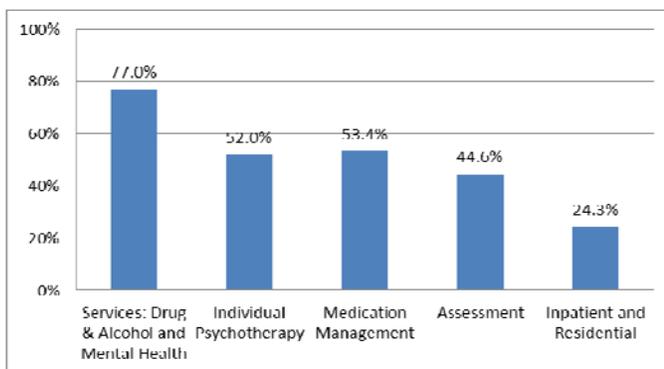


Beaver County System of Care Transformation Priority: Safe and Affordable Housing Options

Fact Sheet December 2013

One of the transformation priorities of the Beaver County System of Care is to *increase access to safe and affordable housing options*. A strategy linked to this priority is to *conduct outreach and provide housing assistance to individuals who are homeless*. One of the programs in place over the past five years that services the homeless population is Beaver County L.A.U.N.C.H. (Learning and Understanding the Needs of the Chronically Homeless). Funded by the Center for Substance Treatment of the Substance Abuse Services Administration, LAUNCH has provided outreach, screening, pre-treatment services to engage the individual, brief treatment interventions, peer recovery support services, and referral to existing housing and treatment resources. The population of focus is Beaver County residents, who are 18 and over, have a substance use disorder or COD, and are homeless. Since its inception, LAUNCH has enrolled 483 individuals; of which 50.3% were male and 58.7% were Caucasian and with a mean age of 38.7.¹ The primary reasons given for need of service by those enrolled were lack of affordable housing (68%), inability to pay rent or mortgage (38%), alcohol or drug abuse (58%) or unemployment (42%).



The figure to the left provides a breakdown of the top five reimbursable services received by LAUNCH participants. The predominant service, Drug & Alcohol and Mental Health, primarily includes outpatient treatment.

Key Outcomes

Substance Use: ↓ in alcohol and drug use, **8.6%** and **11.3%** respectively.

Behavioral Health: ↓ in average number of days individuals reported depression or anxiety, **4.8%** each.

Employment: ↑ in full or part-time employment, **2.3%**.

Housing: ↑ in consumers **owning/renting**, **38.8%**;
↑ in those residing in someone else's apartment, **21.1%**;
↓ in those living in shelters, on the street or outdoors, **7.4%**.

Overall **100%** satisfaction with the services received while enrolled in BC LAUNCH

Satisfaction: **80%** indicating that they would recommend the program to others.

Prepared By:



¹ The racial composition of LAUNCH clients is not reflective of the Beaver County population which is 91.3% Caucasian, 6.4% African American, and the 2.3% Other.