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Book Review

Adolescent Substance Abuse Treatment in the United States. Edited by Sally J. Stevens and Andrew R. Morral. New York: Haworth Press, 2002. (296 pp.; \$59.95 cloth; \$39.95 paper). (ISBN: 0-7890-1607-9)

Reviewed by William L. White, MA

Student assistance professionals have often found it difficult to evaluate the quality of their local substance abuse treatment resources. *Adolescent Substance Abuse Treatment in the United States* stands as a standard by which such quality can be judged.

This book edited by Stevens and Morral arrives at a most critical time. As adolescent substance use rose in the 1990s, communities across the United States called for expanded treatment resources for substance-involved adolescents. The result was dramatic: the number of adolescents admitted to publicly funded substance abuse treatment jumped from 96,787 in 1992 to 147,899 in 1998. The growth in treatment admissions sparked efforts to rigorously evaluate and improve the quality of adolescent treatment. Stevens and Morral provide an inside view of these efforts by detailing the exemplary treatment programs that are part of the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment's Adolescent Treatment Model (ATM) project.

An engaging first chapter describes the history and modern evolution of adolescent substance abuse treatment in the United States. It is followed by chapters that describe the theoretical foundations, client populations, key service elements and evaluation approaches of three outpatient programs, one multidimensional family therapy program, three short-term residential programs, and three modified therapeutic community programs. The programs profiled represent varied levels of care, varied continua of care and broad geographical representation. They include service sites with high representations of youth who are female, African American, Hispanic and Native American. The programs selected also illustrate varied models of collaboration between treatment agencies, the criminal justice system and schools.

Profiled programs have many distinguishing characteristics. All are theory-based and have been built upon earlier scientific studies and accumulated clinical

experience. All utilize sophisticated and standardized assessment procedures and instruments. All of the therapies have been compiled into manuals to aid their implementation fidelity and replication. All are currently being rigorously evaluated. And all are described by the very people who developed, implemented and are evaluating them. No other single work provides a more detailed orientation to the nature of adolescent substance use and the state-of-the-art of adolescent substance abuse treatment than this text edited by Stevens and Morral.

Adolescent treatment is rising from its status as a folk art to a scientifically guided endeavor. The programs described here are in the vanguard of this movement. Stevens and Morral and their 48 contributing authors are to be commended for this significant contribution to the field. Student assistance professionals across the country will want this in their personal library.