



Building Bridges
INITIATIVE

Advancing Partnerships. Improving Lives.

July 11, 2014

Dear Building Bridges Colleagues,

I am pleased to share a new tip sheet on Sibling Support:

A Building Bridges Initiative Tip Sheet: Supporting Siblings When a Brother or Sister is Receiving Residential Interventions: Key Issues and Tips for Providers and Families

The document is attached to this email and can also be downloaded at:

<http://www.buildingbridges4youth.org/products/tip-sheets>

This document was developed by the Building Bridges Initiative Youth and Family Work Group and was written by Dr. Lauren Polvere. The tips provided were developed based on feedback and guidance from providers, family members and youth. I would like to thank everybody who was involved in the development of this document, including members of the BBI Steering Committee.

This new tip sheet describes the importance of sibling support and provides helpful strategies that can be used by providers, leaders in residential and community programs, and families and advocates. BBI values and principles reflect the need to create partnerships to support youth and families, and this new tip sheet identifies the importance of supporting siblings as a key component of strengthening families and communities.

Please email me at gary.blau@samhsa.hhs.gov or the Director of the National Building Bridges Initiative, Beth Caldwell at bethcaldwell@roadrunner.com if you have any questions or comments, and to let us know if this document is helpful.

Thank you for all that you do to improve the lives of children, youth, and young adults who have health challenges, and their families.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gary M. Blau".

Gary M. Blau, Ph.D.

Chief

Child, Adolescent and Family Branch

Center for Mental Health Services

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration