



Substance Abuse, Prevention & Treatment Block Grant

Final Report

Service Period: January 1, 2019 – June 30, 2019

Regional Service Area: Pierce County

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Total Substance Abuse, Prevention & Treatment Block Grant (SABG) Allocation: \$1,991,486

SABG Report Requirement	Response
<p>How have the needs of the population identified in the needs assessment used for the SABG plan been met?</p>	<p>For the period of January 1, 2019 through June 30, 2019, we continued to utilize the exiting Pierce County region contracted SUD agency network for the SABG program.</p> <p>We reviewed the utilization of SABG funding of our SABG contracted agencies for our contract period of January 1, 2019 through June 2019 and adjusted based upon SABG funding utilization. If SABG funding was highly utilized, we may have increased SABG funding. If SABG funding was not utilized as anticipated, SABG funding might have been decreased if the agency reported they did not have as high a projected need as initially anticipated. For the period of January 2020-July 2020 Beacon in Pierce County will explore new contractual agreements with SUD providers to better serve those priority population members eligible for SABG services.</p> <p>All providers needed assistance to fully understand that the SABG was to be utilized for non-Medicaid services for priority population members and that with the new IMC Model all non-Medicaid members would be managed by the ASO with the Medicaid population managed by the MCOs: Amerigroup, Coordinated Care, Molina Healthcare, and United Healthcare. This adjustment was also due to a software change from the singular Avatar software system to the separate provider portals for claims with the various MCOs and ASO. Once this structural and administrative issue was worked out here in Pierce County, providers became more aware of what services would be covered under the Medicaid program.</p>
<p>What strategies were used to improve existing programs, create new</p>	<p>As the new BH-ASO for the year 2019, Beacon contracts with the following SUD network agencies in Pierce County:</p>

<p>programs, or actions taken to remove barriers?</p>	<p>Asian Counseling & Treatment Services Comprehensive Life Resources Consejo Counseling & Referral Service Greater Lakes Mental Healthcare Metropolitan Development Council MultiCare Health System Olalla Recovery Centers Pierce County Alliance Pioneer Human Services Prosperity Wellness Center Rainier Internal Medicine /Northwest Integrated Healthcare Sea Mar Community Health Centers Point Defiance AIDS Project Pierce County Health Department</p> <p>For the 2019 calendar year Beacon in Pierce County is utilizing the former BHO Optum’s contracted SUD agencies. For the time period of July 2019- December 2019 Beacon will explore new agency contractual agreements to expand the funding capabilities for priority populations and non-Medicaid covered substance use services.</p> <p>Moving forward with the assistance of the Pierce County Behavioral Advisory Board new programs may be created and new actions will be taken to remove barriers for services to serve priority population members for the July 2019-June 2020 time period. A Request for response will be created to seek input on substance use needs, priorities and innovative programs to serve those in Pierce County. In particular, with this RFR, Beacon seeks information on innovative programs that support integrated care delivery for the priority populations identified for the SABG block grant funding. Responses should articulate specific needs of underserved residents of Southwest Washington and describe program opportunities to link community partners, such as primary care providers, behavioral health providers, and housing services.</p>
<p>What policies or initiatives were implemented to ensure Cultural Competence?</p>	<p>Beacon Health Options requires that all of the providers included in this plan participate in ongoing cultural competency trainings. Contracted providers deliver culturally responsive services to diverse individuals which take into account more than language and communication needs. Providers are responsive to cultural norms and expectations within cultures, as well as the role that cultural norms have before, during, and after treatment. Moreover, efforts to establish cultural competency within organizational attitudes, policies, and behaviors will be monitored on an ongoing basis and surveyed at cultural competency trainings that occur within</p>

	<p>agencies that have contracts with the Pierce County Regional Service Area under this plan.</p> <p>A Cultural Competence Committee instituted under Optum is still ongoing here in Pierce with most contracted providers participating on a monthly basis. Membership of the Behavioral Health Advisory Board for the MHBG and SABG is structured so that the majority of members have first-hand experiences with the hardships that vulnerable populations in PCWA face on a daily basis. These diverse perspectives enrich and guide the discussions, efforts, and decisions of the Board.</p>
<p>What efforts have been made to ensure that continuing education and/or training was made available to treatment staff?</p>	<p>Each agency is accountable for identifying their employee education needs and accessing ongoing training related to continued certification and/or licensure. As local, regional, and state-wide training opportunities arise they are reviewed with the provider network as both an opportunity to providers and their staff as well as a discussion point for training that would benefit the community as a whole. This provides the opportunity for ongoing communication related to the training needs of providers across the region.</p>
<p>Provide a description of how faith-based organizations were provided opportunities to compete with traditional SUD treatment providers for funding, to include:</p> <p>including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Describe how faith-based organizations were incorporated into the existing referral system, including number of referrals made - What training was provided to local governments and/or faith-based and/or community organizations regarding Charitable Choice? 	<p>In accordance with 45 CFR Part 54, Beacon Health Options will ensure that Charitable Choice Requirements are followed and that faith-based organizations (“FBOs”) are provided the same opportunities to compete with traditional substance use disorder (“SUD”) treatment providers for SABG funding. When Beacon Health Options identifies a service gap or identifies the need for additional SUD treatment providers, staff will provide outreach to the FBOs and notify them of potential program expansion and/or funding opportunities.</p> <p>The Pierce County Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) recognizes the significant role faith-based organizations serve in substance abuse treatment in Pierce County and have engaged with faith-based organizations to potentially develop partnerships under this plan. The Tacoma Ministerial Alliance under the direction of Dr. John Castele a BHAB Board member along with the Board sub-committee on diversity has greatly contributed to the education and awareness of faith-based organizations in Pierce County. Beacon engages in outreach with faith-based organizations in Pierce County; these efforts to date show increased engagement with the African-American community for mental health treatment services. Our outreach has resulted in working much closer in engaging individuals for mental health services through faith-based organizations, but has not resulted in any SUD faith-based SUD agencies joining our network as of yet. At the time a contractual agreement has been made with a faith-based organization for SUD services, information on Charitable Choice will be given and explained so that Beacon can adhere to the SABG rules such as:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use generally accepted auditing and accounting principles to account for SABG Block Grant funds similar to other nongovernmental organizations. • Segregate Federal funds from non-Federal funds. • Subject Federal funds to audits by the government. • Apply Charitable Choice requirements to commingled funds when State/local funds are commingled with Block Grant funds • Faith based providers shall have Members admitted to their facility sign an agreement stating they understand the above statements. This document shall be placed in the Member’s clinical record. <p>Beacon did not provide training to local governments during the contract term.</p>
<p>Describe your process to gather public comment from behavioral health association, individuals in recovery, families and local boards in the development of your SABG Plan.</p>	<p>In developing the SABG Plan, the Pierce County Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) has established subcommittees on diversity, youth, housing, and jail services. These subcommittees gather public comment and feedback on existing services and possible new services to aid the priority population members in Pierce County. There is time allotted at each BHAB meeting for public comment as well as the monthly presence of the Behavioral Health Ombuds to provide information on trends and issues with Pierce residents.</p>
<p>What compliance monitoring strategies are in place to ensure adequacy of efforts meet all the block grant requirements?</p>	<p>Beacon Health Options requires SABG program providers to provide Monthly Service Reports by the 10th calendar day after the close of the service month. These reports consist of data on the number of unique individuals served, number of services provided, outreach services, follow-up services, average phone and face-to-face response time, etc. The submitted reports are compiled into a larger cumulative report that is updated and reviewed monthly to identify trends, significant changes, areas of improvement, etc. Any identified changes in data both positive and negative are brought to the attention of the contracted provider so they can view areas of success and address those areas that need improvement.</p> <p>Beacon Health Options staff will review personnel and clinical files during annual reviews to ensure contractors are complying with the requirement of the SABG. In reviewing clinical files, staff will ensure that individuals assessed for SUD services are screened for tuberculosis; that parents engaged in treatment are provided information about childcare services; that priority populations receive interim services when an agency is unable to admit within 14 days of the request for service; and that other service and Block Grant requirements are met.</p>

<p>Describe the types of Recovery Support Services made available, including:</p> <p>-Description of any memorandum of understanding between various service providers and the purpose for each?</p> <p>-What were the outcomes?</p> <p>-What have been the barriers/challenges and strategies to address such issues?</p>	<p>Recovery Support Services means a broad range of non-clinical services that assist individuals and families to initiate, stabilize, and maintain long-term Recovery from Substance Use Disorders. Recovery support services may include: peer delivered motivational interviewing; peer wellness coaching; peer-run respite services; person-center planning; self-care and wellness approaches; WRAP; supported employment; peer health navigators; supportive housing; promoters; recovery community centers; whole health action management; wellness-based community campaign; mutual aid groups for individuals with co-occurring disorders; peer specialists; recovery coaching; shared decision-making; telephone recovery checkups; warm lines; peer-run crisis diversion services.</p> <p>Metropolitan Development Council, Northwest Integrated Health, and Consejo Counseling all offer Peer Recovery Coaches contracted to provide recovery support services through the SABG.</p> <p>No memorandums of understanding were constructed during the January –June 2019 contract period.</p> <p>During this period of transition to the IMC Model, most contracted SABG providers initially struggled with properly and quickly identifying their clientele as being or not being a Medicaid recipient. This period of adjustment has identified more closely for some providers the percentage which are Medicaid eligible and the percentage which are unfunded by any sort of insurance coverage.</p>
<p>What activities have been implemented to coordinate service, including:</p> <p>-Describe the purpose of any memorandums of understanding between various service providers and the purpose for each.</p> <p>-What were the outcomes?</p> <p>-What have been the barriers/challenges and strategies to address such issues?</p>	<p>In this period of transition to the IMC Model for Pierce County most providers found the transition a challenge due to the software change from the Avatar software to the various portal and software programs for each MCO as well as Beacon as the BH-ASO.</p> <p>As a result of the software change with the newly instituted IMC Model in Pierce County, the coordination of services mostly consisted of appropriate identification of non-Medicaid members or services not covered under Medicaid or Medicare so that the SABG could be properly utilized. Proper coordination with the MCOs and the various Medicaid covered services and programs allowed for providers and recipients of the SABG to identify more closely certain areas of need.</p> <p>A review of the utilization of SABG funding was conducted in June of our SABG contracted agencies for our contract period of January 1, 2019 through June 2019 and adjusted based upon SABG funding utilization. If SABG funding was highly utilized, we may have increased SABG funding. If SABG funding was not utilized as anticipated, SABG</p>

	<p>funding might have been decreased if the agency reported they did not have as high a projected need as initially anticipated.</p> <p>In January of 2020 an RFP will be made available to all contracted providers for a more equitable distribution and utilization of SABG funds in Pierce County.</p>
<p>What services have been provided for the PPW population including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Specialized treatment services designed for PPW. -Subcontractors process to make available or make referrals for prenatal care and child care. 	<p>Interim services are primarily provided to the PPW population here in Pierce County. Each contracted SUD agency receives funding to provide interim services to PPWs and IUIDs. Per the contract, if the agency is unable to admit the individual within 48 hours from the request of the service and the individual refuses treatment elsewhere, the agency must conduct an assessment and begin providing interim services within 48 hours from the initial request. The intended outcome is to mitigate consequences associated with high-risk behaviors (such as IV drug use and/or substance use during pregnancy) and to provide services immediately to the priority populations.</p> <p>Beacon does not contract with an agency to provide childcare services. All contracted outpatient SUD agencies are required to provide parents in services with information to assist with the selection of a childcare provider. The information provided must include, at a minimum, direction to: 1) The Department of Early Learning (DEL) website address for information on childcare services; and 2) The DEL website address for information on selecting childcare services. Agencies are also required to provide sufficient case management services to ensure PPW and their children have access to childcare while an individual participates in treatment and support activities when those activities are recommended as part of the recovery process and noted in the individual recovery plan.</p>
<p>What outreach models were used to encourage PPW and IUID to enter treatment?</p>	<p>Outreach was utilized to engage hard to reach populations, including PPW and Individuals Using Intravenous Drugs (IUID) to encourage those members to enter treatment through Peer Recovery Couches funded with SABG dollars for Consejo Counseling, Metropolitan Development Council, and Pierce County Alliance.</p> <p>The former BHO Optum used Community Reinvestment Dollars which Beacon instituted to fund the Point Defiance AIDS Project which developed strong working relationships with service providers throughout the South Puget Sound region to serve PPW and IUID members.</p> <p>CJTA dollars were used for similar outreach in jail through Pierce County Alliance.</p>