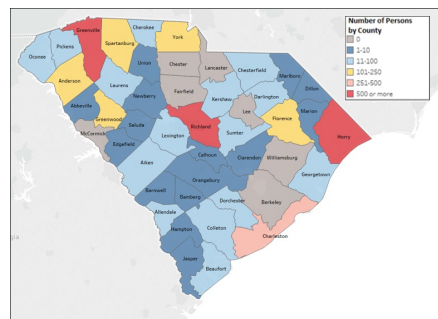


Mental Health Needs Assessment of People Experiencing Homelessness in Charleston, SC

Chelsea Ann Roach ; Cristin Adams, DO , MPH
 Medical University of South Carolina , College of Medicine

INTRODUCTION

- In South Carolina, between October 2018 and September 2019, 10,986 people received homeless services, with Charleston county ranking the 4th highest in the state for individuals experiencing homelessness during the 2020 annual point in time count.¹
- Mental health disorders often contribute to or result from housing insecurity.²
- The purpose of this quality improvement study was to determine mental health needs, and mental health services utilization patterns of **persons experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity (PEH)** in Charleston, SC.



Homelessness by County in South Carolina³

METHODS

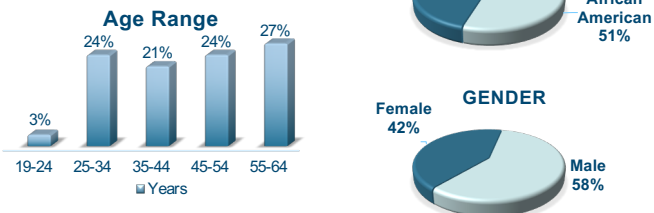
A survey was designed and distributed at a resource center for PEH assessing the following domains:

- Demographics
- Mental Health Needs
- Access to Mental Health Resources
- Preferences in Accessing Mental Health

RESULTS

Demographics of Survey Participants

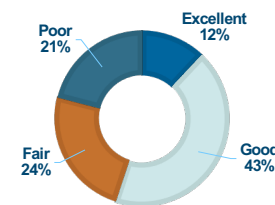
Preliminary results are available for 33 survey participants



Self Reported Mental Health Needs

81.3% of those surveyed reported being diagnosed with at least one mental health condition

HOW WOULD YOU RATE YOUR OVERALL MENTAL HEALTH?



Mental Health Condition	% of Survey Participants
Major Depressive Disorder	40.6%
Bipolar Disorder	37.5%
Anxiety Disorder	40.6%
Alcohol and/or Drug Addiction	37.5%
PTSD	25.0%
Schizophrenia	12.5%

Self Reported Access to Mental Health Resource

ED/Hospital Utilization

- 45.5% had ever visited the ED for a mental health condition
- 56.3% had ever been hospitalized for a mental health condition

Mental Health Service Utilization

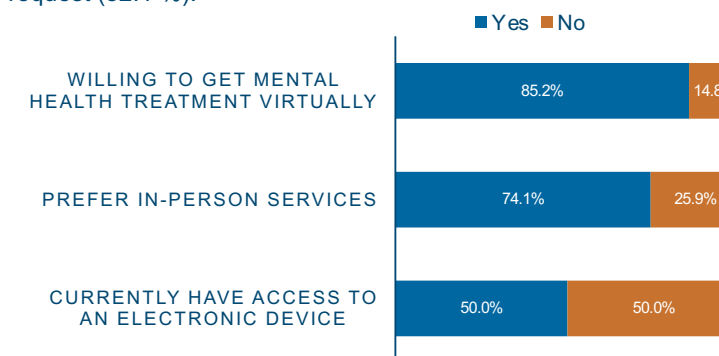
- 70.0% currently access some form of mental health service
 - 40.0% currently receive individual therapy
- 23.3% currently receive psychiatric medications

Barriers to Access

- 51.9% endorsed some difficulty accessing prescribed medications
- Cost and transportation were the most frequently selected barriers

Self Reported Preferences in Accessing Mental Health Services

92.9% of participants were interested in receiving some form of mental health service with individual therapy being the most common request (82.1 %).



RESULTS Cont.

What Impact Would Access to Mental Health Services Have on Your Life?

Impact	Percentage
Improved Relationships with Peers:	54.2%
Improved Relationships with Family	66.7%
Help Overcoming Substance Use Disorder:	33.3%
Easier to Find a Job:	45.8%
Easier to Get Stable Housing	62.5%



529 Meeting Street Resource Center

SUMMARY

PEH experience significant mental health needs and barriers to accessing mental health services. Resources directed at addressing the mental health of this vulnerable population are needed to improve their mental health status and housing stability.

REFERENCES

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