
CECIL COUNTY DRUG AND ALCOHOL COUNCIL

**PLANS, STRATEGIES AND PRIORITIES FOR MEETING THE IDENTIFIED NEEDS OF THE
GENERAL PUBLIC AND THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM FOR ALCOHOL AND DRUG
ABUSE EVALUATION, PREVENTION, AND TREATMENT**

JULY 1, 2009 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2011

- Submitted on July 1, 2009 -

VISION:

A community free from substance abuse and dependence.

MISSION:

To reduce substance abuse and dependence and related consequences through development and implementation of an integrated and comprehensive prevention, early-intervention and treatment service system which meets the needs of the general public and the criminal justice system.

DATA DRIVEN ANALYSIS OF JURISDICTIONAL NEEDS:

In 2004, a large number of Cecil County residents reported that they were “very concerned” about their children using alcohol (47.7%) or drugs (51.1%).¹ These concerns were substantiated by data collected in the 2006 Maryland Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey which showed that, among Maryland jurisdictions, Cecil County has the 3rd highest number of residents reporting chronic drinking, and the 4th highest number of residents reporting binge drinking. Further, over 43% of Cecil County households with children have reported the presence of at least one binge drinking adult annually.²

Similarly, illicit drug use in the county ranks among the highest in the state of Maryland. The average number of people reporting current illicit drug abuse or dependence in Cecil County (3.04%) exceeds the state average (2.88%)³ and nearly 29% of young adults, aged 18 to 24, report a history of illegal drug use.⁴ The 16 drug-related deaths in Cecil County in 2005 accounted for 2.2%

1 The Cecil County Community Health Survey 2004 Report. Cecil County Health Department, Elkton, Maryland, May 2005.

2 Maryland Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2006.

3 Maryland Epidemiological Profile: Consequences of Illicit Drug Use, Alcohol Abuse, and Smoking. The Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration and the Center for Substance Abuse Research, University of Maryland, College Park, June 14, 2007.

4 The Cecil County Community Health Survey 2004 Report, op. cit.

of all deaths in the county that year. The only jurisdiction in Maryland with a higher percentage of deaths attributed to illicit drug use was Baltimore City. Similarly, Cecil County has the 3rd highest drug-induced death rate in Maryland at a rate of 16.4 per 100,000 fatalities. Cecil County also ranks high among Maryland jurisdictions in other consequences of illicit drug use: the rate of drug-related burglaries in Cecil County was 868.5 per 100,000 population (the 4th highest in Maryland), and the rate of drug-related motor vehicle thefts in Cecil County was 288.8 per 100,000 population (6th highest in Maryland). The rate of drug-related public school suspensions in Cecil County is the 8th highest in the state of Maryland (302.4 per 100,000 students).⁵

Reducing substance abuse and related consequences, and preventing the onset and escalation of substance use by adolescents are critical goals for the Cecil County community. The strategic plan identified below is the result of work from the Cecil County Drug and Alcohol Council, a local group of concerned community members and service providers. The plan, developed by the local group, identifies the service needs of the general public and the criminal justice system, and is in response to the Council’s review of available federal, state, local, and private funds used for evaluation, prevention, and treatment services. Successfully implementing the following plan is contingent upon receiving sufficient funding.

GOALS:

The goals of the jurisdictional plan for Cecil County are:

- 1) Establish an accessible and integrated continuum of substance abuse treatment services for adult residents of Cecil County.
- 2) Establish and enhance resources and programs to address the substance abuse concerns among individuals referred by the criminal justice system.
- 3) Establish an accessible and integrated continuum of substance abuse prevention, intervention and treatment services for the adolescents and their families of Cecil County.
- 4) Educate and assist families in Cecil County to live healthy and drug free lives.
- 5) Decrease perceived obstacles to prevention and treatment programs.

Objectives, Action Plan, Actual Outputs:

GOAL 1: Establish an accessible and integrated continuum of substance abuse treatment services for adult residents of Cecil County.

Objective A: Improve access to residential treatment services.

Objective B: Increase capacity to treat co-occurring disorders.

⁵ Maryland Epidemiological Profile, op. cit.

Objective C: Improve transitional housing services for individuals in need of ongoing long-term substance abuse care.

Objective D: Implement an emergency room diversion program for individuals experiencing mental health crises with or without coexisting substance abuse concerns.

Objective E: Increase the availability of buprenorphine and methadone treatments for persons addicted to opioids.

Performance Target: Increase the quality and quantity of treatment modalities accessible to Cecil County residents.

Estimated Dollar Amount Needed to Achieve Goal: \$750,000.00

GOAL 2: Establish and enhance resources and programs to address the substance abuse concerns among individuals referred by the criminal justice system.

Objective A: Enhance and expand the Adult Drug Treatment Court Program within the Circuit Court for Cecil County.

Objective B: Expand treatment and re-entry aftercare programs for residents of the Cecil County Detention Center and the Community Adult Rehabilitation Center.

Objective C: Increase treatment capacity for clients referred through the criminal justice system.

Objective D: Expand utilization of a victim impact panels for DUI offenders.

Performance Target: Improve substance-abuse related resources for individuals involved with the criminal justice system.

Estimated Dollar Amount Needed to Achieve Goal: \$350,000.00

GOAL 3: Establish an accessible and integrated continuum of substance abuse prevention, intervention and treatment services for the adolescents and their families of Cecil County.

- Objective A:** Improve access for adolescents and families to residential treatment services.
- Objective B:** Expand evidenced-based counseling and case management services for the families of at-risk children and adolescents.
- Objective C:** Extend the benefits of the drug court treatment model to adolescent offenders and their families.
- Objective D:** Expand adolescent offender participation in criminal justice diversion programs and neighborhood youth panels.
- Objective E:** Raise awareness about consequences of drug use among youth in Cecil County
- Objective F:** Increase the number of Cecil County youth who participate in evidenced-based prevention and early-intervention programs.
- Performance Target:** Increase the number of adolescents accessing integrated prevention, intervention and treatment services.

Estimated Dollar Amount Needed to Achieve Goal: \$500,000.00

GOAL 4: Educate and assist families in Cecil County to live healthy and drug free lives.

- Objective A:** Utilize multi-media initiatives to change individual and community norms.
- Objective B:** Increase the percentage of healthcare providers who routinely screen for substance abuse, and refer for further assessment/treatment those patients at-risk.

Performance Target: Reduce the prevalence of high risk substance abusing behaviors among residents as indicated by Cecil County Community Health Survey and Maryland Adolescent Survey.

Estimated Dollar Amount Needed to Achieve Goal: \$100,000.00

GOAL 5: Decrease perceived obstacles to prevention, early-intervention and treatment programs.

Objective A: Establish new transportation resources for Cecil County residents seeking prevention, early-intervention and treatment services.

Objective B: Evaluate viable locations for new satellite community-based programming.

Objective C: Improve services for non-English speaking community members.

Performance Target: Increased attendance and participation of those community members in need of services.

Estimated Dollar Amount Needed to Achieve Goal: \$350,000.00