

MICHIGAN'S TRANSFORMATION TO A RECOVERY ORIENTED SYSTEM OF CARE FOR SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERVICES – WHAT IT MEANS FOR PROVIDERS

This is an extraordinary time in the history of substance use disorder (SUD) service systems. A recovery revolution is sweeping the nation and is having a profound impact on the design and delivery of all services and supports. Michigan, like many other states, is undergoing a transformation to a recovery oriented system of care (ROSC). This transformation entails a shift from models of care that promote brief bio-psychosocial stabilization to those that support strength-based sustained recovery and community health.

In an acute care model, many individuals are able to successfully initiate their recovery in treatment, but they often have difficulty maintaining their recovery following treatment. As a result, they cycle in and out of a series of disconnected treatment episodes. In a ROSC, SUDs are viewed as long-term or chronic illnesses that often require ongoing support and multiple coordinated strategies to promote sustained recovery. As such, people are provided with a diverse range of services and supports that assist them in not only initiating their recovery, but also sustaining it and rebuilding their life in the community.

Additionally, traditional systems focus little on promoting community health. A ROSC, however, places greater emphasis on community health and wellness for all. As a result, prevention services, which have a long history of promoting personal and community health and wellness, are integral elements within a ROSC.

Why we need change:

- SUD is a chronic condition, but we currently have an acute care treatment model.
- Millions of people suffer from substance use disorders every year, and an estimated 89.6% of them go untreated.
- In Michigan, 54.4% of persons having received detoxification services have had at least one previous substance abuse admission; and 33.6% of persons having received long-term residential services have had at least one previous admission for the same service.
- We want to broaden our system of treatment services.
- We want to integrate and better enhance the coordination of prevention, follow-up and continuing care in the recovery process.
- The only way to provide all services needed is by working together in partnership and collaboration.

What is a ROSC?

Michigan's recovery oriented system of care supports an individual's journey toward recovery and wellness by creating and sustaining networks of formal and informal services and supports. The opportunities established through collaboration, partnership and a broad array of services promote life enhancing recovery and wellness for individuals, families and communities.

Elements of a ROSC:

- Holistic and integrated services beyond symptom reduction.
- Continuity of care - assertive outreach and engagement, and ongoing monitoring and support.
- Culturally responsive services.
- Peer support.
- Community health and wellness.
- Systems anchored in the community.
- Person-centered, self-directed.
- Family and other ally involvement.
- Individual approaches.
- Partnership-consultant relationships.

Considerations for Transformational Change:

Transformational change will require review and revision of all aspects of the substance use disorders service system including, but not limited to, policies, processes, practices, partnerships, networks, provider orientation, goals and objectives, anticipated outcomes, data collection, expectations and evaluation. Additionally, it will promote an integration and involvement of a broad range, wide variety of services to support SUD recovery.

How Providers can be part of this change:

Providers can embrace the new philosophy, perspective and practice of a ROSC by:

- Establishing a proactive partnership with the individual, that is person-centered,
- Establishing and nurturing relationships with other community support service providers,
- Creating the expectation that full recovery is a life-long pursuit sustained through service intervention and community support,
- Acknowledging that multiple episodes of treatment can occur and are reasonable, considering the nature of addiction,
- Respecting that recovery requires ongoing relationships rather than brief interventions,
- Being open to new and innovative approaches, and
- Confronting stigma whenever encountered.

Michigan's recovery transformation efforts are designed to promote greater health and wellness for individuals, families and communities. We invite you to join this exciting effort. For more information, please contact the Bureau of Substance Abuse and Addiction Services at (517)373-4700 or mdch-bsaas@michigan.gov.