



The Role of the Substance Abuse Treatment Block Grant in Alabama

1

Beverly Bell-Shambley, Ph.D.

Associate Commissioner for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

Alabama Department of Mental Health

NASADAD Annual Meeting

June 10, 2016



ALABAMA

A Non-Medicaid
Expansion State

- 4,768,000 Residents
- 20% of the State's population are Medicaid Recipients.
- An additional 324,000 Alabamians could gain health coverage if Medicaid benefits were extended to childless adults with incomes below the FPL.
- Alabama currently has the most stringent income requirements in the nation relative to qualifying for Medicaid.

Need for Alabama's Public Substance Abuse Service Delivery System

- ▶ Alabama ranks #1 as the highest painkiller prescribing state in the United States.
- ▶ 197,000 Alabamians, age 12 and above, reported nonmedical use of pain relievers in the past year.
- ▶ 323,000 Individuals in Alabama needed but did not receive treatment for alcohol and illicit drug use in the past year.
- ▶ Arrests of pregnant women using illicit drugs for Chemical Endangerment of a Child are the highest in the nation.
- ▶ Heroin and prescription drug overdose death rates continue to climb.
- ▶ The state's prisons are among the most crowded in the nation with estimates of up to 75% of the population having substance use disorders.

Alabama's Safety Net Service Delivery System: Treatment

- **ASAM – Based Treatment Levels of Care**
 - Early intervention Services
 - Outpatient Treatment
 - Intensive Outpatient Treatment
 - Partial Hospitalization Treatment
 - Medication Assisted Treatment
 - Clinically Managed Residential Treatment
 - Transitional
 - Low Intensity
 - Medium Intensity
 - High Intensity
 - Medically Monitored Detoxification

Alabama's Safety Net Service Delivery System: Prevention

- **Primary Prevention Services – Selective, Indicated, and Universal**
 - Information Dissemination
 - Education
 - Alternatives
 - Problem Identification and Referral
 - Community-Based Processes
 - Environmental Strategies

Alabama's SUD Safety Net Offers A Robust Array of Billable Services to Support the ASAM Levels of Care

- Behavioral Health Accommodations
- Individual Counseling*
- Group Counseling*
- Intake Evaluation*
- Family Counseling*
- Diagnostic Testing*
- Medication Administration*
- Medication Monitoring*
- Physician Medical Assessment and Treatment*
- Case Management
- Treatment Plan Review*
- Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Assessment
- Peer Counseling
- Mental Health Consultation*
- Crisis Intervention*
- Basic Living Skills*
- Psychoeducational Services*
- Activity Therapy
- Developmental Delay Prevention Activities for Dependent Children
- Parenting Skills Development
- Child Sitting Services
- Behavioral Health Outreach Services

*Medicaid Billable Service

Alabama's Safety Net Service Delivery System in 2015: By the Numbers

- 20,047 served by treatment system
- 75,000 served by prevention system
- 57 contract treatment providers – 46 approved to provide Medicaid services
- 12 contract prevention providers
- All residential treatment programs maintain waiting lists.
- 4,978 Medicaid Beneficiaries served in 2015.
- The majority of patient's served by Alabama's SUD treatment system would qualify for Medicaid if expansion was allowed.

Alabama's Safety Net Service Delivery System: Funding

8

	SABG	% Total Funds	State Funds (Non-Medicaid Services)	% Total Funds	Medicaid				Total All Available Funds
					Federal	State	Total Medicaid Funds	% Total Funds	
2010	23,932,208	56%	16,043,710	38%	1,948,323	564,627	2,512,950	6%	42,488,868
2011	23,720,126	57%	14,184,098	34%	2,595,638	966,407	3,562,045	9%	41,466,269
2012	23,669,104	54%	14,290,772	32%	4,191,150	1,916,618	6,107,768	14%	44,067,644
2013	22,413,051	52%	14,041,308	33%	4,481,669	2,058,049	6,539,718	15%	42,994,077
2014	22,926,066	53%	14,254,357	33%	4,079,042	1,908,979	5,988,021	14%	43,168,444
2015	22,940,958	52%	14,098,784	32%	4,646,537	2,088,871	6,735,408	15%	43,775,150

It's Business as Usual for Alabama's SUD Service Delivery System Without Medicaid Expansion . . .

- Efforts to Maintain the Safety Net System
 - Promoting the value of treatment and prevention services
 - Maximizing existing Medicaid benefits
 - Advocating for increased state funding and local funding involvement
 - Promoting peer utilization
 - Promoting the use of evidence-based practices
 - Modifying regulations to support improved access to treatment in response to the State's opioid epidemic
 - Interagency collaboration
 - Service integration
 - Rigorously manage and monitor the SABG

The Role of the Substance Abuse Block Grant in Alabama . . .

- The SABG has consistently provided over half of the available funding that sustains the State's safety net service delivery system.
- Even with the SABG, the state is only able to meet less than 10% of the need for SUD treatment.
- Alabama's safety net prevention services system is 100% funded by the SABG.
- Neither Medicaid nor health Insurers in Alabama cover the full array of treatment and prevention services necessary for establishment of a recovery oriented system of care.

ALABAMA IS TOTALLY DEPENDENT UPON THE SABG FOR SURVIVAL AND GROWTH OF ITS SUD SAFETY NET SERVICE DELIVERY SYSTEM.