

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Stakeholders' Consortium October 17, 2008

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Stakeholders' Consortium (SAMHSC) was formed in January, 2004. The consortium is a permanent body that meets monthly with broad representation of major stakeholder groups in the community. At its October 17, 2008 meeting, members reflected on where the consortium had been successful, what opportunities existed in the future, and what to put in place now to be successful. Participants brainstormed ideas in response to questions from the facilitator in those three areas. The rest of this document presents the ideas generated at that session.

WHAT OPPORTUNITIES SHOULD WE ADDRESS?

- Leadership transitions
- Community control of funding
- Advance planning for the community corrections center
- Accountability and leverage: using funds to meet needs effectively and efficiently

WHAT SHOULD WE PUT IN PLACE NOW TO BE READY TO BE SUCCESSFUL?

- Develop a community plan for SAMH, with priorities (big systems)
- Identify resources to help with leadership transitions (Grassroots Leadership Initiative)
- Actively engage new stakeholders: philanthropists, Department of Corrections, State Attorney's office, peer programs, OCCA, Juvenile Justice, community representatives, faith-based, and senior providers.

It was suggested that two items could be complementary if the consortium invited new stakeholder to provide input into the community plan through presentations.

Brainstorming about the Desired Future

Blended funding
Advance planning for new jail facility
Impact of nonprofit sector on the community
Flexibility re: unknowns
More co-occurring capability

Everyone has access to individual services that meet individual needs
Model – move away from incarceration as warehousing to providing services
Accountability – use resources to meet needs effectively and efficiently

Brainstorming about Future Trends

Parity / insurance
Retirement of leadership
Changing needs
Transitions in leadership
Success plans
Dialogue
Funding changes / state
Service diversity

Reduced stigma
Community control of funding
Outcomes
Community coalitions
Non-traditional service providers
Peer driven

Key Ingredients that led to SAMHSC Success

Trust
Consistency of participation
Real communication
Building relationships
Broad range of representation

No territorialism
Supporting structures: Criminal Justice Commission, County Commission, Community Alliance

SAMHSC Successes (So Far)

Identified community needs
Right players were involved
Learn data
Substance-exposed newborn program
Programs in schools
Plan, develop, and involve community
Contacts
A comprehensive systems approach
Info on website
Get information out
Support
Collaborative efforts
Trust

Networking
Marchman – moved quickly, made an impact
Included families in a comprehensive approach
CIT
Information sharing