



Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™): Round #3 Findings Rating Report

Organization: VisionQuest

Program: Cognitive Behavioral Self-Counseling, Guided Recreation, Community Service, Aggression Replacement Training, Functional Family Therapy, Casey Life Skills, Sanctuary, Girls Self-Esteem, Street Smart

SPEP™ Range of Service: 7/1/2021 – 6/30/2022

Date of Report: 10/1/2022

The Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™) tool derived from meta-analytic research is a validated, data-driven assessment scheme designed to compare existing juvenile justice intervention programs to the characteristics of the most effective programs found in the research. This scoring system produces findings which allow us to identify areas in which improvements can be made to optimize existing services. Service improvements are expected to increase the effectiveness of programs by matching to the research associated with reducing recidivism of the juvenile offenders treated.

Community Service

The Quality Rating associated with Community Service ranked MEDIUM. This service was rated collectively between all three counties because all facilitators were trained in the same manner and participate in monthly meetings with their supervisors that include feedback and coaching.

Suggested action items:

- Response to drift and corrective action plans be created and implemented. VisionQuest has supplied a VisionQuest National policy on model fidelity. It has been suggested that the VisionQuest Delaware team create and implement a policy and corrective action plan specific to their staff and offices.
- Create and foster more meaningful opportunities with community partners, to engage youth and put emphasis on the therapeutic aspect of Community Service rather than focusing on the punitive.
 - Establish additional community partners to increase the variety of community service opportunities.
 - Record activities and notes on therapeutic interactions with youth in case files.

Aggression Replacement Training

The Quality Rating associated with Aggression Replacement Training ranked HIGH. This service was rated collectively between all three counties because all facilitators were trained in the same manner and participate in monthly meetings with their supervisors that include feedback and coaching.

Suggested action items:

- Response to drift and corrective action plans be created and implemented. VisionQuest has supplied a VisionQuest National policy on model fidelity. It has been suggested that the VisionQuest Delaware team create and implement a policy and corrective action plan specific to their staff and offices.
- Implement a procedure to review the manual and update it regularly.
- Based on survey responses from DYRS Community Services staff the closed groups required by Aggression Replacement Training impeded the ability for this service to be utilized. As an alternative, a similar training that could be delivered either with open groups or individually would be beneficial to the youth we serve.

Casey Life Skills

The Quality Rating associated with Casey Life Skills ranked HIGH. This service was rated collectively between all three counties because all facilitators were trained in the same manner and participate in monthly meetings with their supervisors that include feedback and coaching.

Suggested action items:

- Response to drift and corrective action plans be created and implemented. VisionQuest has supplied a VisionQuest National policy on model fidelity. It has been suggested that the VisionQuest Delaware team create and implement a policy and corrective action plan specific to their staff and offices.
- Implement a procedure to review the manual and update it regularly.

Sanctuary

The Quality Rating associated with Sanctuary ranked HIGH. This service was rated collectively between all three counties because all facilitators were trained in the same manner and participate in monthly meetings with their supervisors that include feedback and coaching.

Suggested action item:

- Response to drift and corrective action plans be created and implemented. VisionQuest has supplied a VisionQuest National policy on model fidelity. It has been suggested that the VisionQuest Delaware team create and implement a policy and corrective action plan specific to their staff and offices.

Cognitive Behavioral Self-Counseling

The Quality Rating associated with Cognitive Behavioral Self-Counseling ranked HIGH. This service was rated collectively between all three counties because all facilitators were trained in the same manner and participate in monthly meetings with their supervisors that include feedback and coaching.

Suggested action item:

- Response to drift and corrective action plans be created and implemented. VisionQuest has supplied a VisionQuest National policy on model fidelity. It has been suggested that the VisionQuest Delaware team create and implement a policy and corrective action plan specific to their staff and offices.

Family Functional Therapy

The Quality Rating associated with Family Functional Therapy ranked HIGH. This service was rated collectively between all three counties because all facilitators must possess the same minimum level of education and were trained in the same manner.

Suggested action item:

- Response to drift and corrective action plans be created and implemented. VisionQuest has supplied a VisionQuest National policy on model fidelity. It has been suggested that the VisionQuest Delaware team create and implement a policy and corrective action plan specific to their staff and offices.

Guided Recreation

The Quality Rating associated with Guided Recreation ranked LOW. This service was rated collectively between all three counties because all facilitators were trained in the same manner and participate in monthly meetings with their supervisors that include feedback and coaching.

Suggested action items:

- Response to drift and corrective action plans be created and implemented. VisionQuest has supplied a VisionQuest National policy on model fidelity. It has been suggested that the VisionQuest Delaware team create and implement a policy and corrective action plan specific to their staff and offices.
- A procedure should be created to ensure that monitoring of notes and activities is being completed on a regular basis.
- Create an exit survey to see where the youth feel the service is helpful and where it could improve.

Street Smart

The Quality Rating associated with Street Smart ranked HIGH. This service was rated collectively between all three counties because all facilitators were trained in the same manner and participate in monthly meetings with their supervisors that include feedback and coaching.

Suggested action item:

- Response to drift and corrective action plans be created and implemented. VisionQuest has supplied a VisionQuest National policy on model fidelity. It has been suggested that the VisionQuest Delaware team create and implement a policy and corrective action plan specific to their staff and offices.

Girls Self-Esteem

The Quality Rating associated with Girls Self-Esteem ranked HIGH. This service was rated collectively between all three counties because all facilitators were trained in the same manner and participate in monthly meetings with their supervisors that include feedback and coaching.

Suggested action item:

- Response to drift and corrective action plans be created and implemented. VisionQuest has supplied a VisionQuest National policy on model fidelity. It has been suggested that the VisionQuest Delaware team create and implement a policy and corrective action plan specific to their staff and offices.

Round # 3 Findings:

The programs offered at VisionQuest National were Classified and rated for Quality of Service on October 1, 2022, by Lauren Copeland (SPEP™ Specialist II).

Full SPEP™ Scores for the July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022, were determined for those services that had cohorts of 10 or more. Due to lower levels of youth being referred to services and constraints around COVID-19 the cohorts were too small to complete a full SPEP™ rating for some services.

Program Name: Cognitive Behavioral Self-Counseling**SPEP™ Service Category: Skill Building****Rating Type: Social Skills Training**

Program Description: An individual service that runs for **16 weeks and 24 hours**. CBS focuses on youth thinking about how they feel and what they do. The goal of the service is for youth to change the way they think, to feel and act in more positive ways. Topics covered include ABC's of emotion, Impulse Control, Critical Thinking, and life goals. Lessons including worksheets and activities are broken down by week in the manual that is used by the facilitator during the sessions. The manual is updated by Vision Quest leadership when there is a specific need. Facilitators have a bachelor's degree or higher. Facilitators are trained by supervisors and by completing shadowing. Additionally, all facilitators participate in monthly meetings with their supervisors and complete documentation in reference to fidelity, youth engagement, and concerns or issues they are having in delivering the service. These meetings include feedback and coaching. Supervisors complete a monthly check on physical notes from sessions as well.

Program: Cognitive Behavioral Self-Counseling
Number of Juveniles Represented in Cohort: 22
SPEP Score: 82
Service Optimization Rating (SOR): 86%
Quality of Service Delivery Rating: High

VisionQuest- Cognitive Behavioral Self-Counseling	Performance Category	SPEP Point Value	SPEP Program	
			Data N= 22	SPEP Points
Type of Service				
Primary Service Type	Social Skills	15	X	15
Supplemental Service	[Embedded]	5	X	5
Quality of Service Delivery				
	Low	5		
	Medium	10		
	High	20		20
Duration of Service				
% with ≥ 16 weeks	0-19%	0		
	20-39%	2		
	40-59%	4	10	4
	60-79%	6		
	80-89%	8		
	90-100%	10		
Contact Hours				
% with ≥ 24 hours	0-19%	0		
	20-39%	2		
	40-59%	4	10	4
	60-79%	6		
	80-89%	8		
	90-100%	10		
Risk Level of Youth Served				
% > low (medium or high)	0-29%	0		
	30-49%	2		
	50-74%	5		
	75-84%	7		
	85-94%	10		
	95-100%	12	22	12
% > medium (high)	0-14%	0		
	15-19%	3		
	20-24%	5		
	25-29%	8		
	30-34%	10		
	35-100%	13	16	22
Total SPEP Score				82

Program Name: Community Service
SPEP™ Service Category: Restitution
Rating Type: Community Service

Program Description: Community Service is mandated by courts or imposed as a sanction by a Probation Officer, this service is meant to be meaningful and thoughtful community service projects that provide a sense of community pride and instills the want to continue to enrich the community in which the youth live. Even though this service is imposed by the courts or a Probation Officer the goal duration and dosage are **12 weeks and 60 hours**. Staff should be engaging youth in meaningful conversations while they complete their projects. Facilitators are encouraged to create experiences or build relationships within the community to open new opportunities to the youth. Facilitators must have a minimum of a high school diploma and are trained by supervisors and by completing shadowing. Additionally, all facilitators participate in monthly meetings with their supervisors and complete documentation in reference to youth engagement, and concerns or issues they are having in delivering the service. These meetings include feedback and coaching.

Program: Community Service
Number of Juveniles Represented in Cohort: 40
SPEP Score: 48
Service Optimization Rating (SOR): 60%
Quality of Service Delivery Rating: Medium

**RESTITUTION /
COMMUNITY SERVICE**

VisionQuest- Community Service	Performance Category	SPEP Point Value	Program Data N= 40	SPEP Points
Type of Service				
Primary Service Type	Restitution	10	X	10
Supplemental Service	[Embedded]	5	X	5
Quality of Service Delivery				
	Low	5		
	Medium	10		10
	High	20		
Duration of Service				
% with ≥ 12 weeks	0-19%	0	3	0
	20-39%	2		
	40-59%	4		
	60-79%	6		
	80-89%	8		
	90-100%	10		
Contact Hours				
% with ≥ 60 hours	0-19%	0	0	0
	20-39%	2		
	40-59%	4		
	60-79%	6		
	80-89%	8		
	90-100%	10		
Risk Level of Youth Served				
% > low (medium or high)	0-29%	0		
	30-49%	2		
	50-74%	5		
	75-84%	7		
	85-94%	10	35	10
	95-100%	12		
% > medium (high)	0-14%	0		
	15-19%	3		
	20-24%	5		
	25-29%	8		
	30-34%	10		
	35-100%	13	24	13
Total SPEP Score				48

Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™): Round # 3: Service Optimization and Action Plan (SOAP)

The purpose of the Service Optimization and Action Plan (SOAP) is to record the findings produced from the Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP™) tool and to capture the program optimization recommendations derived from the findings and meeting(s) with Delaware Youth Rehabilitative Services and VisionQuest .

Round #3 rating could not occur with the limited number of youth in the cohort for the following services: Functional Family Therapy, Sanctuary, Girls Self-Esteem, Casey Lifeskills, Street Smart and Guided Recreation.

Service/Program	SPEP rating	POP Rating	YRS Recommended Optimization Plan	VisionQuest Recommended Optimization Plan	Implementation Plan
Community Service	48	60%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response to drift and corrective action plans be created and implemented. It is suggested that the VisionQuest Delaware team create and implement a policy and corrective action plan specific to their staff and offices. • Create and foster more meaningful opportunities and community partners, to more effectively engage youth and put emphasis on the therapeutic aspect of Community Service rather than focusing on the punitive. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

Service/Program	SPEP rating	POP Rating	YRS Recommended Optimization Plan	VisionQuest Recommended Optimization Plan	Implementation Plan
Cognitive Behavioral Self-Counseling	82	86%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response to drift and corrective action plans be created and implemented. It is suggested that the VisionQuest Delaware team create and implement a policy and corrective action plan specific to their staff and offices. • Implement a procedure to review the manual and update it regularly 	•	•
Service/Program	SPEP rating	POP Rating	YRS Recommended Optimization Plan	VisionQuest Recommended Optimization Plan	Implementation Plan
Sanctuary	N/A	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response to drift and corrective action plans be created and implemented. It is suggested that the VisionQuest Delaware team create and implement a policy and corrective action plan specific to their staff and offices. 	•	•

Service/Program	SPEP rating	POP Rating	YRS Recommended Optimization Plan	VisionQuest Recommended Optimization Plan	Implementation Plan
Casey LifeSkills	N/A	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response to drift and corrective action plans be created and implemented. It is suggested that the VisionQuest Delaware team create and implement a policy and corrective action plan specific to their staff and offices. • Implement a procedure to review the manual and update it regularly. 	•	•
Service/Program	SPEP rating	POP Rating	YRS Recommended Optimization Plan	VisionQuest Recommended Optimization Plan	Implementation Plan
Aggression Replacement Training	N/A	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response to drift and corrective action plans be created and implemented. It is suggested that the VisionQuest Delaware team create and implement a policy and corrective action plan specific to their staff and offices. 	•	•

Service/Program	SPEP rating	POP Rating	YRS Recommended Optimization Plan	VisionQuest Recommended Optimization Plan	Implementation Plan
Functional Family Therapy	N/A	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Response to drift and corrective action plans be created and implemented. It is suggested that the VisionQuest Delaware team create and implement a policy and corrective action plan specific to their staff and offices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
Service/Program	SPEP rating	POP Rating	YRS Recommended Optimization Plan	VisionQuest Recommended Optimization Plan	Implementation Plan
Street Smart	N/A	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Response to drift and corrective action plans be created and implemented. It is suggested that the VisionQuest Delaware team create and implement a policy and corrective action plan specific to their staff and offices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">

Service/Program	SPEP rating	POP Rating	YRS Recommended Optimization Plan	VisionQuest Recommended Optimization Plan	Implementation Plan
Girls Self-Esteem	N/A	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response to drift and corrective action plans be created and implemented. It is suggested that the VisionQuest Delaware team create and implement a policy and corrective action plan specific to their staff and offices. • Implement a procedure to review the manual and update it regularly. 	•	•

Service/Program	SPEP rating	POP Rating	YRS Recommended Optimization Plan	VisionQuest Recommended Optimization Plan	Implementation Plan
Guided Recreation	N/A	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response to drift and corrective action plans be created and implemented. It is suggested that the VisionQuest Delaware team create and implement a policy and corrective action plan specific to their staff and offices. • Create an exit survey to see where youth feel the service is helpful and where it could improve. • Services should not revolve around employment or obtaining employment. It is the expectation that referrals from DYRS staff that request employment services within this service be denied and returned for modification. 	•	•

Items of Note:

- It was noted that cohorts would have been larger and more would have been able to have been scored if risk assessments had been completed within 30 days of the youth starting a service. It is suggested that when a referral is sent to VisionQuest and there is no risk assessment completed within the last 30 days that VisionQuest request a new assessment to be completed within the next 30 days. This will ensure all youth can be included in the cohorts.
- It was noted in the contract monitoring completed May 2022 that Community Service hours did not accurately reflect the actual amount of time spent on activities. It is the expectation of DYRS that the actual time spent on a service equal the time reported for data tracking.
- It was noted that there should be research into the number of unsuccessful discharges. DYRS and VisionQuest should identify if appropriate referrals are being made, and if there are additional barriers to youth or VisionQuest staff in having a service be successfully completed.