



EQUITY

Bellport * 7 Challenges Initial client interviews

Program expectations

- To meet personal goals or requirements of mandated treatment
- To connect with their clinician
- Aid in sobriety, schooling, work, and to improve mood and personal relationships
- Not to have sobriety pushed on them
- Parents expected some level of involvement

Barriers

- Some parents are overwhelmed navigating the system
- When referral was made by another facility, easy to start. When parents navigate on their own, many more bumps & longer wait time
- Counselors with huge caseloads or not enough counselors
- Resistance to therapy, especially by mandated youths
- Counselor-patient mismatch

“But I wanted to take my reason for going there, is for you to help me, not for you to make me stop smoking. You know what I mean?”

Goals

- Talking in counseling about:
 - anxiety
 - school
 - coping mechanisms
 - feelings
 - cravings
 - emotion control
- Many are sensing progress is being made

DEI

- Clients reported that diversity, equity, and inclusion topics are not part of treatment.
- Some reported answering DEI questions up during their intake appointment
- None reported this as a problem

“...she's very helpful to him- when we have to go, it's not like it's a chore. I remember before he didn't wanna go, he would say, "Well, do we have to go?", he'll make excuses. Now, I feel like he wants to go...”