

**Ash Institute Summer Fellowship in Urban Policy  
Project Description | 2009**

**City of Philadelphia**

**Incorporating the Recovery and Resiliency Model in the Department of Behavioral Health and Mental Retardation Services (DBH/MRS)**

**The Organization:** The City of Philadelphia is the nation's fifth largest city. With a \$1.4 billion budget, DBH/MRS is the City's largest department. The Children's Unit within DBH/MRS is actively participating in transforming behavioral health services provided to children and families within Philadelphia. This transformation involves reshaping the manner in which services are provided based on a Recovery/Resiliency oriented system of care model. This model is based on providing a long-term approach to addressing an individual's behavioral health and drug and alcohol problems and developing a purposeful life within an individual's community. This includes ensuring that services promote culturally sensitive family and community involvement and promotes an individual's hopes and dreams toward long-term recovery.

**Project Description:** The Fellow would report to Dr. Arthur Evans, PhD, the director of DBH/MRS, and would be responsible for reviewing two major aspects of the Children's Unit's work—Target Case Management/Drug and Alcohol Case Management and the Madeline Moore Summer Camp Grant program—and making recommendations to effectively integrate the recovery/resiliency principles in them. The Fellow would actively participate in the review, data collection and analysis of these two programs as well as the subsequent strategic planning and implementation of changes incorporating recovery/resiliency principles. At the end of the summer fellowship, the Fellow would have the opportunity to assist in developing the training and technical assistance curriculum for provider agencies to implement the recommended changes.

**Targeted Case Management/ Drug and Alcohol Case Management.** The Fellow would conduct an in-depth review of the tools used for intake (e.g., referral and concurrent review forms and processes) and make recommendations for changing them to better reflect the recovery/resiliency model. The Fellow would develop outcome measures to assess the effectiveness of the services provided and ensure they reflect the application of the recovery/resiliency principles. The outcome measures would include the results from a survey of children and families on services received from providers, their current progress and other ways to receive recovery support in their recovery in their community. The Fellow would also assist in developing a training tool for providers to help them understand the model and implement the model in their work.

**Madeline Moore Summer Camp Grant.** To improve the camp's effectiveness and ensure it reflects the principles of recovery/resiliency, the Fellow would examine the current application process and develop outcome measures to ensure that children and families receive services that address their needs. The Fellow would assist in developing a training curriculum to help camps understand the recovery/resiliency model and provide technical assistance with implementing the model within the camp's program.