

Youth and Family Treatment, Enhancement, and Expansion Project (TREE)

Youth and Family Treatment, Enhancement and Expansion Project (TREE) aims to enhance and expand comprehensive treatment, early intervention, and recovery support services for youth (ages 12 – 18) with substance use disorders (SUD) and/or co-occurring substance use and mental disorders (COD), and their families/primary caregivers. TREE recognizes that family/primary caregiver involvement in a youth's treatment is a key factor in effective treatment and recovery programs. [Click here](#) to watch a short video on what TREE is and how it can help you or your agency.

Program Funding & Community Partnerships

TREE is a grant awarded to Preferred Family Healthcare (PFH) by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for five years (11/30/18 – 11/29/23), with a sub-contract to the Behavioral Health Network of Greater St. Louis (BHN), totaling \$2,531,697. TREE leverages the strong infrastructure of BHN's Youth Emergency Room Enhancement (Youth ERE) community collaborative initiative within:

- St. Louis City
- St. Louis County
- St. Charles County
- Jefferson County

and expands upon the diverse youth and family services provided by PFH. Youth ERE's system of participating hospitals, health centers, and PFH's court liaisons and enhanced school partnerships strengthen the identification of, referral to, and retention of high-risk youth and their parents/caregivers into this enhanced, integrative, system of care.

Overall Goals and Services

- Increase access to behavioral health services, health care coverage, and social services for youth and their caregivers/family
- Improve coordination/collaboration between youth-serving agencies through the development of a comprehensive, coordinated, and integrated service system
- Improve substance use screening and engagement strategies for youth and their families

Client outreach and engagement efforts (up to 90 days) aim to identify pressing needs, appropriate resources, and potential barriers to active treatment engagement. Eligible youth and their families are enrolled in comprehensive substance use treatment and mental health services offered at PFH and other community providers. Caregivers of eligible youth are also screened for behavioral health needs and referred to services.