Southwest Washington Behavioral Health* Services Report: Current State and Gaps in Behavioral Health services

SWWA Regional Health Care Advisory Board Meeting
Public Service Center
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Presented on behalf of the SW Behavioral Health Gaps Workgroup
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*Behavioral Health= the treatment of mental health and substance use disorders; and the support of those who experience and/or are in recovery along with their families and communities.
Purpose and Scope

• Summarize and report to the community the current status of Behavioral Health Services in SW Washington Region (Klickitat, Skamania, Clark)
• Identify opportunities to improve coordination, clinical integration and address gaps in the care continuum

Process

• Input and material gathered from stakeholders in a series of four work sessions between July and September 2019
• Prioritized rankings from workgroup members and identified dependencies (i.e. capital, policy change, training, etc.)
• Written report by Program and Policy Insight, LLC and stakeholder review
• Present report to the community
• Draw on best practices and lessons learned statewide as the region works to address regional needs and gaps
Summary of Limitations

• The report is not a comprehensive needs assessment but a summary of current systems and gaps that were identified by stakeholders through a facilitated process

• The behavioral health system continues to evolve

• The report does not address important issues such as:
  • Demographic disparities
  • Racial inequities in access to services and supports and what is needed to equitably bridge the gap in access
  • Underrepresented communities who disproportionally experience the effects of poverty and behavioral health complications
  • Engagement from community members who have direct experience using the behavioral health system was very valuable but limited
Clark County Needs Priorities: Across the system

• Housing options for individuals with behavioral health needs
• Intensive outpatient mental health services
• Inpatient services for individuals with co-occurring (mental health and substance use disorder) treatment needs
• Increased access to psychiatry services
• Increased support for behavioral health workforce
  • Professional development
  • Recruitment and capacity building

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Clark County Needs Priorities: Population Specific needs

For Children and Youth
- Hospital diversion
- Increased access

For Seniors
- Increased focus and access across all services

Increase in culturally relevant services and supports. Specific communities identified by the workgroup:
- Russian
- LGBTQ
- Latinx
- African American
Klickitat County Needs Priorities

• Increased access to specialized services for children and youth

• Increase in culturally relevant services and supports for Native American residents

• Increased timeliness of services

• Decrease use of emergency department and hospital beds for psychiatric/substance use disorder crisis services

• Increased access to services and supports for survivors of sexual abuse
Skamania County Needs Priorities

• Increased access to affordable behavioral health supportive housing
• Increased access to recovery housing (e.g. Oxford House)
• Further develop and focus on services that support ongoing recovery
• Public Transportation (service access barrier)
Alignment with State Efforts

- Trueblood Settlement
- Governor’s Plan
- Western State Hospital transition
- ACH role in collaboration and supporting systems changes

Focused attention to statewide learning and the processes and structures needed
Thank You

Questions/Comments