

**WASHINGTON COUNTY MARYLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL
TWO-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN FOR ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE**

Vision

To eliminate substance use and mental health related problems in the community by establishing model programs in partnership with other community agencies.

Mission

To provide a comprehensive continuum of services to all persons affected by substance abuse and mental health issues regardless of age, ethnic background, and/or financial status.

Problem:

Three identified obstacles and subsequent priorities in the treatment of substance use and mental health issues are family violence, co-occurring disorders, and juvenile substance use. Identifying appropriate resources and treatment services presents the impetus for change.

Goal 1:

Develop the infrastructure to sustain existing substance abuse programs.

Objective 1:

Advocate for competitive compensation and benefits packages for substance abuse programs.

Objective 2:

Build and maintain collaborative relationships with community agencies to maximize resources and reduce costs.

Objective 3:

Seek alternative funding sources for existing programs and/or programming format.

Performance Target:

1. Address the unfunded salary increases for publicly funded programs in various venues.
2. Identify agencies to develop collaborative relationships.
3. Identify alternative funding sources for substance abuse treatment

Measures:

1. Meetings with the Delegation, County Commissioners, and constituents.
2. Increase in collaborative relationships with community agencies.
3. Increase in the number of grants submitted for additional funding through alternative funding sources.

Goal 2:

Reduce overall incidents of Family Violence.

Objective 1:

Educate community and agencies regarding the correlation between family violence and substance abuse.

Objective 2:

Encourage referral and utilization of effective treatment interventions for individuals involved in family violence and substance abuse.

Objective 3:

Increase collaborative efforts between judiciary, family violence and substance abuse service providers.

Performance Target:

1. Establish a networking forum of agencies involved in domestic violence and substance abuse assessment and treatment.
2. Create an informational tool of domestic violence and substance abuse providers and services to assist the local judiciary in adjudication.
3. Review the Washington County Family Violence Council statistics on a quarterly basis to assess the family violence and related substance abuse incidents

Measures:

1. Attendance at networking forums.
2. Production and disbursement of the informational tool.
3. Receipt of quarterly reports of family violence incidence and report of the status of family violence in Washington County to the Drug and Alcohol Advisory members.

Goal 3: Increase community awareness of co-occurring disorders

Objective 1: Develop strategic planning group to identify and address issues related to the co-occurring population.

Objective 2: Educate and inform local providers (ie. mental health, addiction, medical, education, and criminal justice professionals)

Performance Targets:

1. Increase community awareness
2. Increase options for dually diagnosed individuals

Measures:

1. Develop an informational pamphlet
2. Do a Public Service Announcement
3. Organize one conference for all providers (listed above) in fiscal year 2007

Goal 4:

Identify and establish resources and services for individuals suffering with extensive mental health, addiction and criminal problems.

Objective 1:

Explore barriers that prevent smooth transition into community without disruption of services.

Objective 2:

Develop a plan to provide appropriate services for dually diagnosed individuals.

Performance Target:

1. Provide a plan of action for each individual re-entering the community from incarceration.

Measures:

1. Track number of dually diagnosed individuals released with a referral plan
2. Track number of inmates leaving the detention center with a referral plan who return to jail.

Goal 5:

Reduce juvenile alcohol and other substance use, abuse and dependency while increasing public safety.

Objective 1:

Expedite the formal processing of juvenile alcohol and drug offenders to facilitate timely treatment services for adolescents.

Objective 2:

Reduce alcohol and substance use, abuse and dependency among drug court participants.

Objective 3:

Reduce delinquency behavior among drug court participants.

Objective 4:

Increase Washington County's capacity to identify information about alcohol and substance abusing adolescents in order to respond to youth, family, and community concerns.

Performance Targets:

1. Reduction in criminal recidivism.
2. Reduction in resumed alcohol and drug use.
3. Increase retention in treatment.

Measures:

1. Number of repeat juvenile offenders.
2. Frequency of use at discharge.
3. Number of successful completions.