

Agency Report

Department of Human Services/Oregon Health Authority

Mental Health for Seniors Report

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Request: Acknowledge receipt of a report on mental health services for seniors and people with disabilities.

Recommendation: Acknowledge receipt of the report.

Analysis: Budget notes were included for both SB 5529 and HB 5030 (2013), the budget bills for Department of Human Services and the Oregon Health Authority, directing the agencies to submit a report to the 2015 Legislature on progress made in addressing recommendations contained in the 2013 *Report on Seniors and People with Disabilities Mental Health and Addictions*. The Department of Human Services, Aging and People with Disabilities (APD), and the Oregon Health Authority, Addictions and Mental Health (AMH), have worked collaboratively to provide better access to mental health and addiction services for seniors and people with disabilities. The report includes descriptions of a number of programs in the two agencies that are new for the 2013-15 biennium or have been expanded. Highlights include the following:

- The two agencies have partnered to expand capacity in the Enhanced Care Services program, where long term care services and supports are provided in an APD licensed care setting with AMH paying for additional staff to provide intensive mental health supports. This program now has a capacity of 152 beds. A similar program that serves individuals in a variety of other settings has a capacity of 96. These services are focused on discharging individuals from the Oregon State Hospital, or diverting individuals from entering the hospital in the first place.
- The HUB Project in Multnomah County is funded through an APD Innovations Fund grant. The program will provide intensive services and case management for participants at risk due to acute and chronic medical needs, a substance abuse disorder and/or mental illness, and unstable housing. The program is just getting started, having served 10 individuals to date, but expects to serve 30-45 when fully implemented. The grant of \$350,000 allowed Multnomah County to create and coordinate the program. Direct services are paid for through regular Medicaid programs.
- APD expanded the Gatekeeper Services, which train employees of community businesses and organizations to recognize and refer at-risk older adults to the Aging Disability Resource Connections (ADRC). More than 2,200 individuals have been trained, and referrals have been made by 208 partners. The program will be available in all 36 counties by the end of the biennium.
- AMH is contracting with Community Mental Health Programs to bring on 25 Older Adult Behavioral Health Specialists to improve system coordination and services, provide information on local supports available in their area, and serve as a consultant on difficult or complex cases. These staff are expected to be on board all across the state within the next month.

- APD has hired seven regional Long Term Services and Supports Innovator Agents to facilitate communication and coordination between coordinated care organizations (CCOs) and APD. These staff also work closely with the Oregon Health Authority's Transformation Center and its CCO Innovator Agents.
- A number of training modules have been developed and are being implemented, including dementia related training provided to staff in various parts of the senior system, training to better understand how mental health disorders present in older adults, and caregiver training that is available statewide. As of March 31, 2015, 1,200 caregivers had completed over 2,166 classes, either in-person or online.

The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends acknowledging receipt of the report on mental health services for seniors and people with disabilities.