

Senate Finance Subcommittee Health & Human Resources

Statewide Access To Substance Abuse Services

James W. Stewart, III
Inspector General

August 2006 OIG Review of CSB Substance Abuse Services

- Timely access to comprehensive services
- Degree to which services support recovery
- Treatment environment
- Helping connection between consumer/staff
- Integration of SA and MH treatment
- Availability of case management
- Staff education, training and supervision

Methodology and Scope

- Surveyed 40 CSBs for basic information
- On-site visit to a sample of 25 CSBs in August 2006:
 - Interviewed 195 consumers of service
 - Interviewed 166 SA outpatient clinicians
 - Interviewed 73 directors/supervisors
 - Reviewed 239 consumers records
- Surveyed 43 Probation & Parole Offices

Access Finding #1 - Comprehensive Services

Range, variety & capacity of substance abuse services are not adequate to meet the needs of consumers in the majority of Virginia communities

Access - Detoxification Services

	Percent of CSBs With Service Available	Percent of CSBs With Inadequate Or No Capacity
Medical Detox	77.5%	85%
Social Detox	52.5%	82.5%

Access - Medically Assisted Outpatient Treatment

	Percent of CSBs With Service Available	Percent of CSBs With Inadequate Or No Capacity
Agonist Treatment	50%	80%
Partial Agonist Treatment	40%	92.5%
Medically Ass't Outpatient	45%	92.5%

Access - Outpatient Treatment/Drug Free

	Available	Inad/No Capacity
Day Treatment	25%	85%
Intensive OP	62.5%	72.5%
Group	100%	47.5%
Individual	100%	67.5%
Psycho-Ed Gp	90%	42.5%
Family Support	82.5%	65%
Aftercare	85%	62.5%
Case Mg't	95%	75%

Access - Services to Criminal Justice System

	Percent of CSBs With Services Available	Percent of CSBs With Inadequate Or No Capacity
Jail/Prison Based Services	62.5%	87.5%
Comm. Based Treatment	87.5	62.5%
Drug or Family Court	52.5%	82.5%

Access – Residential Services

	Percent of CSBs With Service Available
Long Term (6-9 months)	35%
Short Term (1-6 months)	70%
Halfway House	50%
Oxford House	47.5%
Subsidized Individual Apartment Living	37.5%

Decreased Service Capacity – Past Six Years

- Medical Detoxification
- Day Treatment
- Intensive Outpatient
- Group
- Individual
- Education/Orientation Groups
- Family Support and Therapy

Decreased Service Capacity – Past Six Years (con't)

- Services for Persons in Criminal Justice System:
 - Jail or Prison Based Services
 - Community Based Services
- Long Term Residential Services for Women
- Short Term Residential Services for Men & Women

Access Finding #2 -Timely Access

It takes an average of 25.4 days after their first call for persons to enter active treatment at Virginia's CSB substance abuse outpatient programs

Average Response Time From Call to Active Treatment

CSB Consumers	25.2 days
CSB Staff	25.8 days
CSB Supervisors	23.6 days
Probation & Parole	28.8 days
Overall Average	25.4 days

Negative Impact of Delays

- Consumers, staff and Probation & Parole Offices concur that delays in receiving treatment that are longer than a few days are clearly contra-indicated, confirming literature findings, input from experts and national best practices. Long delays severely reduce motivation for treatment and limit access to treatment.

Access Finding #3 – Cost to Consumer

Many consumers report that their out-of-pocket expenses for treatment are too costly

Affordability

- Weekly fees at some CSBs for intensive services range from \$30 to \$60 (\$120 to \$240 per month)
- Few consumers have health insurance
- Virtually no third party payers cover substance abuse treatment, including Medicaid
- Consumers gave affordability the second highest unsatisfactory rating on service satisfaction scale

Review of CSB Substance Abuse
Outpatient Services for Adults
OIG Report #129-06

www.oig.virginia.gov

804-692-0276