

MICHIGAN'S TRANSFORMATION TO A RECOVERY ORIENTED SYSTEM OF CARE FOR SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERVICES THE IMPORTANCE OF PARTNERSHIPS – CRIMINAL JUSTICE

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.

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.

Why do we need a ROSC?

- **Limited Attraction:** Less than 10% of people who meet the DSM-IV criteria for a SUD currently seek treatment.
- **Poor Engagement and Retention:** Less than half of those in treatment complete their treatment program.
- **Lack of Continuing Care:** Post-discharge continuing care can enhance recovery outcomes, but only one in five receives it.
- **Significant Correlation:** In 2009 57.1% of those admitted into publically funded treatment, in Michigan, had past or current criminal justice involvement.
- **Successful Completion of Treatment:** Persons that have been involved with the criminal justice system and 1) enter treatment with no continuing accountability with the criminal justice system have a 22.6% completion rate; 2) enter treatment while on parole have a 40.6 % completion rate; 3) enter treatment while on probation have a 39.9%

completion rate; and 4) enter treatment while under other court supervision have a 43.3% completion rate.

Criminal Justice:

Individuals who begin or continue recovery while under criminal justice supervision have a significantly greater rate of success than those having no criminal justice involvement. This 'full' recovery-oriented system will match treatment and support services to individual needs. Being a partner in a ROSC with linkages to broad spectrum services provides persons involved with the criminal justice system the best opportunity to engage in a (multi-faceted) plan that will help them to sustain recovery from SUDs. The action taken by the criminal justice system in tandem with the SUD ROSC system will result in a stronger recovery effort than that produced by either system working in isolation. With ongoing supports inherent in a recovery oriented system of care, individuals have the opportunity to attain a healthy, productive and promising lifestyle.

The important of partnerships:

A successful ROSC must have an integrated services system that incorporates key stakeholders as partners. Such partners include, but are not limited to, treatment programs, housing, transportation, criminal justice, child welfare, primary medical care and education.

Benefits of a SUD/Criminal Justice partnership:

An effective collaboration is one which provides well-chosen treatment and support systems, appropriate incentive and sanctions, presents the opportunity to obtain the beneficial effects from cumulative treatment episodes, and links clients to ongoing support in the community.

Reduces:

- Jail and prison utilization
- Recidivism
- Court utilization
- Further substance use and the potential for relapse

Enhances:

- Recovery
- Civil rights
- Humane alternatives
- Options for judges
- Public safety
- Cost effectiveness
- Community wellness

The Importance of Culture in a ROSC

Our system of care will be culturally sensitive, gender competent and age appropriate. There will be recognition that beliefs and customs are diverse and can impact the outcomes of recovery efforts. It will be recognized that the cultures of those who support the recovering individual affect the recovery processes. We need to respect the culture of recovery itself. The culture of recovery requires long-term relationships, and collaborations that support and encourage individuals, families and communities to embrace recovery.

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.