Exploring Structural Inequities in Corrections and Mental Health

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Director of Program Development
Jackson County Community Mental Health Fund

Jackson County Community Mental Health Fund

- The Community Mental Health Fund serves the citizens of Jackson County, Missouri by making grants to 501(c)(3) mental healthcare organizations.
- We are a public fund from property tax levy. Missouri State Statute RSMO 205.975-990. $11 million in service contracts annually.
- Mental Health care must meet standards set by the Board of Trustees and the State of Missouri. Audited two-time per year.
- Board of Trustees appointed by County Executive
- We support quality care through multi-agency initiatives, including cultural competence and trauma-informed care.

www.jacksoncountycare.org
Corrections changes over past 50 years

- Deinstitutionalization of mentally ill to community based treatment = one way ticket to jail
- Tough on crime, stricter drug laws, 3 strikes, mandatory sentencing
- Privitization of Corrections

www.thinkprogress.org

US Criminal Justice System

- US is the world leader in incarceration
- 1 in 100 citizens are in prison or jails
  - Tenfold expansion in corrections populations in less than 4 decades
- More than 7 million men and women are under legal supervision

www.secondclassjustice.com
US Criminal Justice System

• Corrections systems employs 2.2 million Americans
  • Exceeds 1.7 million employed in higher education
  • 650,000 employed by public welfare system

• Turn of millennium, 1.5 million children, 1 parent in jail or prison.

• 10 million children have parent in jail during lifetime

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US Criminal Justice System

• 1 in 8 black males, ages 20-29 are incarcerated on any given day
• 1 in 59 white males

• Black males have 1 in 3 chances of serving time
• White males have 3 in 50 chances of serving time

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Mental Health Care & Criminal Justice

POPULATION BY RACE IN JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2010

Mental Health Care & Criminal Justice

Who is at the Regional Correction Center

Table 1. Race/Ethnicity by Years

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<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>138 (70%)</td>
<td>152 (76%)</td>
<td>79 (79%)</td>
<td>66 (61.7%)</td>
<td>60 (72%)</td>
<td>77 (64%)</td>
<td>111 (68%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caucasian</td>
<td>36 (18%)</td>
<td>36 (17%)</td>
<td>10 (10%)</td>
<td>22 (20.6%)</td>
<td>15 (18%)</td>
<td>23 (23%)</td>
<td>27 (17%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispano/Latino</td>
<td>9 (5%)</td>
<td>7 (4%)</td>
<td>5 (5%)</td>
<td>7 (6.5%)</td>
<td>2 (2%)</td>
<td>6 (5%)</td>
<td>18 (12%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Native American</td>
<td>3 (2%)</td>
<td>4 (2%)</td>
<td>1 (1%)</td>
<td>2 (1.9%)</td>
<td>1 (1%)</td>
<td>3 (2%)</td>
<td>5 (3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other/Racial</td>
<td>6 (3%)</td>
<td>3 (2%)</td>
<td>5 (6%)</td>
<td>5 (7.5%)</td>
<td>8 (8%)</td>
<td>5 (5%)</td>
<td>7 (5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>5 (0.9%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>1 (1%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jamaican</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
<td>1 (1%)</td>
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Snicker Study, Prevalence of Mental Illness in the Regional Corrections Center, 2014 Survey
Justice Involved Inmates
Mental Health Concerns

- 45% reported they have been told they have a mental health problem
- 49% reported seeing a psychiatrist or counselor in the past year
- 23% reported admittance to a mental health center
- 33% reported taking medication for a mental illness
- 60% reported a substance abuse addiction

Snicker Study, Prevalance of Mental Illness in the Regional Corrections Center, 2014 Survey

Mental Health Care in Jail

- Top Diagnosis
  - Depression
  - Bi-Polar
  - Psychotic Disorders
  - Trauma and Stressor-Related Disorders
  - Anxiety
  - Co-Occurring (Substance Abuse and Mental Health)

- Mental Health Care provided to 439 inmates (12%)

- Types of care
  - Crisis Counseling
  - Psychiatric Evaluations and Assessments
  - Individual Therapy
  - Psychiatry
  - Group Counseling
  - Re-Entry Case Management

5172 Inmates
Kansas City Mental Health Courts 2015

397 Referred

Demographics

- African American: 23%
- White: 42%
- Hispanic: 53%
- Other: 1%

198 Admitted

Demographics

- African American: 1%
- White: 54%
- Hispanic: 44%
- Other: 1%

KC Mental Health Courts 2015

198 Admitted

Housing Status

- Stable: 68%
- Non Stable: 15%
- Homeless: 11%
- Not Reported: 6%

80% Reported Benefits

- M Health Net: 9%
- Medicare: 9%
- Private: 2%
- VA: 80%
KC Mental Health Courts

2015

• Top Diagnosis
  • Co-Occurring with Substance Abuse 47%
  • Schizophrenia 15%
  • Multiple Mental Health Concerns 17%
  • Mood Disorders 7%
  • Bi-Polar 9%
  • PTSD 3%

198 Admitted


Mental Health Provider Cultural Competency
Mental Health Providers & Cultural Competency

27 of 34 Providers Reviewed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cultural Competency Plans (CLAS Standards)</th>
<th>Language Assistance</th>
<th>Diversified Workforce</th>
<th>Data Collection and Analysis Disparities in Care</th>
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Cultural Competency in Mental Health Assessment Findings

- Cultural Competency plans are being used with a few exceptions.
  - Formal mechanism to address cultural competency/diversity/inclusion
  - Promote functional use of plans
  - Support through technical assistance and training through the Cultural Competency Initiative Learning Community

- Language Assistance Need Attention
  - All providers have written language assistance plans
  - Thresholds for translation of written materials
  - Best practices for interpreter services training
  - Bi-lingual staff
  - General staff training
Cultural Competency in Mental Health Assessment Findings

• Training and Technical Assistance has been a good investment
  • Technical Assistance recipients demonstrated the most progress and direct impact on service delivery
  • Continue investment in technical assistance through Cultural Competency Initiative with our funding partners. (Local TA will soon be available)
  • Promote awareness of CLAS
  • Support training on LGBT issues, particularly with youth serving providers

• Diversity in mental health provider workforce
  • Consider ways to assist in improving diverse workforce

Staff Represent Communities Served

• Diversity in workforce is improving
• Assessing hiring practices and position requirements
• Reviewing ways to retain and promote more diverse staff
  • Male/Female staff
• Investing in staff

The Staff are representative of the communities they serve.
Barriers to Diversity in Workforce
A Case Example

Youth Residential Treatment Provider

- Entry Level Staff
- Valid Driver’s License
- Insurability Requirement

Challenge

- Not able to be insured
- No Driver’s License
- Multiple Arrests or Citations
- Minimum requirements for employment
- African American Men

Thank You !!! 😊

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