

# WORKING TOGETHER TO BUILD RENEW AS AN EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH EMOTIONAL AND BEHAVIORAL CHALLENGES

JESSE C. SUTER, PHD

CENTER ON DISABILITY AND COMMUNITY INCLUSION  
VERMONT UCEDD, UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

**SUMMARY:** Students with emotional and behavioral challenges succeed when they have teams working together to achieve their goals. A research study also takes a team. Two UCEDDs worked together to study RENEW. We followed four steps, just like RENEW does for students.

## WHAT DID VERMONT DO?

### CENTER ON DISABILITY AND COMMUNITY INCLUSION



The Center on Disability and Community Inclusion (CDCI) has a history of supporting projects like RENEW. Had applied for a research grant on wraparound, so ready to apply for similar grant.

Dr. Jesse Suter worked with other researchers on wraparound, so had team with research and grant experience. Center also had funds available for grant writing. Able to apply several times until funded.

CDCI successfully got research grant and led research study. CDCI also provided support for budget, IRB approval, and data collection and management.

We are now in the final year of the 4-year grant. However, we are planning for one additional year to complete student data collection and collect new data from schools on implementation.

## WHAT IS RENEW?

RENEW stands for Rehabilitation for Empowerment, Natural supports, Education, and Work. It is a strengths-based process that supports community inclusion and self-determination to achieve positive education, employment, and social goals. RENEW uses a person-centered planning process with four steps:



## WHAT DID NEW HAMPSHIRE DO?

### Institute on Disability/UCED



RENEW was developed in 1996 at the Institute on Disability (IOD). RENEW is used around the U.S. by schools, community mental health centers, and other providers. Promising data on student outcomes.

Dr. JoAnne Malloy is one of the developers of RENEW and has strong relationships with schools, trainers, and coaches. She also made connections to wraparound community, so connected with Dr. Suter.

IOD led the implementation team, overseeing all trainings for schools, coaching for facilitators, and support for school teams. RENEW coaches worked closely with schools.

The coaches and IOD team saw some schools had trouble using RENEW. They realized we needed more data to understand how students were doing. IOD is also leading transition to next study.

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT STUDY OR CDCI?

<https://www.uvm.edu/cess/cdci/>



The research reported here was supported by the Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education, through Grant R305A150438 to the University of Vermont.

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT RENEW OR IOD?

<https://iod.unh.edu/renew>

