

Office of Consumer Partnerships Town Hall Notes

Bellingham, WA April 30, 2019

The forum consisted of:

- HCA updates
- Recovery review
- Strengths and needs assessment
- Open Mic

Strengths and Needs Assessment

*Highlighted items were mentioned several times

Services

Strengths	Needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crisis services • Crisis prevention and intervention team • Increased mental health services • All MCOs are providing services in region • Crisis line • Counties collaborating around opioid treatment • Medical dental for substance use disorder 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate crisis support and services • No warm line (by peers) • Service wait time are too long for mental health providers • Poor care coordination for justice involved • Lack of access for services for jail inmates • Lack of knowledge about resources • Limited access to DSHS offices

Providers

Strengths	Needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong team of HCA community—based specialists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More providers • High turnover and burnout • Trained and certified professionals are leaving • Lack of knowledge about recovery • Lack of knowledge about mental health in primary care • Lack of hope for recovery • Poor provider pay

Substance Use Disorder (SUD)

Strengths	Needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substance use treatment services • Access to MAT services • Inpatient co-occurring is coming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training on co-occurring • Inpatient substance use disorder beds

Community Support

Strengths	Needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Groups • WRAP groups • NAMI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More housing • Stigma, especially against homeless

Children

Strengths
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School-based health clinic

Peer Support

Needs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clubhouse and recovery café • Peer run organizations • Regional mental health groups • More peer support

Other

Strengths
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial services • Strong tradition of Mental health advocacy • Ombuds • Holistic living support • Paratransit and home link

Summary

The Bellingham Forum included about 20 people, predominantly providers, peer counselors, BHO, ACH, and MCO representatives.

Thank you to all who participated! I look forward to further events in the area next year.

Jennifer Bliss, Senior Manager, Office of Consumer Partnerships

Special thanks to:

- Managed Care Organization Representatives
- The Health Care Authority
- Compass Health
- Mary Jadwisiak