

**Van Buren
Community Mental Health Authority
Ends Monitoring Report (Part I)
July 2021**

SUBJECT: Adults with Serious Mental Illness or Developmental Disabilities

POLICY:

There will be an improvement in the quality of life for adults and older adults with serious mental illness or developmental disabilities which will be noted by improvement in their:

- functioning
- positive participation in their community

The following report presents evidence that VBCMh services are improving the functioning and positive participation of adult customers. This report comes from information that has been collected for a number of years. Highlighted in yellow below are the portions of the CEO interpretation of the End for which data is provided. (In the report to be presented at the next Board meeting, the data collected will focus on the other portions of the interpretation statements.)

CEO Interpretation:

Improvement in functioning means that adults and older adults served will demonstrate an increased sense of well being and self sufficiency. Adults and older adults will have relief from acute psychiatric conditions and will indicate that symptoms of mental illness interfere less with their daily life. They will indicate that VBCMh staff helped them obtain the information needed to take charge of managing their illness and indicate that VBCMh would be their chosen provider and one they would recommend to others. Adults and older adults with developmental disabilities will maximize their physical and cognitive ability to interact with people and their environment, whether at home, workplace, or general community settings.

The outcome-oriented scales on the MHSIP have been collected by VBCMh for a number of years and the MHSIP outcome data are the focus of the second part of this Ends Report for adults to be presented in September. SWMBH collects the full MHSIP survey and several questions from MHSIP domains not included in the outcome-oriented sections of this survey are also indicative of positive outcomes of services. Three of these items were:

- “Staff helped me obtain the information I needed to take charge of managing my illness.”
- “I would recommend this agency to a friend or family member.” And
- “If I had other choices, I would still get services from this agency.”

Obtaining information needed to take charge of managing one’s illness is indicative of improvements in functioning. Being willing to recommend the agency to others and indicating that one would choose the agency for service if other choices were available are indicative that the person had a positive experience with services at VBCMh. VBCMh averages in the domains from which these questions appear (General Satisfaction; Quality and Appropriateness) in 2020 were higher than the SWMBH averages though not significantly higher. However, both VBCMh and SWMBH domain scores were significantly higher than the national averages.

General Satisfaction domain: VBCMh 94.2% agreed in 2020.

2020 SWMBH 91.4% agreed and Nationally 88.3% agreed.)

Quality and Appropriateness domain: VBCMh 95% agreed in 2020.
2020 SWMBH 92.6% agreed and Nationally 88.2% agreed.

CEO Interpretation

Improvement in positive participation in their community means that adults and older adults will optimize their level of self-sufficiency, will self define their occupancy of time and have increased engagement in activities they find meaningful. Defining how their time is occupied and engaging in meaningful activities includes having friendships and family relationships and contributing to their communities through competitive employment. Adults and older adults will live in places that are safe and where they have choice in their day to day lives. Improvement in positive participation in their community also means they will spend less time in psychiatric hospitals.

“Contributing to their communities through competitive employment”

In last year’s report, the data from the most recent 2 years of reports of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) to the legislature indicated an equal percentage of VBCMh adult customers were employed in the community as compared to the state of Michigan averages. In prior time periods VBCMh exceeded the state averages. The data in the most recent report to the legislature (which is from fiscal year 2019) VBCMh customers show higher rates of employment than adults served throughout the state. Overall data for adults served indicate 34.4% of VBCMh adult customers were employed while the state average was 32%.

Percentage in competitive employment

VBCMh adults with I/DD	13.5%
State adults with I/DD	9.7%

VBCMh adults with MI or SUD	53.9%
State adults with MI	29.8%

“Live in places that are safe and where they have choice in their day to day lives”

Living in a private residence or outside of a more structured or institutional setting is generally acknowledged to equate in more choice and control over day to day decisions. Data from the most recent report of DHHS to the legislature indicate that a higher percentage of VBCMh adult customers with mental illness or with SUD reside in a private residence rather than residential foster care, institutional settings or are homeless. This trend was also true for adults with I/DD. (For the previous year, VBCMh and the state average were equivalent.) Available national data indicate that 69% of adults with I/DD live in private residences so Michigan is a leader in this area.

Percentage live in private residence 2010

VBCMh adults with I/DD	87.40%
State adults with I/DD	82%

VBCMh adults with MI or SUD	91.4%
State adults with MI or SUD	86.4%

“Spend less time in psychiatric hospitals”

A variety of measures indicate that Van Buren county residents spend less time in psychiatric hospitals.

The standard in the state of Michigan is that fewer than 15% of persons will be re-admitted to an inpatient psychiatric unit within 30 days of discharge. Looking at all discharged adults in 2019 from data published on the state website, for VBCMh, 6.5% (or 7 of 108) were readmitted to an inpatient psychiatric unit within 30 days of discharge. The state of Michigan average for 2019 was 11.8%. Looking over multiple years of data, it appears that the readmission rate for VBCMh has always been better than the state standard, and the state average. VBCMh's average of 6.5% is in range of the rate over the years. Increasing attention is being focused on hospital readmission rates nationwide as an outcome measure for assessing performance of health care systems, and Medicare is now penalizing hospitals whose readmission rates for any type of admission exceed standards.

Data published by MDHHS for the 2010 fiscal year shows that VBCMh spent 12.3% of its expenditures on adults for psychiatric inpatient care while the state average expenditure was 26.7%. The average percentage of expenditures on adults for psychiatric inpatient went up by 1% for VBCMh and went up by 3.9% for the state average compared to the prior year. Spending significantly less on inpatient care is an indicator of better client outcomes as it indicates people are not requiring this level of intensive service.

VBCMh has consistently been a leader in the low number of residents per 1,000 who are admitted to psychiatric hospitals. For the 2018 fiscal year, SWMBH service use evaluation report indicated that VBCMh continued to be a leader in this measure with a lower use than the regional average on use of hospitalization per 1,000 enrollees in Medicaid and Healthy Michigan Plan. This report shows an average of 4.7 people per 1,000 enrollees were hospitalized and the SWMBH average was 7.4. SWMBH has not released this report since 2018 but VBCMh data show the exact same number of hospitalizations for adults (108) in 2019 as in 2018, so it is likely that VBCMh continues to outperform the region in this area. In 2020, hospitalizations increased at VBCMh and throughout the region, state and nation so this will be interesting data to analyze when available.

These data indicate that Van Buren County residents spend less time in psychiatric hospitals and that persons served have a lower need than average for admission to a psychiatric unit.

These data begin to demonstrate that VBCMh services are improving functioning and positive participation of adults with serious mental illness or developmental disabilities.

Part Two of this monitoring report will be presented at the next Board meeting.