
Source: Holden, E. W., Friedman, R. M., & Santiago, R. M. (Eds.). (2001). The National Evaluation of the Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services for Children and Their Families Program [Special Issue]. *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders, 9*(1).

The special issue of this journal contains six articles that present findings from the national evaluation. The evaluation has been conducted by ORC Macro, Inc., in collaboration with the University of South Florida and other partners. The special issue also contains an introductory article by Gary De Carolis of the Center for Mental Health Services, and a concluding commentary by Barbara Burns of Duke University. The articles offer an overview of the evaluation, provide descriptive data on the population of youngsters served, provide data on system of care development, describe the "System of Care Practice Review," discuss expenditures and sustainability, and family participation.

This is the most comprehensive description of the evaluation and its findings that currently exists. However, the issue does not include findings from the comparison study in which five federally-funded system of care communities are compared to five non-federally-funded communities because data from this study were not available at the time these articles were prepared. Preliminary findings from the comparison study were presented at a special meeting on the overall program in Washington, D.C. on Feb. 6 and 7, and will again be presented at the annual research meeting of the Research and Training Center for Children's Mental Health, in Tampa Florida, Feb. 25-28, 2001.

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