

Substance Use Disorders

PHHS Committee

May 27, 2014

Substance Use Disorders Task Force

- ▶ Austin Travis County Integral Care
- ▶ City of Austin Health and Human Services
- ▶ Downtown Austin Community Court
- ▶ Travis County Health and Human Services & Veterans Service Department,
- ▶ Travis County Criminal Justice Planning Department, and
- ▶ Central Health.

Task Force Goals

- ▶ Identify critical substance use disorder gaps
- ▶ Create recommendations for local public sector investment in substance abuse services for Fiscal Year 2014-15
- ▶ Prepare for a longer term community plan for substance abuse.

Task Force Decision Making Criteria

- ▶ Build on existing successful programming and infrastructure components;
- ▶ Address populations that have a demonstrated need for additional substance use services;
- ▶ Address populations in whom public entities have already invested;
- ▶ Divert from more expensive services;
- ▶ Leverage other community efforts; and
- ▶ Incorporate best practices, including recovery-oriented supports.

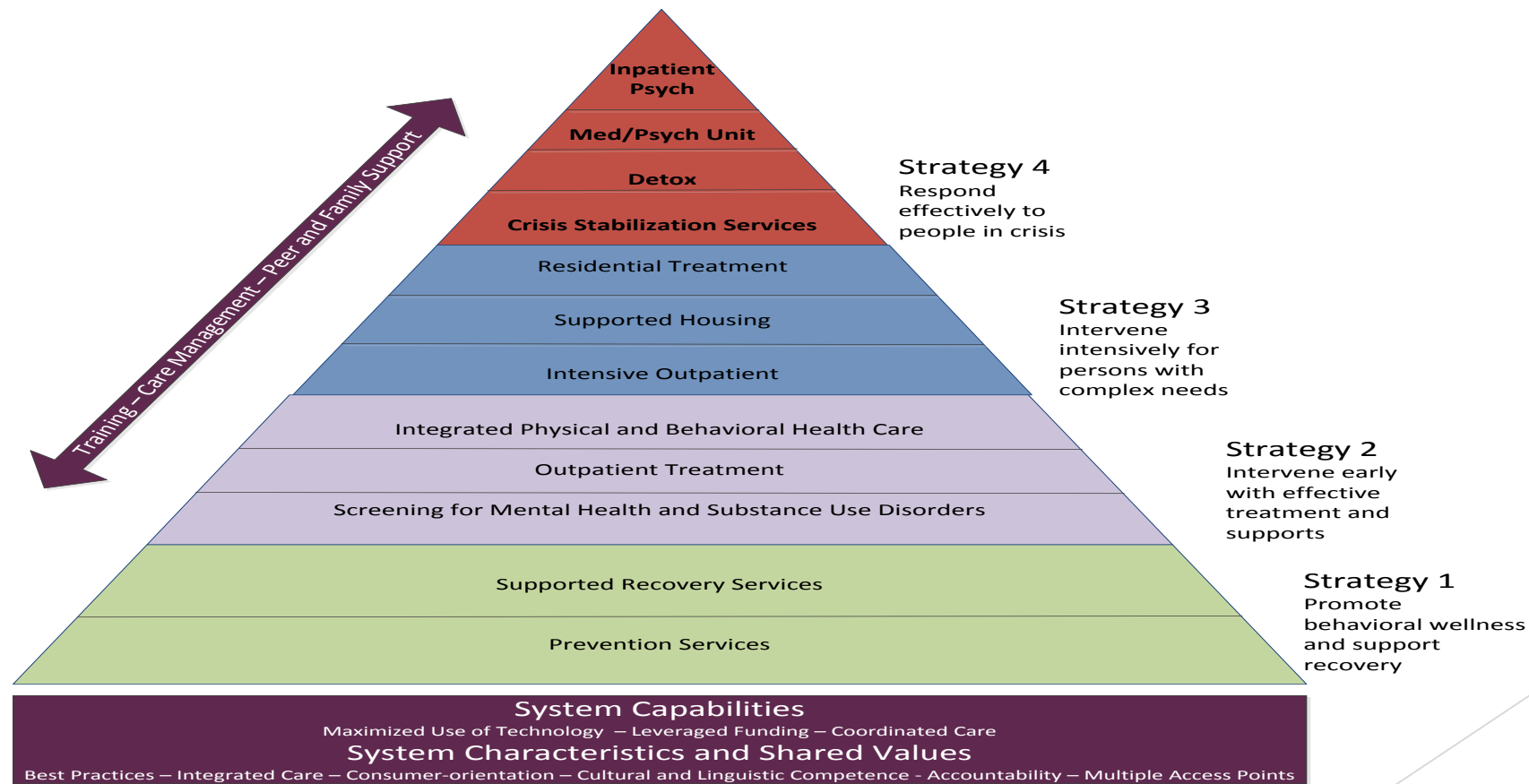
Scope of the Substance Use Disorder Challenge in Travis County

- ▶ Estimated that 74,357 (8.9%) of adults in Travis County are alcohol or drug dependent and in need of treatment
- ▶ Travis County has a binge drinking rate (20.7%) significantly higher than the state (15.2%)
- ▶ In 2012, Austin/Travis County EMS spent 2,717 hours transporting individuals primarily due to alcohol or drug abuse at a cost of approximately \$2,4 million
- ▶ SAMHSA estimates that only 11% of those that seek treatment are able to access it

Substance Use Trends

- ▶ Alcohol still the most abused substance
- ▶ Increases in heroin use in adults and youth
- ▶ Increases in prescription drug abuse in adults and youth

Core components of a behavioral health continuum



Key Service Gaps in Travis County

- ▶ Detox facilities, especially for adolescents for whom there are no facilities
- ▶ Inpatient treatment for adolescent girls
- ▶ Treatment for women with children/families
- ▶ Recovery support that is affordable or free for low-income populations
- ▶ Stable, affordable housing options
- ▶ Culturally competent services and providers

Those most impacted by lack of services

- ▶ Women with children
- ▶ Homeless
- ▶ Individuals with severe mental illness
- ▶ Veterans
- ▶ Youth

Task Force Focus for FY2014/2015

- ▶ Women with children
- ▶ Homeless individuals with complex needs engaged in the Downtown Austin Community Court

Both populations have existing public sector investments and high systemic costs if substance use is not addressed

Recommendations

1. Increase investment in treatment and recovery supports for:
 - ▶ Women and their children engaged in Travis County Family Drug Treatment Court
 - ▶ Women with children
 - ▶ Homeless individuals involved with DACC with complex treatment and recovery needs
2. Increase the number of credentialed providers and create flexibility for recovery supports in the MSO
3. Create a long-term strategic plan for substance abuse

City of Austin Budget Request

- ▶ \$250,000 to the MSO for substance abuse treatment and recovery supports for women with children
- ▶ \$250,000 to support homeless individuals at DACCC with treatment and transitional housing