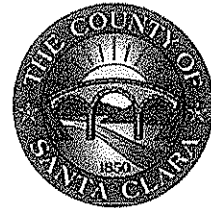


County of Santa Clara
Santa Clara Valley Health & Hospital System
Mental Health Services



74284

DATE: February 5, 2015
TO: Children, Seniors, and Families Committee
FROM: Toni Tullys, Director, Department of Behavioral Health Services
SUBJECT: Older Adult Summit Implementation Progress Report

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Receive progress report from Department of Behavioral Health Services relating to the Older Adult Summit Implementation Plan.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

This is an informational report; therefore, there is no impact to the County General Fund associated with the acceptance of this report.

CONTRACT HISTORY

Not applicable.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Older Adult Summit (Summit) Implementation Progress Report for FY 2014 identifies progress made in FY 2014 by the Department of Behavioral Health Services (DBHS) in implementing the Summit recommendations.

On February 16, 2012, the Children, Seniors and Families Committee accepted the recommendations made by the Mental Health Department, now the DBHS, regarding the implementation plan formulated as a result of the Summit which was held on June 1, 2011. The Summit Report (Attachment A) identified six key areas of mental health need for Older Adults: education, outreach, service integration, training, caregiver and peer support and policy.

This report covers the period July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, and outlines the progress made on implementing the recommendations identified in the Summit Report. In addition, the Department of Behavioral Health Services has developed 2015 Summit Plan Deliverables, which are included in this report. The work for these Deliverables is now on-going.

CHILD IMPACT

The recommended action will have no/neutral impact on children and youth.

SENIOR IMPACT

The recommended action will have no/neutral impact on seniors. The recommended action would have a positive impact on the older adults by ensuring that the community continues to make advancements on how services are provided to the older adult population of Santa Clara County.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The recommended action will have no/neutral sustainability implications.

BACKGROUND

In January 2011, Supervisor Cortese requested that the Mental Health Board, with the support of the MHD, convene a summit to address the unmet mental health needs of seniors in Santa Clara County. The resulting Summit Plan proposed a three-year implementation timeline that focused on seniors being served by the MHD. Emphasis was placed on cultural and language needs, community engagement and education. The three year implementation timeline included actions to be taken by the MHD to enhance partnerships and collaborations with other agencies and senior stakeholders. The first progress report to the Board of Supervisors dated November 7, 2013 (ID# 68771), detailed outcomes for January 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.

July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 Outcomes on Summit Plan Deliverable

Measure A Funding

The MHD wrote a proposal for Measure A funding to expand the staffing of the Connections Program at Adult Protective Services (APS) and to fund mental health education and outreach services at senior community centers throughout Santa Clara County. Though the proposal was not funded, the DBHS continues to work with APS and City of San Jose to enhance their programs to address Summit recommendations.

Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Three-Year Plan for FY 2015 – FY 2017

1. The Three-Year Plan includes inputs from the Summit Report and the Older Adult Committee of the Behavioral Health Board. Both sources identified critical mental health needs for older adults.
2. The Three-Year Plan was approved by the Board of Supervisors on October 21, 2014, and provided funding the following programs/projects:
 - a. Elders' Storytelling Project (Project), which serves older adults with mild to moderate depression. In FY 2014, our community-based organizations partners served a total of 70 clients. Asian Americans for Community Involvement served 39 clients and Gardner Family Care Corporation provided services to 31 clients. The two programs combined provided 194 senior outreach contacts and 110 community presentations.

- b. Connections at Adult Protective Services (APS), which serves seniors and dependent adults with mental illness referred by APS staff, and provides mental health consultations to APS staff.
- c. Golden Gateway, which provides in-home engagement and direct services to older adults with mental illness.
- d. Older Adults Full Service Partnership, which provides extensive services for unserved and underserved older adults with serious mental illness.
- e. The City of San Jose Nutritional Centers Project, funded for one year.

County Senior Agenda

The MHD continued to participate in the monthly Senior Agenda Policy Committee and the Senior Agenda Summit.

Older Adult Summit Core Competency Training (new objective)

The purpose of the Older Adult Summit Core Competency Training is to enhance the skills of mental health staff who serve older adults. The new training curriculum incorporates ideas and recommendations from diverse, Summit participants, and addresses the specific needs of older adults.

1. The Summit's extensive participant input helped to identify core competencies for staff that serve older adults. Input focused on five areas: client alliance, the impact of physical decline, emotional and relationship changes, engagement with community resources and services, and clinical services to meet the unique needs of elders.
2. Four Core Competency training sessions, delivered by experts in the field of senior mental health services, were provided to 107 (duplicated) mental health staff. The training sessions include:
 - a. Walk with Elders: Strengthening a Collaborative Relationship with Older Adult Clients by Elisa Alvarado, LCSW. Training focus: The unique considerations when working with elders, such as showing respect; providing consistency; strengthening connectedness; demonstrating knowledge and understanding of culture; advocating for clients on multiple levels and addressing client concerns. There were twelve participants.
 - b. The Impact of the Physical Decline on Mental Health and Life Styles of the Older/Aging Adult Client by Manuel Yanez, PhD. Training topic: the impact of physical decline of elders, including responding to physical limits and medical conditions, differentiating and connecting depression and dementia, understanding chronic physical illness effects on mental health, and creating healthy lifestyle options. There were twenty-four participants.
 - c. Medication and Mental Health Issues Related to the Physical Decline of the Older/Aging Adult Client by Elizabeth Landsverk, MD. Training topic: the effects of varied medications on the potential physical decline of older adults

which may be different from those experienced by younger patients. There were twenty-three participants

- d. Housing Search: Physical Assistance by Bob Dolci. Training topic: engaging with seniors to find housing and exploring connections and living environments. There were twenty-three participants.
3. In addition two other trainings on older adults were provided this year:
- a. Geriatric Mental Health by Melinda Ginne. Training topic: Clinical services for the elders, including assessment of clinical and emotional needs in context of the client's life history, living environment, physical health, culture, diagnosis. In addition, development of treatment plans for clinical, emotional and social needs, and care coordination were covered. There were twenty-three participants.
 - b. Elderly Suicide, Depression and Hoarding Behavior by Patrick Abore. Training topic: the serious mental health issues experienced by seniors in the aging process that lead to debilitating conditions and senior-oriented interventions such as friendship lines and community-based collaborative responses. There were forty-four participants.

Training for City of San Jose Staff (New Objective):

Through the City of San Jose partnership, the Gerontology Specialists and other Senior Nutrition Center staff participated in mental health trainings designed with City of San Jose for staff who serve seniors in community settings. These trainings helped City of San Jose staff gain new knowledge about the mental health and substance abuse issues faced by the senior participants in their centers. In addition, the trainings resulted in the design of new services within the senior centers, which will be implemented in the second year of the project.

FY 2015 Summit Plan Deliverables

The FY 2015 Summit Plan Deliverables are organized by MHSA categories.

1. System Development
 - a. Reach more unserved seniors and improve the quality of mental health services by collaborating with community partners who have trusted relationships with seniors.
 - b. Improve services for high risk seniors with better collaboration between medical and psychiatric in-patient settings and community services.
2. Workforce Employment and Training (WET)
 - a. Train behavioral health staff on the Older Adult Summit Core Competencies.
 - b. Train partner agency staff by developing the Older Adult Summit Core Competency Training relevant to the services they provide to seniors.

- c. Increase internship opportunities for Certified Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors and Bachelors and Masters level interns that are concentrating in serving older adults.

3. Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI)

- a. Collaborate with Senior Nutrition Programs at Senior Centers throughout Santa Clara County to expand health education and outreach services.
- b. Expand the Connections Program at APS to include other partners, such as law enforcement, to serve more isolated seniors.
- c. Establish a partnership with Meals on Wheels to reach more isolated seniors.
- d. Add digital storytelling and support groups to the City of San Jose Nutritional Centers Project contract to serve seniors who are seeking greater connections with family and friends.

4. Community Support Services (CSS)

- a. Serve unserved or underserved older adults with a serious mental illness by continuing and expanding Full Services Partnerships.
- b. Serve unserved or underserved older adults with serious mental illness who are difficult to engage by continuing the Golden Gateway home-based program.

5. Innovation

- a. Complete the Elders' Storytelling Project (Innovation-04). This project has demonstrated success in engaging mild to moderately depressed seniors; the majority of participants are Spanish or Vietnamese speaking.
- b. Complete the evaluation of the third of four program cycles.
- c. The initial evaluation, conducted by an external evaluator, indicates the model helps to reduce the participants' feelings of isolation and depression. At the conclusion of the Elders' Storytelling Project, based on the evaluation outcomes, the MHD will consider sustaining this service for seniors with mild to moderate depression.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

The Children, Seniors and Families Committee would not receive the requested information.

LINKS:

- [Linked To: 68771 : Accept report relating to the Older Adult Summit Implementation Progress.](#)

ATTACHMENTS:

- [SCC OA Summit Rpt_December 2011](#) (PDF)

