

Child and Family Outcomes: A Comparison under Two Systems of Care in New York State

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ABSTRACT Since the development of the child and Adolescent Service System Program (CASSP) in the United States, there has been a concerted effort in the field of children's mental health to develop systems of care that are child-centered, family-focused and community-based. Some years ago, a unique opportunity arose to examine the process and outcomes of a parent-designed system of care in New York State in which the planning, development and coordination of the system of care were largely the responsibility of parents with children having special needs. This paper reports the child and family outcomes of this quasi-experimental study comparing the family-designed system of care with a provider-designed system of care.