

*Caroline County, Maryland*  
**STRATEGIC PLAN FOR ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE**  
June 2005

- Vision:** We envision a Caroline County where individuals live free from drug dependence.
- Mission:** Our mission is to provide quality prevention, intervention and treatment services to the residents of Caroline County impacted by the diseases of alcoholism and drug addiction.

**Goal 1: Develop a local and regional treatment system that ensures optimal patient placement. Optimal placement is defined as entry within 72 hours of an assessment into a treatment level that is appropriate to assessed need for treatment (ASI (Addiction Severity Index) & ASAM (American Society of Addiction Medicine) criteria) and readiness for change.**

- Objective 1: Establish a public sector Intensive Outpatient Program to serve adults and adolescents who are unable to receive these services in the private sector.
- Objective 2: Establish regional public sector availability and increase private sector availability of outpatient treatment for opiate addicts.
- Objective 3: Increase regional (Eastern Shore) inpatient detoxification and intermediate care beds for substance dependent patients, including capacity for adolescents, patients with co-occurring psychiatric and substance use disorders, and women with children.
- Objective 4: Increase funding to contract for intermediate care and long-term treatment beds for Caroline County residents when this level of care is unavailable in the public sector and the resident is unable to afford treatment in the private sector.
- Objective 5: Ensure access to transportation for all patients involved in any level of care.
- Target: Reduce the number of addicted residents in Caroline County by providing rapid access to the clinically appropriate level of treatment. Eliminate extended wait for placement (beyond 72 hours) for intermediate care, rehabilitation or long-term treatment bed when assessed need/motivation specifies this level of care.
- Measure: Percentage of drug dependent Caroline County residents placed at a level of care consistent with ASAM criteria and assessed motivation for treatment within 72 hours.

**Goal 2: Expand adolescent program in county schools, local outpatient treatment center and through the Juvenile Drug Court.**

- Objective 1: Request funding (salaries and resources) for two adolescent counselors: one to be assigned to schools in the southern end of the county and one to be assigned to the counseling center
- Objective 2: Develop intensive outpatient treatment for adolescents (30 slots)
- Objective 3: Provide on-site screening, assessment, treatment and referral services at all county middle and high schools
- Objective 4: Develop case monitoring and ongoing care capacity
- Objective 5: Develop a comprehensive co-occurring (mental health and substance abuse) program targeted to adolescents.
- Objective 6: Seek funding for additional adolescent counselors on an on-going, as needed basis to expand the availability of family treatment in the Juvenile Drug Court.

Performance Target: Reduce the number of adolescent substance abusers in Caroline County

Measure: Number of addicted adolescents.

**Goal 3: Allow equal access treatment services to all residents of Caroline County.**

- Objective 1: Implement satellite office in Federalsburg (Southern Caroline County) to ensure that those living in that area have access to services. (60 adult slots)
- Objective 2: Develop comprehensive treatment program in the correctional facility. (60 slots)
- Objective 3: Request funding for lead counselor position and regular counselor (CSC- Certified Supervised Counselor or CAC- Certified Addictions Counselor) position for Southern Caroline County and for jail-based counselor position.
- Objective 4: Improve patient identification by increasing and integrating assessments among community agencies.

Performance Target: Increase in the number of individuals accessing substance abuse treatment.

Measure: Percentage of population in need accessing treatment services.

**Goal 4: Increase prevention efforts to educate youth and families to live healthy, drug-free lives.**

- Objective 1: Use appropriate, evidence-based prevention programs in all settings.

Objective 2: Target children for prevention services whose parents are in drug treatment or incarcerated. Partner with treatment program in correctional facility.

Objective 3: Increase environmental strategies (changing policies, settings and community conditions to support healthy behavior and discourage high-risk, unhealthy behavior) to change individual and community norms.

Performance Target: Reduce overall incidence of first use of substances among youth ages 11-17.

Measure: Number of new users.

**Goal 5: Develop the infrastructure to sustain an efficient and effective prevention, intervention and treatment system.**

Objective 1: Improve the overall compensation and benefit package for administrative and clinical staff

Objective 2: Improve staff development through technical assistance and training

Performance Target: Retention of qualified leadership and staff

Measure: Actual turnover rate