

What are the details of The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant program?

Funding provided by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation totals \$16.9 million and extends until 2011. Five sites, including the National Program Office, received four year grants to replicate the Portland Identification and Early Referral (PIER) Program model – combining psychosocial, rehabilitative and pharmacologic interventions for the early identification and treatment of severe mental illness in youth and young adults. One site is not a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant recipient but has been accepted as a partner site to deliver the EDIPPP approach.

The six sites employing the EDIPPP approach are:

- Portland Identification and Early Referral (PIER) Program at The Maine Medical Center in Portland, Maine – also serving as the National Program Office for EDIPPP.
- Early Diagnosis and Preventative Treatment of Psychosis Illness (EDAPT) Program at the University of California, Davis Medical Center in Sacramento, California.
- Early Assessment and Support Team (EAST) Program at Mid-Valley Behavioral Care Network in Salem, Oregon.
- Michigan Prevents Prodromal Progression (M3P) Program at Washtenaw Community Health Organization in Ypsilanti, Michigan.
- Recognition and Prevention Program (RAP) at Zucker Hillside Hospital in Glen Oaks, New York.
- Early Assessment and Resource Linkage for Youth (EARLY) Program at the University of New Mexico and Mind Research Network in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Why is Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Funding EDIPPP?

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation views EDIPPP as creating a new vision of how we see and treat adolescents and young adults with mental illness, dramatically improving their quality of life and the lives of those around them. Nearly three percent of young people suffer from chronic mental illnesses, like schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. EDIPPP is an innovative treatment research program with a public health mission: to prevent and treat mental illness as we would any other chronic disease medical illness. Recognizing that the community can play an important role in prevention, EDIPPP reaches out to adults who have regular interaction with young people (teachers, social workers, doctors, nurses, police officers, parents) and educates them on early signs of psychotic illness so that they can identify, those at risk. EDIPPP sites work with young people ages 12 to 25 who show early symptoms, but do not yet have a diagnosed illness, and offers them and their families the level of support and care that is needed, based on their symptoms. EDIPPP holds the promise of redefining mental health services and redirecting the course of treatment to prevent psychotic illness in young people.