

Community Counseling Center of Mercer County (CCC)
Drug and Alcohol Services
Annual Report
July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

The Community Counseling Center of Mercer County is licensed through Pennsylvania's Department of Health, Division of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP) to provide Outpatient Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services. This year, we provided Outpatient Drug and Alcohol (D&A) services to children and adults with substance use disorders (SUD). We also provided Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) services for adults with SUDs.

This year we have stabilized our staffing concerns and have focused on staff training and development. Supervision and training were increased to address these needs. Director of Drug & Alcohol Services continues to spend significant time supervising license and unlicensed staff to ensure quality services.

Treatment has continued in a hybrid (telehealth and face to face) model. However, most of the clients were seen face to face with one full time license D&A therapist utilizing the telehealth model (VSEE). This full-time license therapist now has just over three years of experience in D&A at CCC. Currently, the D&A department has 5 full time therapists and an Open Access therapist that takes on a small D&A caseload seeing clients and facilitating some groups. Several D&A staff members have over two years of experience at CCC with two members having recently started completing the team. We have addressed the lack of staff experience, inflated caseloads, and excessive absence while maintaining stability in a full team working together. The stability has contributed to significantly decreased no-show rates among clients. The service delivery has been consistently maintained, and no-show rate has decreased. No show rates have been as high as 47% in the previous year but last year decreased to 15.5%.

Individuals with co-occurring (mental health and substance use) disorders continue to comprise the majority of our treatment population. We continue to maintain our capability to assess and treat co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders. Our D&A providers are qualified to provide mental health treatment. At this time, we are informally recognized by the Mercer County SCA as the only “co-occurring enhanced” outpatient D&A treatment program in the county. The State will reportedly be publishing requirements for qualification as “co-occurring enhanced,” and CCC will seek that status.

Open Access continues to be a worthwhile program. To address the continuing advance of the “medical marijuana” movement in our area, we continue adopting a “no wrong entry to treatment” approach. We have improved our OPMH providers’ level of understanding and

expertise with addressing substance use, and we are meeting clients where they are, providing the service they request, and connecting them to specialty care when necessary.

The Director for D&A services continues to be the consultant for the program, called HEAT. The HEAT Program is administered primarily by Operation Lighthouse. CCC helped to secure the grant for Operation Lighthouse for the HEAT program. The program helps to provide a recovery program utilizing an Afrocentric holistic approach to recovery using the therapeutic concepts of habilitation, empowerment, accountability, and therapy (HEAT). Operation Lighthouse uses the therapeutic concepts of HEAT in a psychoeducational manner for the black community of men with substance use disorders and who are involved with the criminal justice system.

As evidence of our continued commitment to the statewide effort to respond to the opioid epidemic, we have maintained several important programs. We have continued our intervention program, which is used to target children and adults at risk and assist them with assessing their substance use and considering entering treatment. We have continued a D&A procedure through which we provide education about Medication Assisted Treatment to anyone with an individual or family history of opioid use. We also provide education regarding proper medication disposal in order to contribute to reduction of addictive medication available.

We continue to partner with the BHC to distribute Narcan kits, and we have directly dispensed several cases of Narcan kits to people who need them. We participated in a community Narcan distribution event. We continue to have an agreement with PRS to provide Vivitrol on site once per month. We continue to be on the Overdose Fatality Oversight Committee, which is being facilitated by the Mercer County Coroner.

October 2023-The D&A program has received a large grant for the Opioid Free/Pain Management Program. The Program targets adults falling victim to opiate dependency while managing pain from chronic pain syndrome. This program is offered in collaboration with local allied healthcare providers which include occupational, physical and massage therapy, chiropractic services, and yoga taking part at Community Counseling Center. The D&A department has added a weekly evidence-based D&A/Chronic Pain Group to be part of the Opioid Free/Chronic Pain program.

We have continued our partnership with the Mercer County Single County Authority to provide a community support group called Families affected by Addiction be held at our new Greenville Drop-in-Center twice a month on Thursdays.

Additionally, we have continued to serve many people who are participating in Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for Opioid Use Disorders.

We continue to maintain strong collaborative relationships with our community partners such as the Mercer County Behavioral Health Commission, Adult and Juvenile Probation and Parole, community shelters, treatment providers, and numerous United Way funded agencies in order to coordinate services to provide timely treatment and meet the individual and family needs of the residents in our region in the most cost-effective way possible.

We have been a part of the County-wide Overdose Prevention Workgroup, sponsored by the BHC and partnering with a number of community stakeholders since its inception. We have participated in prevention and treatment initiatives designed to educate and intervene in addictions. We have supplied the feature presenter twice this year in service to the Overdose Prevention Workgroup.

We have served on the Mercer County Court system specialty courts. We are a member of the Treatment Team for Judge Wallace's Veteran's Court and the Treatment Team for Judge Amrhein's Treatment Court. In both roles, we assist with team decisions about the treatment needs of individuals being served by those courts. The goal of both courts is to attend to specialized needs and circumstances in order to reduce recidivism and promote full participation and meaningful contribution to society.

The D&A program continues to provide treatment for Gambling Disorder. We are approved as a Gambling Disorder Treatment Provider with the State, and we have a payment arrangement to ensure that anyone who seeks treatment for a gambling Disorder has available funding. We continue to have a trained D&A provider who was recently certified to provide the Gambling Disorder service. In addition, we have had people seek and be treated for a Gambling Disorder treatment along with providing a broader package of treatment to individuals with the disorder.

The D&A program at Community Counseling Center is based on the philosophy that all people can recover from substance use disorders. We believe that individuals are the "undisputed experts on themselves," and we seek to help them use that expertise in their personal recovery.

In our program, we address the biological, psychological, social, and spiritual dimensions of addiction. We follow the guidance and leadership of the American Society of Addiction Medicine, using evidence-based practices to meet individual needs of the people we serve. Our goal is to provide as many options for individualization of treatment as we can with the resources that we have available.

Accomplishments:

- Continued collaboration with the Mercer County Behavioral Health Commission, Mercer County School Districts, Residential Drug and Alcohol Treatment Providers, and the Mercer County Criminal Justice System to coordinate services for our adult and adolescent Drug and Alcohol treatment services.
- Renewed permanent Outpatient Drug and Alcohol License and maintained client capacity through the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Division of Drug and Alcohol Program Licensure.
- We continued our ongoing collaboration with the Mercer County Behavioral Health Commission to improve our service delivery and the ongoing monitoring of the county's Drug and Alcohol service needs.
- We continued our involvement in the overdose work group, the Veteran's Court, and the Treatment Court.
- We continue to partner with the BHC to distribute Narcan/Medical lock boxes widely in the community.
- We continue to act as a consultant for The HEAT Program ran by Operation Lighthouse.
- We have actively participated on the Mercer County OD Prevention Workgroup and Overdose Fatality Review Committee.
- Maintained weekly Drug and Alcohol meetings for staff for program development and case review.
- October 2023-The D&A program continues to provide the Opioid Free/Pain Management Program. The Program targets adults falling victim to opiate dependency while managing pain from chronic pain syndrome. This program is offered in collaboration with local allied healthcare providers which include occupational, physical and massage therapy, chiropractic services, and yoga taking part at Community Counseling Center.
- Served 452 unduplicated clients

- Billed 5,204 services

Program Staffing:

Staffing has stabilized in 2023-2024, and it appears we are maintaining a full staffing model. Greenville has been short-staffed for over a year and within the last year has slowly moved to be consistently staffed.

Project Director: Rodney Carson, LCSW

Facility Director: Rodney Carson, LCSW

The Facility Director is the Director of Drug & Alcohol Services at the treatment facility that houses Community Counseling Center's Outpatient Drug and Alcohol Program. This individual is responsible for the overall management of the project facility and staff.

Counselors: Danielle Reges, MS, LPC; Joseph Myers, MS, CAADC; Nikki Calloway, MS; Christopher Ruffo, MS; Jennifer Ballard, MS, and Lori Shevitz, MA.

Counselors provide a wide variety of treatment services including diagnostic assessment; treatment plan development; and individual, group and family counseling. Joseph Myers is our Open Access therapist and has small D&A case load along with facilitating a D&A Group.

The maximum client to staff ratio is 35 to 1. Our current licensed client capacity is 175 in Hermitage and 70 in Greenville.

Number of Clients				
	D&A	IOPDA	NonCo D&A	Grand Total
Assessment Only / Further Treatment Declined	9	2	0	11
Chose Different Agency	6	0	0	6
Death: Natural Causes	1	0	0	1
Death: Non-Opioid Overdose	0	0	0	0
Incarceration/Non-clinical Placement	25	13	0	38

Non-attendance	180	45	1	226
Partial completion of goals	10	0	0	10
Relocation	1	1	0	2
Services No Longer Authorized	5	1	0	6
Services No Longer Prescribed	3	1	0	4
Treatment Successfully Completed	102	0	1	103
Grand Total	343	63	2	408

Data based on client discharges completed between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024

Service Delivery Statistics*:

FY 06/07

Hours

4878

Unduplicated Clients

395

FY 07/08

Hours

5350

Unduplicated Clients

363

FY 08/09

Hours

7292

Unduplicated Clients

D&A 457

IOP 123

MDFT 21

FY 09/10

Hours

9705

Unduplicated Clients

D&A 477

10P 83

MDFT 28

FY 10/11

Hours

10,305

Unduplicated Clients

D&A 480

10P 67

MDFT 38

DAE 13

FY 11/12

Hours

Adult 9,995

Adolescents 1,091

Total 11,086

Unduplicated Clients

D&A 554

10P 93

MDFT 41

DAE 21

FY 12/13

Hours

Adult 8,025

Adolescents 920

Total 8,945

Unduplicated Clients

D&A 488

10P 70

MDFT 42

DAE 13

FY 13/14

Hours

Adult 6357.13

Adolescents 1121.73

Total 7478.87

Unduplicated Clients

D&A 479

IOP 56

MDFT 49

DAE 13

FY 14/15

Hours

Adult 5902.05
Adolescent 1381.59
Total 7283.64

Unduplicated Clients

D&A 708
IOP 70
MDFT 63
DAE 25

FY 15/16

Hours

Adult 10674.85
Adolescent 1323.25
Total 11,998.10

Unduplicated Clients

D&A 628
IOP 129
MDFT 47
NonCo D&A 33
DAE 16
Unique Individuals: 699

FY 16/17

Hours

Adult 9033.37
Adolescent 962.50
Total 9995.87

Unduplicated Clients

Assessment only 12
D&A 720
IOP D&A 131
MDFT 66
Non Co. D&A 28

Unique Individuals 777

FY 17/18

Hours

Adult 9786.42
Adolescent 390.63
Total 10,177.05

Unduplicated Clients

Assessment only 10
D&A 595
IOP D&A 138
MDFT 53
Non Co. D&A 58

Unique Individuals 671

FY 18/19

Hours

Adult	10,566.98
<u>Adolescent</u>	<u>936.62</u>
Total	11,503.60

Unduplicated Clients

Assessment only	7
D&A	593
IOP D&A	131
MDFT	38
Non Co. D&A	30

Unique Individuals 663

FY 19/20

Hours

Adult	8,029.70
<u>Adolescent</u>	<u>308.72</u>
Total	8,338.42

Unduplicated Clients

Assessment only	9
D&A	526
IOP D&A	113
Non Co. D&A	25

Unique Individuals 673

FY 20/21

Hours

Adult	6,154.17
<u>Adolescent</u>	<u>303.38</u>
Total	6,457.55

Unduplicated Clients

Assessment only	4
D&A	555
IOP D&A	204
Non Co. D&A	28

Unique Individuals 573

FY 21/22

Hours

Adult	6,078.28
<u>Adolescent</u>	<u>254.35</u>

Unduplicated Clients

Assessment only	1
D&A	492

Total	6,332.63	IOP D&A	79
		Non Co. D&A	14

Unique Individuals 573

FY 22/23

Hours

Unduplicated Clients

Adult 7,058.20

D&A 361

Adolescent 119.88

IOP D&A 106

Total 7,178.08

Non Co. D&A 5

Unique Individuals 367

FY 23/24

Hours

Unduplicated Clients

Adult 6,531.37

D&A 448

Adolescent 170.35

IOP D&A 92

Total 6,701.72

Non Co. D&A 2

Unique Individuals 452

*Data based on all D&A Clients that received services during the given Fiscal Year

Program Budget Summary:

We again ended the year with a deficit. To address the deficit, the Mercer County Single County Authority (SCA) continues to pledge their support to us financially while recognizing the value of the quality of our services to the residents of Mercer County. We recognize the importance of this service to the communities we serve and to our continuum of care. As a result, we continue to look at no show rates, and productivity along with adding new program to increase revenue. We will make every effort to continue our Drug and Alcohol services for as long as is financially feasible.

Submitted By:

Rodney Carson, LCSW – Facility Director
Facility Director/Project Director

Date

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