



Behavioral Health Justice Collaborative Update

Victoria Reichard, LCSW, Behavioral Health Manager

Justice Resource Advisory Council

June 2nd, 2023



Outline

- What is the Behavioral Health Justice Collaborative (BHJC)?
- Completed BHJC Projects
 - Opioid Settlement Strategic Planning
 - Steering Committee Recommendations: A Dual Approach
 - FY24 Recommended Funding
- Current BHJC Projects
 - Enhance Crisis Response
 - Sustain Coalition Building
 - Coordinated Advocacy
 - Increase Recruitment & Retention



What is the BHJC?

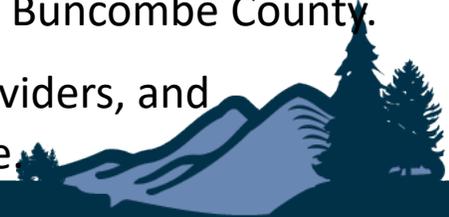
PURPOSE

The purpose of the Buncombe County Behavioral Health Justice Collaborative is to act as an advisory working group to the Justice Resource Advisory Council. The BHJC will generate advisory insights by increasing coordination and collaboration between the Buncombe County Government, local governments, and community partners around efforts at the intersection of behavioral health and justice services. This body seeks to channel the right resources to the right place at the right time in response to behavioral health needs in the community with the goal of promoting public safety and improving outcomes for those in need of behavioral health services.

SCOPE

The Behavioral Health Justice Collaborative will:

- Enhance coordination and collaboration between Buncombe County Government, local governments, and community partners on behavioral health justice efforts through sharing information, ideas, and strategic initiatives.
- Proactively evaluate opportunities to divert those in need into treatment, and away from adjudication resulting from behavioral health needs.
- Explore opportunities to meet the behavioral health needs of those involved in the justice system in Buncombe County.
- Incorporate the voice of subject matter experts – including those with lived experiences, clinical providers, and community organizations – into public sector decision-making pertaining to behavioral health justice.



Opioid Settlement Project: Goals & Strategies Workgroup Recommendations

Bold intervention to address the increasing lethality of drug supplies by **prioritizing life-saving and harm-reducing measures today**

Apply a sense of urgency to **investment in prevention and longer-term planning to address systemic root causes** of substance use

Collaborative Strategic Planning

- Real-time information sharing
- Enhance community outreach in underserved communities
- Collaborative goal setting, objective identification, and prioritization

Evidence-Based Addiction Treatment

- Expand access to MOUD
- Streamline data & information sharing across County MOUD programs

Acute Response Resources

- Funding for **Recovery Support Services** addressing Social Determinants of Health
- Funding & Education for **Naloxone Distribution**

Early Intervention

- Invest in youth voice and leadership
- Education & awareness-raising
- Community-based resources (e.g. youth peer support programs)

Employment-Related Services

- Holistic care models support job readiness in treatment/shelter settings
- Employer collaboration to promote hiring & recovery-friendly workplaces

Recovery Housing

- Support housing providers in meeting best-practice quality benchmarks
- Create opportunities to expand evidence-based housing options



Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2024

Collaborative Strategic Planning

- Behavioral Health Manager Position
- Behavioral Health & Justice Analyst Position
- **Medical Substance Use Professional Contract**
- **911 Dispatch Diversion Feasibility Study**

Recovery Support Services

- Public Health Substance Use Services Coordinator Position
- Community Paramedicine Peer Supports & Clinician Contract
- Justice Services Community Re-entry Team Contract
- **Community Paramedicine Expansion Positions**
- **Funds to Address Social Determinants of Health**

Naloxone Distribution

- Naloxone & Harm Reduction Supplies
- **Inclusive Outreach Coordinator Position**
- **Media & Engagement Materials**



Current BHJC Projects

Trust, Accountability, Transparency, & Better Knowledge Community-Wide	Dispatch & Co-Response Coordination	Places for People to Go and Stay for Whole-Person Care	Workforce Development & Wellness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coalition Building/Outreach – Listen, Learn, Share Resource directory/information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual Crisis Response – Courthouse Pilot Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Steering Committee 911 Triage/Diversion Crisis Response Team Pilot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinated Legislative Advocacy 911 Triage/Diversion Low Barrier/Wet Shelter *HIAC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinated Legislative Advocacy Coordinated/joint efforts around workforce development, recruitment, and retention



Questions/Discussion

Additional information around Opioid Settlement can be found at [Publicinput.com/buncombeopioidsettlement](https://publicinput.com/buncombeopioidsettlement)

