

Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute

Comprehensive Mental Health Needs Assessment for Nueces County – Monthly Progress Report, December 2019

In September 2019, Nueces County and the Nueces County Hospital District (NCHD) engaged the Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute (MMHPI) to conduct a comprehensive mental health needs assessment to inform the county's efforts to improve services for its residents.

We (MMHPI) are pleased to provide a monthly progress report on the status of our assessment and the work we accomplished in December 2019.

Milestones for the Month – December 2019

- John Petrila, Senior Executive Vice President of Policy, briefed the Nueces County Commissioners Court and the Nueces County Hospital District (NCHD) on our *Preliminary Report on Prevalence and Hospital/Emergency Department Utilization in Nueces County* and our *Draft Preliminary Report on Criminal Justice System Diversion*. We will continue to provide updates to the Nueces County Hospital District and the Nueces County Commissioners Court, as appropriate, as our assessment progresses.

Adult/Criminal Justice

- The Adult and Criminal Justice Team received data from criminal justice stakeholders and partner organizations that are engaged in local criminal justice diversion efforts. During January and February 2020, the team will analyze the data it received to inform our stakeholder interviews and it will continue to interview key criminal justice stakeholders to inform our final report. In addition, we have scheduled interviews with Driscoll Health Plan leadership, which will take place in January 2020.

Veterans

- The Veterans Team has been contacting community resources that are available to veterans and their families and identifying additional stakeholders to interview as part of the assessment. The U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) has agreed to participate in the assessment. We conducted our first interview with the VA on December 10, 2019; additional interviews will be scheduled in January 2020.

Children and Youth

- The Child, Youth, and Family Team continues its work on developing a local stakeholder and key informant interview list. The team will conduct interviews from January through February 2020. The team also began reviewing publicly available data on school districts

and Medicaid enrollment to gain knowledge of the local community and focus its efforts for the final comprehensive assessment. Finally, the team has developed a data request document regarding children and youth programs and services to help collect information from providers that will inform the final report.

Deliverables for Month

- We submitted our *Monthly Status Report for November 2019* to Nueces County Judge Barbara Canales and Dr. Jonny Hipp, NCHD Administrator and Chief Executive Officer.
- We submitted a final *Preliminary Report on Prevalence and Hospital/Emergency Department Utilization in Nueces County* to Judge Canales and Dr. Hipp.
- We submitted a draft *Preliminary Report on Criminal Justice System Diversion* to Judge Canales and Dr. Hipp.

Upcoming Deliverables

- April 15, 2020: We will submit a draft report of our comprehensive community mental health needs assessment.
- June 15, 2020: We will submit a final report of our comprehensive community mental health needs assessment.
- June 15 to September 15, 2020: We will provide consultation to review recommendations for implementation.