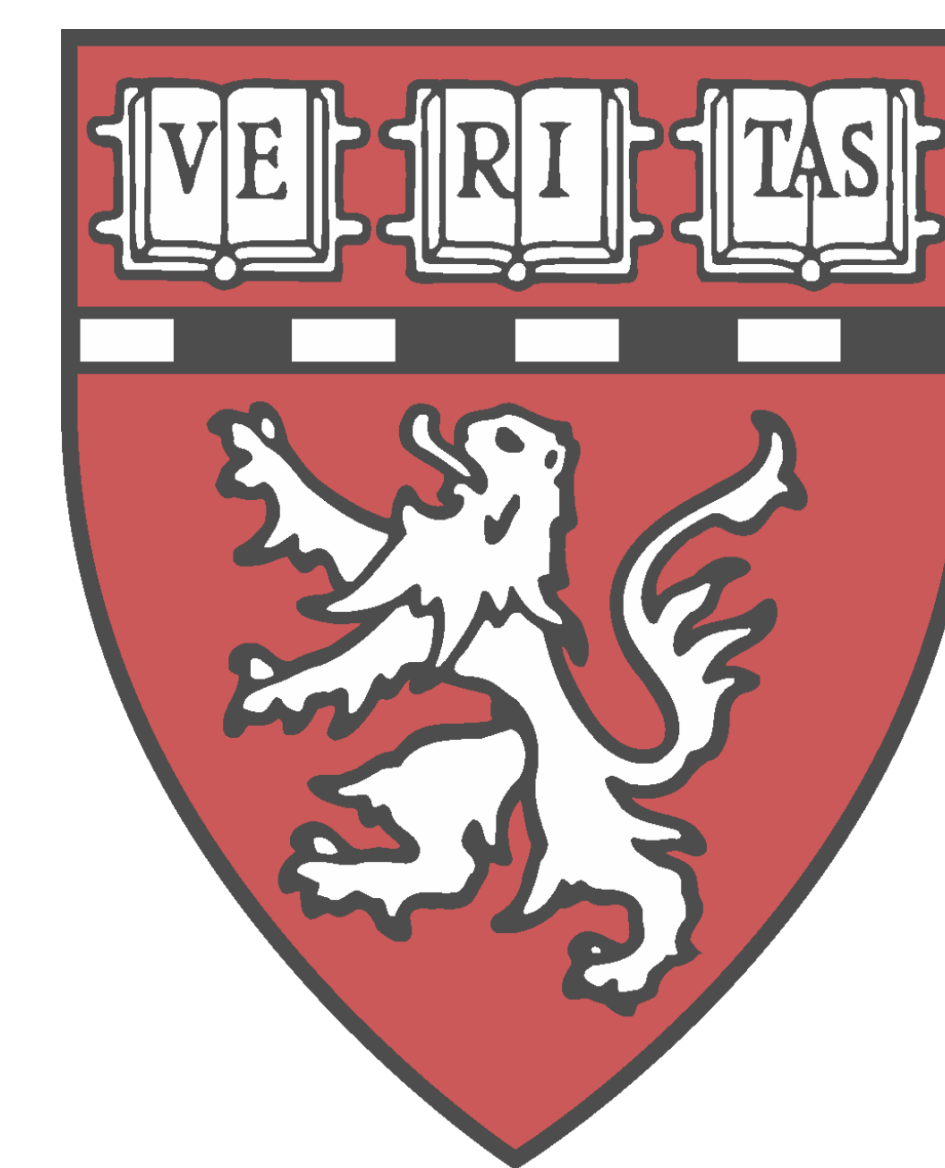




Understanding Community Mental Health First Episode Psychosis Care in Massachusetts



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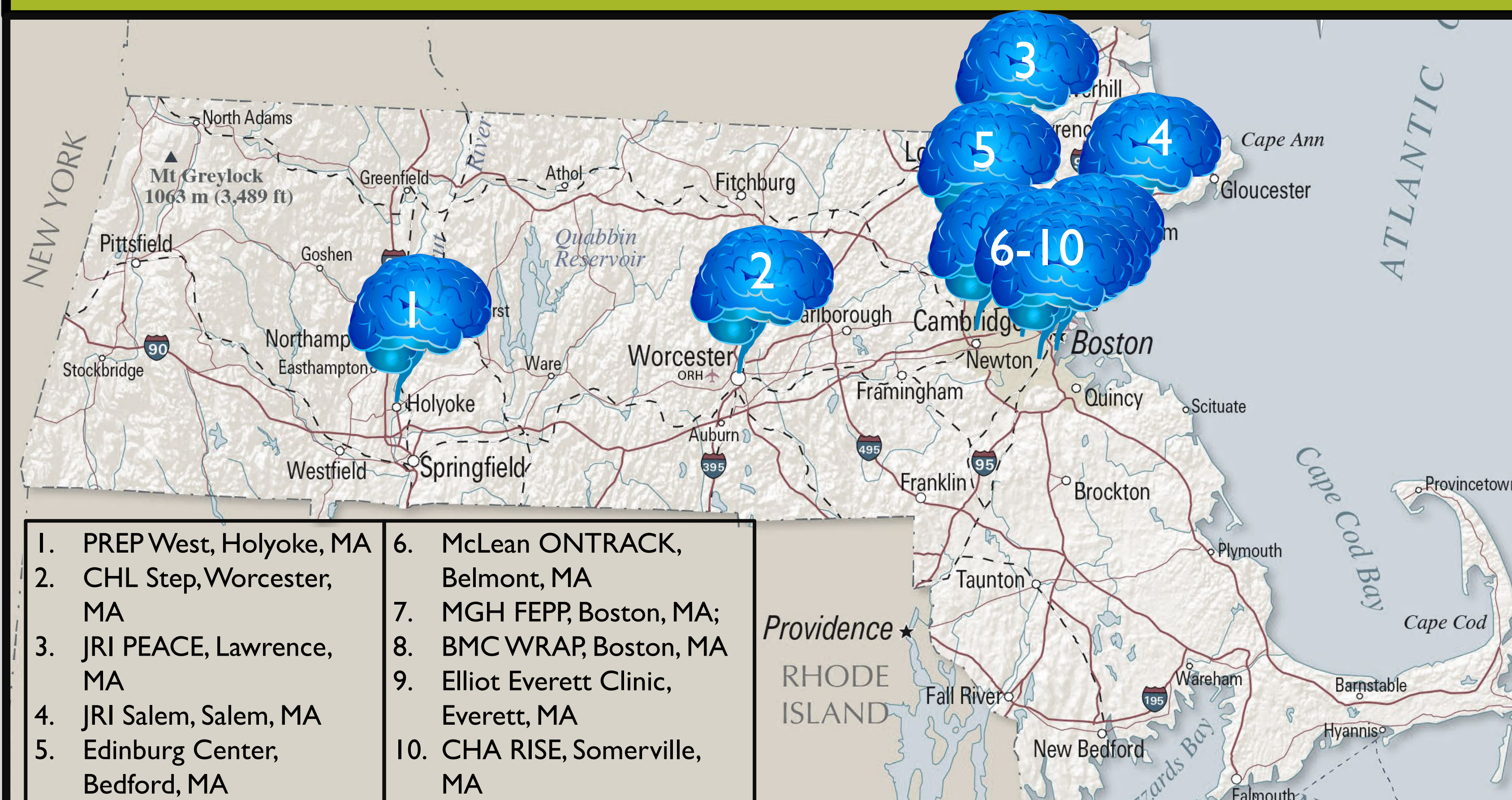
Introduction

- The rapid adoption across the country of evidence-based care for individuals experiencing a first episode of psychosis (FEP), “coordinated specialty care” (CSC), has dramatically improved the quality of treatment and service options for many FEP clients.
- Given the increasing availability of CSC across the US, there is now a hope, even an expectation, that this approach will greatly improve trajectories of psychotic illnesses and functional outcomes over time.
- Measuring fidelity to the CSC model and its components, such as Supported Employment and Education, is a critical step in understanding the success of these programs and identifying areas that require improvement.
- This study has two main aims: 1) to conduct fidelity assessments on Massachusetts FEP programs and 2) to compare the fidelity of the Massachusetts sites to the fidelity of the sites across the United States.

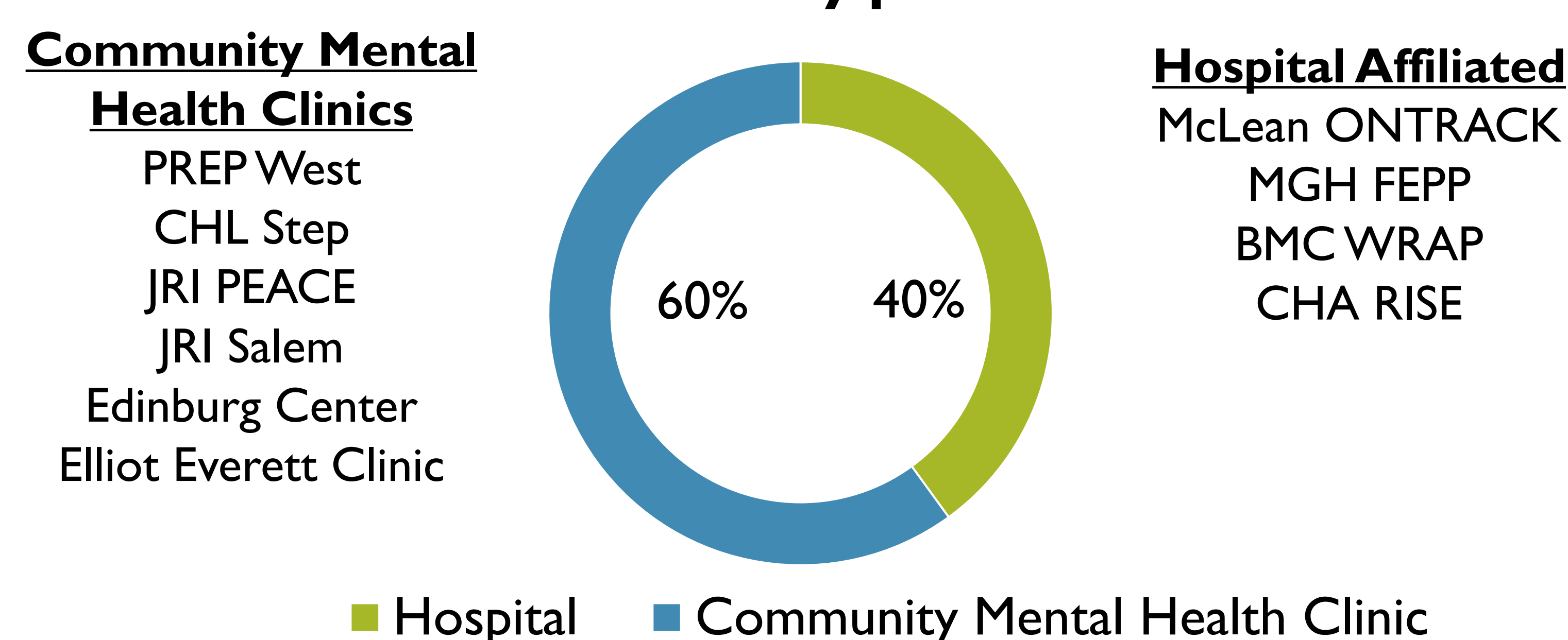
Method

- This study is currently conducting fidelity reviews of a total of 10 first episode psychosis programs across Massachusetts.
- All fidelity assessments are conducted in partnership between the Massachusetts General Hospital research team and the Massachusetts Psychosis Network for Early Psychosis (MAPNET) team.
- To better understand how adherence to the different components of the CSC model, as well to the Supported Education and Education component specifically, this study is utilizing two standardized fidelity scales:
 - FEP Services Fidelity Scale 1.0
 - IPS Fidelity Scale for Young Adults

Site Details



Site Type



Results

Site Evaluation Criteria	Site 1- Metro Boston	Site 2- North of Boston
Services Offered	All aspects of CSC	All aspects of CSC
Diagnostic Admission Criteria	Primary psychotic disorder; onset of psychosis within past 5 years	Developed symptoms of a psychotic illness in the last 3 years
Average Time in FEP Program	2 years	2 years
Peer Services	Directly employs a certified peer specialist who works half-time for FEP services	Currently hiring for FEP peer. Has employed one on this team previously
Supported Employment & Education	No funding for a full-time SEE Specialist. Supplements with a clinician offering 9 hours of SEE support	Full-time SEE specialist
Case Management	A FEP team clinic coordinator provides care coordination and refers to larger clinic services when needed	No designated case manager – all coordination is spread out across the clinical team and team lead.
Program Strengths	Leadership and coordination; client outreach and engagement; prescribing practices-designated Clozapine clinic; wrap around services	Leadership and organization; peer & comprehensive SEE services with strong expertise

Fidelity Assessment Components

- A brief site visit to observe clinical facilities.
- Observing a multidisciplinary clinical team meeting.
- View 5-10 randomly selected client charts to assess documentation, communications, assessments, and services completed.
- Individual meetings with:
 - Clinicians
 - Prescribers
 - Peer providers
 - Supported employment and education specialists

Conclusions

- This study is critical in understanding how Massachusetts delivers evidence based FEP care including supported employment.
- This is important to compare Massachusetts FEP care to the rest of the country
- Along with understanding how evidence-based practices are delivered within the context of real-world community mental health.

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