




Behavioral Health Action Team Meeting

Friday, October 15, 2021

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Health Equity
3. Youth & Geriatric Mental Health
4. Telehealth Access
5. Partner Spotlight
6. Partner Updates

Attendance

- Carolyn Cullison - On Our Own
 - Maryellen Kraese - St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD)
 - Kristin Voto - SMCHD
 - Amanda Leal - Serenity Place
 - Wauchilue Adams - St. Mary's County Public Schools (SMCPS)
 - Gregory Jones - Tenn Court
 - Nat Scroggins - Minority Outreach Coalition (MOC)
 - Jessica Roberson - Hope & Healing Psychotherapy LLC
 - Jacquie Wells - SMCHD
 - Michelle Turkaly - SMCHD
 - Katie Tippet - Serenity Place, LLC and The Southern Maryland Psychological Association
 - Jaime Barnes - SMCHD
 - Suha Ansari - SMCHD
 - Jess Jolly - Pyramid Walden
 - Stacey Morgan - SMCHD
 - Greg Reuss - American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP)
 - Janiece Fredrick - Southern Maryland Community Network (SMCN)
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Health Equity

- SMCHD Health Equity Team Key Themes
 - The team collected 30 responses to their needs assessment survey in September (they have been taking a break in October for the Community Health Outreach Workers to complete their certification).
 - The team collects responses by going door to door in Lexington Park.
 - They have had 2 responses that indicated they needed mental health services. The team used their resource guide to refer them.
 - They complete a 30 day and 60 day follow up after survey responses.
 - The team has had good success at meeting people where they are in the community rather than expecting community members to come to them (liquor store, laundromat, grocery store, etc.).
- Discussion:
 - Sharing session on data collection locally:
 - In the Emergency Department the social workers will reach back out to discharged patients at a 2 week interval to check in.
 - MOC refers to local providers if they come across someone in need during their outreach.
 - SMCHD Prevention Team is doing regular outreach at Ascension Food Pantry & Outlook Recovery.
 - **Action item:**
 - Follow up within your organization to see if health equity data is being collected - if so, please bring this information to our November action team meeting.
- The team discussed potentially expanding Dr. Stephen Thomas' [H.A.I.R. program](#) to St. Mary's County.
 - Lori mentioned that MedStar piloted something similar back in original HEZ days with chronic disease.
 - Get Out the Vax Campaign did utilize the barbershops & beauty salons so there is already the initial connection there.

Youth & Geriatric Mental Health

- The team continued the discussion around the [google asset map](#) from the September Action Team Meeting:
 - Where are there gaps in the services?
 - There is a limited availability of places to refer to, especially psychiatric facilities - it was noted that in MD and DC there approximately 20 facilities, about 1/3 will accept 13 and younger, another 1/3 will accept teens, and then there's the issue with beds currently being available. It was noted that for the geriatric population this is an even smaller number.
 - The team discussed the limitations that those with Medicare and no supplemental health plan have.
 - Pyramid Walden noted that they do not accept medicare for SUD as it is difficult to get credentialing; Individuals who have Medicare may have Medicaid as a secondary insurance and we can accept that coverage for SUD. However, it is some but not all and depends on the Medicare plan.
 - serenity place accepts medicare; some clinicians, not all
 - Here is the link to what Medicare actually covers for SUD
<https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/mental-health-substance-use-disorder-services>
 - 000 - all of our services are free, they do offer geriatric services
 - Geriatric population has a different set of needs - dementia
 - What does the map not show?
 - Very lengthy work time (several months). People need something in the meantime.
 - What input have you received from clients in regards to finding a service provider?
- Potential Resources to help community members when seeking services:
 - Phone/Text Resources:
 - MD 211 (phone service), [SAMSHA Services Locator](#), [Findhelp.org](#), [MHA Finding Help](#), [Crisis Text Line](#) (741741)
 - Suggestion for virtua/app resource:
 - Better Help
 - Local resources who can point people in the right direction:
 - DAHS, School Social Workers/Counselors, SMCHD
 - **Action Item:**
 - Please review these resources over the next month for further discussion at the November action team meeting.

Telehealth Access

- Telehealth Access Point Project
 - Maryellen shared that the subcommittee has decided to work with TalkBox to go with ADA compliant booths. These ADA compliant booths will launch in early 2022 and we will be among the first places in the country to get them.
 - Due to the increased cost of the booths we will be limiting our pilot to 2 locations - Lexington Park and Charlotte Hall Libraries.
- **Feedback Needed from Providers:**
 - Any specific health requirements for the booth?
 - What platforms are you using for appointments and how do patients access (emailed link, text link, code that they input on website)?

Partner Spotlight

Amanda provided a presentation on Serenity Place, LLC.

Partner Updates

- The SMCPS Equity Needs Assessment results will be out in the near future
- Suha's team has been completing their CHW certification in October.
- SMCPS is continuing to provide counseling services in a tiered system of support. The social work team's case load is getting to be at capacity. They are receiving a large number of referrals. They are currently hiring for 1 secondary level social work position as well as 4 elementary social work positions.
- Minority Outreach Coalition is kicking off their youth tobacco education on November 1 - youth ages 6-26 are encouraged to participate.
- Serenity Place is growing! They are currently hiring. They are doing mostly telehealth with some in person as needed.
- SOMD Psychological Association is currently seeking 3 board member positions for 2022.
- Hope & Healing currently has openings for in person & telehealth. They accept tricare and have therapists certified in first responder training & trauma focused CBT.
- Pyramid Walden is still doing in person and virtual options for treatment.
- SOMD Community Network is currently accepting referrals for all programs.

Partner Updates

- SMCHD is still working to hire a suicide prevention coordinator.
- HSMP is asking for members to complete the [feedback & evaluation form](#) for the 2021 HSMP Annual Meeting. Recordings from the Annual Meeting are available [here](#).
- Teen Court is currently having in person sessions. They've seen an increase in referrals lately focused primarily on youth assaults.
- The SOMD Out of the Darkness Walk will take place on October 24.
- Carolyn is facilitating a WRAP facilitators training November 1-5 at On Our Own (OOO) of Calvert. Registration is still open. Contact OOO of Maryland or OOO of Calvert to register. CEUs are available.
- The Harm Reduction Program started their telehealth partnership with Johns Hopkins for Hep-C & bup treatment.
- The SMCHD Prevention Team is participating in the Medication Takeback event October 23 from 9-1 at the Governmental Center. This is also a shred & syringe return event.
- Red Ribbon Week is October 23-31. The SMCHD Prevention Team will be doing outreach in the schools with lots of giveaways that week!

Communications

- **Submit event and news updates/information at:**
<http://healthystmarys.com/newsletter/> or email
stmaryspartnership@gmail.com
- **Follow HSMP on Social Media**
 - Facebook: Healthy St. Mary's Partnership
 - Twitter: @HealthyStMarys

Upcoming

- Friday, November 19, 2021 from 10:00 - 11:00