The CANS-New York Technical Assistance Institute:

Providing training, coaching, and technical assistance in effective use of the CANS-NY

New York State is using the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) as an outcomes management tool within the child serving system. The newly revised CANS-NY is designated as the primary eligibility tool for Children’s Health Home access. In order to support effective use of the CANS-NY by care managers and supervisors, the CANS-NY Institute will provide a system of training, coaching, and technical assistance.

The Institute is led by the NYS Department of Health and facilitated by Drs. John S. Lyons and Suzanne Button from Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago. A collaborative workgroup, consisting of four private organizations with notable experience in training and CANS-NY usage, will provide coaches and training for CANS-NY users/Health Home care managers in their region.

This collaborative workgroup will be guided and supported by data gathered through the yearly statewide Learning Needs Assessment, which will first be administered in February 2018. This assessment is designed to identify current training and learning needs and supports related to use of the CANS-NY. It will be distributed to agencies across the state that are using the tool. The results of this assessment will be reviewed by the Institute and available to CANS-NY users and key stakeholders through the TCOM site.

The Institute’s training and coaching activities are also informed by an Impact Board, consisting of youth and families with lived experiences of care, as well as key stakeholders from State Partners of AIDS Institute (AI), the Office of Mental Health (OMH), the Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS), the Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS), and many others. CANS-NY Institute leadership provides monthly email updates to the Impact Board about its progress and findings, and will hold bi-annual meetings to elicit input on emerging learning needs, Institute effectiveness, and consumer perspective on the CANS-NY.

Information about regional coaches, scheduled trainings, and other resources can be found at the Department of Health website. Additional information, tip sheets, and support for users of the CANS-NY can be found on the TCOM Training site or at TCOM Conversations.

For additional information, please contact:

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Button is a Policy Fellow at Chapin Hall. She supports the effective organization implementation of TCOM in diverse mental health, social service, and educational systems.

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Lyons is a Senior Policy Fellow at Chapin Hall. He created and supports the use of evidence-based assessments that are used around the world including the CANS, FAST, ANSA, and more.

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