

Older Adult Mental Health Services

January 12, 2015

Highlights 2014

Depression and Older Adults

- Working with medical staff involved in mental health screening, Primary Care Behavioral Health increased access to mental health services for older adults with depression.
- Continued Elders' Storytelling Project, helped improved symptoms of older adults with mild to moderate depression, particularly Vietnamese and Spanish speaking seniors.

OA community/home based mental health services

- Golden Gateway continued home based services for seniors experiencing serious mental health problems.
- The Connections Program at Adult Protective Services continued to increase mental health services in the home for seniors experience serious problems such as depression, anxiety and family concerns.
- The City of San Jose Nutrition Program project continued to provide mental health education and support counseling for City's nutrition programs senior participants.

Staff Training on Older Adult Mental Health

- Implemented OA Summit Core Competency Training for mental health staff based on input received at the OA Summit, coordinated by Learning Partnership.
- Provided training for City of San Jose for Geriatric Specialist staff.
- Provided Masters level internships for students concentrating in Older Adult services.

Community Collaborations

- Continued service collaborations with City of San Jose and Adult Protective Services

Goals for 2015

Behavioral Health Integration

- Design behavioral health services system for older adults.

Older Adults with Mental Illness

- Stabilization of Elders' Storytelling Project, to help improve symptoms of older adults with mild to moderate depression, in particularly Vietnamese and Spanish speaking seniors.
- Develop Innovation proposal for Older Adults with compulsive hoarding problems.
- Develop Innovation proposal for Faith Based Collaborative to work with older adult.

OA community/home based mental health services:

- Extend The Connections Program at Adult Protective Services to improve support and advocacy for older adults with sons and daughters, and grandchildren with mental health and substance use issues.
- Expand senior nutrition mental educational programs to other senior centers.

Community Collaborations

- Develop collaborative relation with VMC for complex older adult medical patients leaving the hospital.
- Caregiver support.