

COCE SUBSTATE CASE PROFILE FOR WEB AUDIENCE

COCE Non-State Case Profile:

Human Potential Development, Reno, Nevada.

Summary of TA Goals and Outcomes: COCE assisted with the development of a State Symposium on Co-Occurring Disorders that resulted in a post-Symposium report with recommendations for State consideration, including the development of a Co-Occurring Disorders Steering Committee. As a result, the State passed Senate Bill No. 2 to authorize a Governor-appointed Committee to further the study and review of issues relating to persons with co-occurring disorders, develop recommendations for improving the treatment to such persons, and to submit a biennial report and recommendations for necessary legislation.

Background

1. Human Potential Development (HPD) is a 401c3 organization that presents conferences and workshops on subjects that address the needs of individuals with serious mental illness and their families in Nevada.
2. HPD actively promotes integrated services for persons with co-occurring disorders (COD) at State and local levels. The President of HPD also serves on the Mental Health Planning Advisory Council (MHPC) for the State of Nevada.

Technical Assistance Request

COCE was requested to assist in the development and coordination of a one-day symposium to address co-occurring disorders through speaker presentations and small group breakouts. Content areas emphasized workforce development and system change strategies. Specific technical assistance was requested in the following areas:

- Facilitate stakeholder development in the planning for the symposium;
- Assist stakeholders to develop consensus on the symposium content, format, and presenters;
- Provide support at the symposium; and
- Facilitate the development of a post-symposium document.

Technical Assistance Goals and Activities

1. ***Facilitate stakeholder development to develop consensus on symposium goals and priorities:***
 - Identified internal and external stakeholders for membership in a symposium steering committee (including consumer and family members, mental health and substance abuse providers, and state representation from mental health, substance abuse, and criminal justice systems);
 - Identified goals and priorities with stakeholders and developed an action plan to specify action steps, lead agents, and timelines for the identified goals and priorities; and
 - Monitored and updated the action plan through regularly scheduled conference calls.
2. ***Develop consensus on the Symposium content, format, and presenters:***
 - Assisted and supported the steering committee in receiving, reviewing, and disseminating information on COD to determine appropriate Symposium content areas;
 - Provided information on state and local resources to address COD through COCE linkages with other State-sponsored activities addressing COD; and
 - Assisted the committee in identifying presenters for the identified content areas.

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3. *Provide support at the Symposium:*

- Provided a COCE presentation on evidence-based practices, clinical capacity, services integration, and systems change at the symposium; and
- Provided note-taking support for the development of the post-symposium report.

4. *Facilitate the development of a post-Symposium Report:*

- Developed the draft post-Symposium report;
- Ensured that the main themes of the symposium discussions were reflected through recommendations on how to address the problems, issues, barriers, and potential solutions to treating persons with COD; and
- Facilitated three review cycles of the report to ensure all feedback and revisions were incorporated into the final document.

Direct Outcomes

- Development of a diverse stakeholders group including State leadership, frontline clinicians, consumers and family members, and others through the development of symposium steering committee and a consensus process, resulting in strengthened linkages and communication channels across stakeholder groups;
- Broad knowledge dissemination and consensus on symposium content, speakers, timelines, and next steps through the utilization of an action plan to facilitate the overall planning process;
- The Nevada Symposium on Co-Occurring Disorders was held in Las Vegas on November 6, 2007. The Symposium addressed problems, issues, barriers, and solutions to treating persons with COD; and
- Development of a post-symposium report (*Nevada's Symposium on Co-Occurring Disorders Summary: Strategies to Improve Treatment Outcomes for Persons with Co-Occurring Disorders*) that was used to inform the legislature about the needs in the State to address co-occurring disorders.

Indirect Outcomes:

- The post-symposium document, *Nevada's Symposium on Co-Occurring Disorders Summary: Strategies to Improve Treatment Outcomes for Persons with Co-Occurring Disorders*, was a primary guiding document leading to the construction and passage of Nevada's Senate Bill 2, which created a 15-member Governor-appointed Committee on Co-Occurring Disorders (CCD). The Committee is responsible for developing policy statements, recommending strategies for improving treatment, evaluating existing resources, and submitting findings and progress in a report for distribution to the Nevada Legislature;
- The kick-off meeting for CCD was held in Reno on January 10, 2008 with Nevada's First Lady Dawn Gibbons as Guest of Honor. COCE was invited to co-facilitate the meeting as part of a new TA effort to provide assistance to the new Committee; and
- The CCD currently has 3 subcommittees to address workforce development, evaluation, and systems integration.