

**Van Buren
Community Mental Health Authority
Ends Monitoring Report
November 2024**

SUBJECT: Substance Use Prevention

- **Improvements will be made in Van Buren County in substance use prevention priority areas.**

CEO Interpretation:

The Board of Directors desires that VBCMh take actions to prevent the negative consequences of substance use in the county and promote the overall wellbeing of county residents.

Monitoring report

This End was approved by the Board in October of 2016 when VBCMh began providing Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Prevention Services. This is the eighth monitoring report on this end. (Reporting began in 2017)

Attached please find the Fiscal Year 2023 Outcome Measures Instrument Report developed in collaboration with SWMBH. SWMBH develops the Outcome Measures Instrument with each of its eight counties and tracks the results. SWMBH sets a benchmark of achieving 85% of Outcome Measures to receive full funding for prevention services.

VBCMh and its partners through the Van Buren Substance Abuse Task Force achieved 97.5% of the Outcome Measures during fiscal year 2024. (This summary statistic can be found on the last page of the attached report.) VBCMh has exceeded the benchmark in all eight years of providing SUD prevention services.

The table tracks a lot of data presented efficiently, so many abbreviations and shorthand descriptions are used. The Prevention Unit staff will attend the Board meeting to highlight some key results of the report and answer questions. The Prevention Unit staff include **Nikki VanSandt**, Substance Use Disorders Prevention and Treatment Services Supervisor and Prevention Specialists, **Marcus Hamre** and **Ashlyne Maneke**.

A few key concepts for understanding the table and a brief description of each section:

- If the boxes in the column labeled % Actual and OM Status are **green**, it means the Outcome Measure was achieved; if the box is **red**, it means the Outcome Measure was not achieved and if it is **yellow**, it means the Outcome Measure was partially achieved.
- The table is broken into Sections with each section having a number of indicators that are tracked:
 - Section I includes Indicators for Selected Substance Use Disorder Community Consequences and looks to reduce alcohol related traffic (ART) accidents and deaths, and Drug related accidents and Drug related accident fatalities, and high school students reported use of alcohol and drugs. **Improvement was seen in alcohol related traffic accidents but not in the other 3 measures compared to last year. The alcohol related accidents measure has been on a downward trend since 2016 when we began reporting on this measure, however some years have shown increases. The additional three measures which were not achieved this year also have shown trends indicating decreases since we began reporting. The drug related measures have been tracked since 2021.**

- **Eight of nine measures targeting reported alcohol and drug use among high school students were achieved. The measure that was not achieved was family communication about alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.**
- Section II and III includes measures of effectiveness of the education-based intervention strategies used by the Prevention Specialists. Measurements include pre and post curriculum questionnaires, stakeholder surveys, screening tools, and linkage to service where indicated. **87 of 88 evidenced based practice education courses achieved or exceeded the target, 1 partially achieved the target. Stakeholder feedback was also very positive. Courses were presented at schools across the county and included sessions provided to youth from across the county involved with the juvenile court.**

The courses are aimed at specific grade levels of students. A brief description of two of the evidenced based interventions presented were KACM- Keep a Clear Mind and Prime for Life.

Keep a Clear Mind is a parent-child, take home program with alcohol and other drug education. Each child receives four activity books (alcohol, tobacco, marijuana and good choices), four student incentives, and five parent newsletters. Students take the activity book home, one per week, and do the program with their parent. KACM is also available in Spanish.

Prime For Life (PFL) PFL is an evidence-based motivational prevention, intervention and pretreatment program specifically designed for both youth and adults who may be making high-risk choices. It is designed to change drinking and drug use behaviors. Prime For Life includes both prevention and intervention content and is designed to be universal, selective and provides options for indicated audiences.

- Section IV is about providing screening and referral for selected groups. **All screenings for youth met 100% of the requirements.**
- Section V, VI, VII, and VIII look at measures of effectiveness of the interventions sponsored by the Van Buren Substance Abuse Task Force (VBSATF) including Prevention Campaigns targeted at preventing prescription drug abuse and opioid abuse, Under-Age Drinking (UAD,) Marijuana Use by Youth, Education for Retailers, and Retailer Compliance Checks for alcohol and tobacco. In addition, there are 2 measures about keeping the VBSATF growing and responding to community issues. **All prevention campaigns achieved a high percentage of fidelity components that lead to effective campaigns.**

Retailer compliance checks for the sale of alcohol were all in compliance. Required (SYNAR) retailer compliance checks for the sale of tobacco did not meet the target. Only one of two retailers passed the check. However, the non-required retailer checks for sale of tobacco and e-cigarettes did meet targets and many more retailer checks fell into the non-required category.

Collaborative efforts with school to collect the information on youth functioning, attitudes and use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs (MiPHY) and presentations

not part of a campaign that are aimed at preventing substance misuse all met target outcomes as did distribution of prevention materials.

- Section IX summarizes the data on hours spent by prevention workers in various areas of their work. **2 of 5 measures were not achieved due to several months with a vacancy in one of 2 prevention specialist positions. This measure only contributes 1% to the weighted average achievement rate.**
- Section X summarizes all of the data, section by section in a table and then in a graph. **It is in Section X that the Outcome Measures Achievement Rate of 97.5% is shown (Target is 85%). The achievement rate is a weighted average.**

The Board is asked to deliberate the questions asked when an Ends report is given.

1. Is the interpretation by the CEO reasonable?
2. Is the evidence relevant and compelling?
3. Does this information lead the Board to believe they need to refine their Ends?