

Prince George's County, Maryland
STRATEGIC PLAN FOR ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE
July 2005 – June 2007

GOAL 1 – Improve public safety by reducing alcohol and other drug use by County citizens and residents.

RATIONALE: Authorities link recent increases in crime to alcohol and drug related activity.

Objective 1: Access individual, family, school and community risk factors for alcohol and drug use in Prince George's County.

Objective 2: Identify, develop and/or enhance community resources to address needs and engender change through collaborative work with community resources/partners.

Objective 3: Identify protections and safeguards to protect the County residents from dangerous behaviors related to alcohol and drug use, including enforcement laws related to illicit drug use, underage drinking and tobacco use.

Objective 4: Develop mechanism for cross-system collaboration to ensure timely response to reported community incidents resulting from alcohol or drug use.

Objective 5: Increase diversion, drug court, re-entry and other programs to adequately address the needs of alcohol and other drug-involved residents identified by the criminal justice system.

Objective 6: Increase the proportion of persons who are referred for follow-up care for alcohol or other drug problems following hospital emergency room treatment for conditions linked to alcohol or other drug use.

Performance Target: Reduce health and safety problems in the County related to alcohol and drug abuse.

Measure: Referrals to diversion, drug court, jail based treatment and re-entry programs; referrals to treatment by Emergency Rooms; youth reporting binge drinking, use of illicit substances or illegal use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

GOAL 2 – Improve access to and quality of residential and outpatient treatment services for citizens and residents of Prince George’s County.

Rationale: To address scope of problem in the County, recent improvements in treatment availability must be sustained or surpassed and accompanied by improvements in quality.

Objective 1: Address identified service gaps and needs, including youth services, women’s services, services for non-English-speaking, populations and services for individuals with dual disorders.

Objective 2: Evaluate service/program effectiveness and patient outcomes.

Objective 3: Ensure cultural competency and sensitivity in treatment.

Objective 4: Increase treatment resources available in County.

Performance Target: Reduce the length of wait and distance traveled for appropriate treatment.

Measure: Treatment waitlists; service availability for special populations; out-of-County residents placements

GOAL 3 – Establish in-County residential detoxification, treatment and work-release facilities.

Rationale: The spirit of Health General Article 8-507 can be better addressed by improving local treatment availability and reducing the wait for out-of-county beds. Further, collective resources used to assist clients and motivate their families to travel out of County for care can be utilized more effectively and more efficiently for the local provision of care.

Objective 1: Finalize site plan for adult facility.

Objective 2: Ensure completion of a program plan for the facility.

Objective 3: Conduct a successful capital campaign.

Objective 4: Host ground-breaking ceremony for adult facility.

Objective 5: Secure funding for operation of adult and adolescents facilities.

Performance Target: Increase local residential treatment resources.

Measure: Opening of local facilities

GOAL 4 – Develop the infrastructure to sustain efficient alcohol and other drug service delivery.

Rationale: System growth, responsiveness and performance improvement require communication, service design, operational and administrative enhancements.

Objective 1: Create and sustain a work environment, policies and operational practices that attract, retain and develop committed and competent employees at alcohol and drug service programs across the County.

Objective 2: Enhance County-wide health and criminal justice competency to address dual addiction and mental health disorders.

Objective 3: Improve staff development through training and collaboration.

Objective 4: Enhance intra-and inter-agency collection and communication of data and information.

Objective 5: Maintain integrity of facilities and equipment for maximum safety and efficiency.

Performance Target: Consolidate and enhance recent gains in the development of a County-wide system of care.

Measure: Client identification, enrollment, and retention.