

NC SOAR

SUCCESS THROUGH OUTREACH ACCESS AND RECOVERY

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North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness

securing resources • encouraging public dialogue • advocating for public policy change

919.755.4393 • www.ncceh.org

SSI/SSDI Benefits

- Income

- Health Insurance
 - SSI = Medicaid
 - SSDI = Medicare

The Challenge

- Path to recovery is extraordinarily challenging when basic needs are unmet
- SSI/SSDI application and disability determination process can seem complex
- Disconnect between the experience of homelessness and the disability application process
- Medical information is often very incomplete
- Only about 15% of those who apply are typically approved on initial application
- Appeals take years and many potentially eligible people give up and do not appeal
- Without Health Insurance, individuals use Emergency Department as Primary Care

The Solution: NC SOAR

- Focuses on the hard-to-serve, uninsured individuals
- Approach to gain approval on initial disability application
- Case Managers play increased role to bridge communication gap
- Works with medical professionals to improve documentation
- Encourages individual to access appropriate care
- Allows for mobility and follow-up

Disability Determination Services:

Main Question

Does this illness (or illnesses) keep the person in question from being able to engage in substantial gainful activity?

SOAR Critical Components

- Client Engagement and Respect
- SSA-1696 Representative
- Treatment provider relationships
- Medical records collection
- Medical Summary Report, co-signed by M.D. or
PhD. Psychologist

Cost Savings

- In Covington, KY, a local hospital partially funded the local SSI outreach project recouping its initial investment in less than a year by recovering uncompensated care from Medicaid
- San Francisco Dept. of Public Health estimates that for every \$1 invested in SSI outreach, they recoup \$5 in Medicaid reimbursement for uncompensated care
- *In one year in Baltimore, 20 newly approved SSI recipients accounted for \$300,000 in Medicaid reimbursable care from one hospital system.*

SOAR Outcomes

City	Percentage Approved
Baltimore	96%
Nashville	98%
Philadelphia	100%

NC SOAR Outcomes

Average time between completion of application and determination	3 months
Average length of time homeless	2 years
Percentage of applications approved	74%

Dedicated SOAR Workers

- Asheville/Buncombe
- Winston-Salem/Forsyth
- Guilford County

Get Involved, Contact Us

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