

Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team Meeting

Thursday, November, 21st, 2024, 8 am – 10 am

UWDC 1314 Teasley Lane, Denton & Zoom



Our Vision:

Comprehensive behavioral health for every person in Denton County

Our Mission:

The Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team will advocate and facilitate a collaborative person-centered behavioral health system to repair and restore lives:

- Ensure behavioral health services are available to meet the needs of all

Agenda

1. Call to order Elisa Howell
2. Vote to Approve Minutes Elisa Howell
3. Strategic Plan Updates Olivia Mata-Williams and Shelby Redondo
4. Report from the Local Mental Health Authority Keelah Adelegan
5. Report from Denton County Public Health Alex Reed
6. Workgroup Committee Reports Megan Ball & Landon Dickeson
 - a. CrossCare Collaborative Hope Galloway & Lauren Titsworth
 - b. Substance Use Dallas Hamilton & Courtney Jaimes
 - c. Suicide Prevention Laura Prillwitz & Lisa Elliot
 - d. Child and Family Systems
7. New Business Elisa Howell
8. Backbone Support Updates Olivia Mata-Williams
 - a. Denton County Housing & Homelessness Leadership Team
 - b. Denton County Workforce Success Leadership Team Shelby Redondo
9. Public Comment Elisa Howell
10. Adjourn Elisa Howell

Thursday September 19, 2024

8 am – 10 am

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: Hope Galloway called the meeting to order at 8:05 AM with a quorum present.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from July meeting were approved. Diane Hickey made the motion and second by Scott Domingue.

Local Mental Health Authority report: Pam began by thanking Commissioner Mitchell and the Commissioner's Court for \$1 million in funding for the substance abuse program and 8-10 Crisis Residential Unit (CRU) beds. She also announced a SAMHSA grant for assisted outpatient treatment for folks coming out of jail. Dallas Hamilton reported a team approach to treatment - \$750,000 per year for 4 years. This is an opportunity for success for those exiting jail, targeting 75 enrollees per year.

She happily reported that MHMR is now a UWDC Community Partner.

Pam reported service and program intakes were up for July as expected. She also reported on Financial and Service targets.

She noted that September is Suicide Awareness month highlighting suicide support and prevention. Upcoming events focused on suicide are: Touched by Suicide, Suicide Walk at Parker Square September 28th, Adopt a Duck September 21st benefits LOSS team and North Texas Giving Day (September 19th) is also benefitting LOSS team.

Our Daily Bread report: Ayesha Wahid, Director of Mental Health services and Carolyn Gomez, Social Worker for Mental Health reported on the ODB Mental Health Services available, capacity and staffing. In 2024 they have had greater than 2200 guests seen for Mental health services. They expressed the need for Community resources, Community partners and funding.

They made the BHLT aware of a "drop off" of patient situation that they are experiencing. There was much discussion regarding this issue and follow up will be reported.

Denton Public Health Department report: Alex Reed reported that there is a HIPPA compliant referral window available through Find Help so that agencies and Health Care agencies can exchange sensitive client information.

She talked about our Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIM) and that Sim level 0 is crisis and how do we keep people out of level 0.

Credible Minds is at >3000 users with 4200 session on site. 145 topics were searched with Anxiety, Food and Sleep being the top 3. She brought up funding for Credible Minds for 2025.

There were 226 unduplicated people seen by Mental Health Navigator team which is underutilization.

Strategic Plan Update: Hope reported that the committee has identified 5 goals with objectives and they are asking the Workgroups to begin working on strategies. The goal is to have the plan complete by December 2024.

Work group reports:

Child and Family Systems: They have completed their SWOT analysis.

Substance Use: Lauren Titsworth has become the chair of the group. Solutions of North Texas (SONT) has been very instrumental in helping the group. Recovery in the Park is on hold for now.

Suicide Prevention: They have finished their SWOT analysis. They are talking about data and looking at suicide prevention programming.

Cross Care Collaborative: They have finished the final draft of the SIM map and are making overall recommendations. Looking at data collection.

New Business: None brought forth.

Backbone support Updates:

Housing and Homelessness Leadership Team: THR foundation grant for \$484,000 partnered with 3 agencies for Zip cards. The HUD renewal grant includes the Homelessness 101 training for agency employees. UWDC intern program will be updated to collaborate with agencies.

Workforce Success Leadership Team: They are having their Digital Literacy program at 3 locations. They are in the process of registration for the Job Skills workshop. They will have Pathways training in October and November.

Public Comment: Hope wanted to emphasize that the BHLT has been functioning for 10 years and has made much progress and identified needs and gaps in service. There has been great strides in establishing collaboration in the Mental Health community. There remains underfunding and overwhelming need.

Freedom House has a food pantry which is open 5 days a week 9:30 – 4 pm.

Adjourned: Next meeting is November 21, 2024, 8am – 10am.

Cross Care Collaborative
Workgroup

Chairs: Landon Dickeson &
Megan Ball
November 20, 2024



Executive Summary and Recommendations

Denton County Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) Map: Resource updates 2024

The Denton County Behavioral Health SIM Map update was completed by a joint workgroup with representation from both the Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team and the Denton County Housing & Homelessness Leadership Team. This group convened monthly for a year determining resources available at each intercept (0-5). The organizations in attendance included members from the judicial sector, law enforcement, public health, veteran services, nonprofit agencies, behavioral hospitals, hospitals, the local mental health authority, mental health practitioners, municipalities, and community members. The chairs, Landon Dickeson (Executive Director, Ranch Hands Rescue), and Megan Ball (Homeless Programs Manager, City of Denton) provided facilitation and oversight of the scope of work and process. Special thanks to Judge McCary and Judge Jahn for presenting on the judicial intercepts and the court's process for impact for individuals and households interacting with the court system. Additional thanks to Bexar County for presenting how they developed their build out of their continuum of care, and Kerr, Collin, and Williamson County Local Mental Health Authorities for opening their doors and allowing us to tour their facilities and learn from them about best practices, lessons learned, and programmatic effectiveness.

Findings. The SIM map highlights crucial steps at each intercept, including crisis services, law enforcement interactions, initial detention, jail-based services, and reentry support. However, it also identifies several gaps within the system, such as limited crisis stabilization beds and step-down options, insufficient step-down capacity for individuals with varying acuity levels of mental health needs, and a gap in data accessibility and data sharing across entities (e.g. hospitals to nonprofits upon

discharge or jails to nonprofits after discharge). The overlapping prioritized gaps in intercepts 0,1,and 4, refer to a lack of beds relative to the crisis presented, the need for assessment for services, treatment, and staffing. An additional prioritized gap is the lack of cross-sector systemic collaboration, calling out the need for personnel and data infrastructure that allows shared information at appropriate levels across networks.

Recommendations. Prioritized intercepts 0,1, and 4 To enhance the effectiveness of the mental health continuum of care, the following recommendations are proposed:

1. Prioritize closing the gaps at intercepts 0, 1, and 4 with a proposed Extended Observation Unit. Aligns with the July 2022 Judicial Commission on Mental Health Priority #1: Drop Off Triage/Diversion Center. (Texas judicial commission on mental health, sequential intercept model mapping report for denton county (2022)).

The Extended Observation Unit (EOU) includes:

- 48-hour locked facility with a proposed Sally Port for drop off for law enforcement
- Proposal for a 12-bed unit, for individuals coming from the community needing emergency mental health services.
- Evaluation and assessment for levels of acuity to determine patient’s next steps. Step-down options available:
 - Crisis Residential Unit; # of beds
 - Psychiatric Inpatient hospital beds; # of beds contracted

Budget	Proposed	Frequency
Construction	\$10,000,000*	One-time
Operational	\$4,600,000**	Annual

*Based on 2022 cost estimates

** Subject to change

2. Increase collaborative capacity to strengthen the continuum of care is a recommended priority that addresses intercepts 0,1, and 4. Service coordination between intercepts 0,1, and 4 have an absence of cohesion and continuity. The recommendations are to consider hiring a facilitator to support the coordination of services across sectors. This proposed facilitator will oversee and support the orchestration between entities (e.g. hospitals, law enforcement, nonprofit agencies, etc...) to address the deficiency of systemic coordination.

Additionally, to address the data sharing need, the recommendation is to invest in data sharing infrastructure that is accessible by cross sector entities, and/or allowable to enter data sharing agreements by cross sector entities.

Find Help is the system currently being used with this pilot and its annual cost is \$32,000. Aligns with JCMH Priority #4.

3. Future considerations: Recommendation to continue Cross Care Collaborative for 2025 for the purpose of addressing additional intercept findings and to complete:

A. Cost benefit analysis of the Extended Observation Unit

B. Prevention (pre-intercept 0) map created for Denton County

B.1. Postvention (intercept 5) planning to close gaps

C. Trainings and technical assistance support

D. Collaborative grant writing

This recommendation is to support credentialed and non-credentialed staff in specified approaches to increase their knowledge and practice of engaging, assessing, and treating

clients/patients/guests, with their complex needs regardless of acuity. Aligns with JCMH Priority #3.

Denton County can strengthen its mental health continuum of care by addressing these prioritized intercept recommendations. By implementing the proposed Extended Observation Unit, advancing data sharing infrastructure, and expanding trauma-informed training, we can improve outcomes for individuals experiencing mental health crises. This investment will enhance the system's capacity to provide timely, effective, and compassionate care, benefiting both individuals and the community.

Type	Extended Observation Unit	Crisis Residential Unit	Crisis Stabilization Unit
Capacity	Proposed: 12 beds	Existing: 8 beds	6-16 beds
Challenges	Upstart cost	Funding (?)	Costly to maintain Regulations make it difficult to operate
Feedback			
Operational Cost	\$4.6M	\$5M	\$4M

DENTON COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH LEADERSHIP TEAM SEQUENTIAL INTERCEPT MODEL MAP 11.2024

