Presentation to the House Select Committee on Opioids and Substance Abuse: Pregnant Women, Veterans, and Homelessness

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Presentation Outline

• Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome and Maternal Mortality

• Recovery Oriented Systems of Care

• HHSC Community Mental Health Programs for Veterans

• Homelessness and Housing for Persons with SUD in Texas
Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome: Texas Trends

County Share of Texas Medicaid Newborns Diagnosed with NAS 2015

- Bexar: 29%
- Dallas: 13%
- Tarrant: 10%
- Nueces: 5%
- Harris: 6%
- All others: 37%

Texas Medicaid NAS Diagnoses

- 2011: 1050
- 2012: 1100
- 2013: 1150
- 2014: 1200
- 2015: 1250

[Graph showing trends over the years]
Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome: Length of Stay and Costs Comparison

**NAS Average Hospital LOS**

- Nat'l w/o NAS
- Nat'l with NAS
- TX w/o NAS
- TX with NAS

Number of Days

**NAS Average Hospital Cost**

- Nat'l w/o NAS
- Nat'l with NAS
- TX w/o NAS
- TX with NAS

Cost in $0

$0 $20,000 $40,000 $60,000 $80,000
National and State Strategies: Addressing Maternal Opioid Use and Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome

**National**

**Primary Prevention:** Reduce opioid exposure during pregnancy

**Secondary Prevention:** Treat NAS and Maternal OUD with evidence-based interventions

**Tertiary Prevention:** Improve long-term health outcomes

**State**

**Texas NAS Initiative**

- Overdose Prevention Training
- Kangaroo Mother Care
- Media Campaign
- MOM Study
- Targeted Outreach and Engagement
- Specialized Treatment
- Mommies Programs
- Statewide Stabilization Center
Maternal Mortality: Maternal Opioid Morbidity Study (MOMS)

Study conducted by UT Health-San Antonio in the following counties:
• Bexar
• El Paso
• Nueces
• Harris
• Upcoming-Taylor and Dallas counties

Emerging Themes:
• Removal of the children
• Need for support
• Exposure to trauma
• Mental health symptoms
• Lack of access to family planning options

Next Steps:
• Development of a brief screening instrument to identify women at risk conducted at well-child visits
Recovery Oriented Systems of Care

- Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC) is a framework for coordinating multiple systems, services, and supports that are person-centered, self-directed, and designed to readily adjust to meet the individual’s needs and chosen pathway to recovery.

- The system builds upon the strengths and resilience of individuals, families, and communities to take responsibility for their sustained health, wellness, recovery from substance use disorders, and improved quality of life.
Recovery Support Services

- Recovery Support Services are nonclinical services that assist individuals and families to recover from alcohol, drugs (illicit and legal), or co-occurring substance use.

- **Eligible Population:** Individuals with a history of alcohol and/or drug use, including co-occurring mental health disorders, who are in or seeking recovery, along with their family members, significant others, and supportive allies.

- **Three types of organizations provide these services:**
  - Community Based Organizations
  - Recovery Community Organizations
  - Treatment Organizations
HHSC Community Mental Health Programs for Veterans

Texas Veterans + Family Alliance (TV+FA) Grant

- Senate Bill 55 (84R), 2015, directed HHSC to establish a grant program to support community mental health programs providing and coordinating mental health services and treatment for Texas veterans and their families.
- TV+FA grants support a wide range of clinical mental health and non-clinical supportive services for veterans and family members, including treatment of substance use disorders.
- The partners of each TV+FA collaborative provide, coordinate, or make referrals for Substance Use Disorder services based on local needs.

Mental Health Program for Veterans

- Senate Bill 1325, (81R), 2009, established the Mental Health Program for Veterans to provide peer-to-peer counseling for veterans.
- The program provides direct peer-to-peer services to engage veterans and family members who have experienced military trauma, are at risk for isolation from support services, and do not seek services through traditional channels.
- HHSC and the Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) coordinate to administer the program.
Homelessness and Housing for Persons with SUD in Texas

In fiscal year 2017, approximately 14.2 percent of adults receiving HHSC-funded SUD treatment reported being homeless.

The Oxford House program is a peer-run recovery residence program that is democratically run, self-supporting, and substance free.

- 62 percent of Oxford House residents reported prior homelessness.
- Individuals are typically referred by SUD Treatment providers and others, such as drug courts and non-profit organizations.
- Oxford houses become self-sufficient by charging individuals a weekly portion of rent and household expenses.

Oxford House Return on Investments, include:

- Improvements in employment, decreased rates of substance use and incarceration, and a cost savings of $29,000 per person over a 2-year time period.