



Whatcom County Behavioral Health

Annual Report 2018

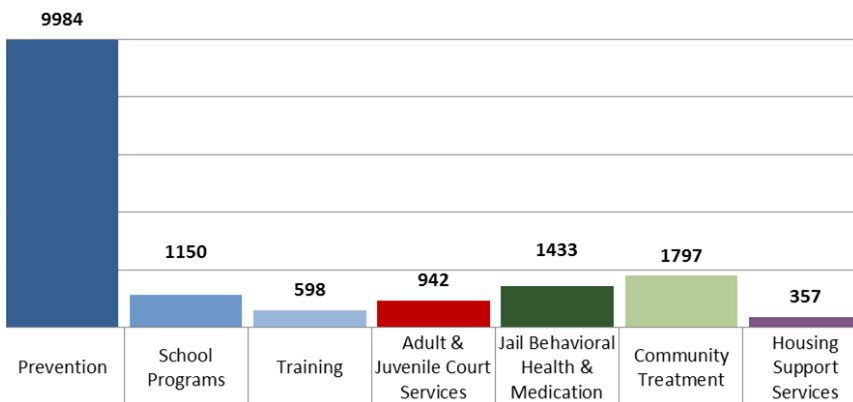
Manager's Comments:

The Behavioral Health Program Fund, supported by a local sales tax, contributes to the positive investment in the lives of our residents. This past year we have had the opportunity to add new programs. The GRACE program finally launched after extensive community planning. GRACE stands for "Ground-level Response and Coordinated Engagement". It consists of a group of trained professionals who deliver intensive case management services to residents who frequently use crisis services, but without long term benefit. GRACE Case Managers have teamed up with law enforcement and emergency medical personnel to engage these individuals in supportive services. These services have reduced 911 calls and improved mental wellness for GRACE members. Arrests and incarceration have also been reduced as a result of this program and its collaboration with a multitude of community partners in the delivery of effective treatment and support.

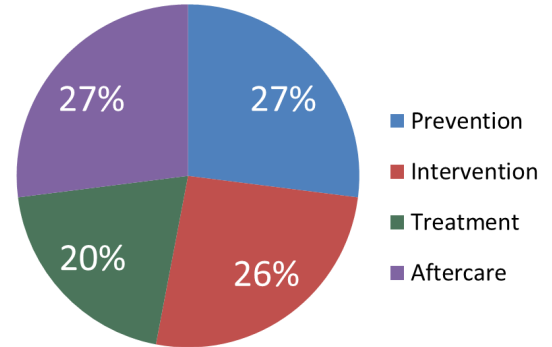
The fund also supported an expansion of behavioral health services to the Blaine/ Birch Bay area. Working closely with Blaine school district and community leaders, efforts have focused on reducing risk factors such as drug and alcohol use, truancy, and behavioral problems. Efforts have also focused on increasing "protective" factors for children through strengthening families and advancing positive and supportive school environments and communities. Research demonstrates that these investments in our future adults lay the foundation for healthy and productive lives.

Finally, community partners opened a new 40-unit housing program for previously homeless people, many of them challenged with mental illness or substance use disorders (SUDs). On-site 24/7 support is critical for the success of these new tenants and 1/10th funds provided this for the new housing program. It is heartwarming to know that these services will contribute to the health and stability of those who now have a home of their own.

Number of Individuals Served by Service Type



Expenditures by PITA Service Type



Total \$4,343,714

(see back for budget details)

VISION AND GOALS

Develop a comprehensive infrastructure of behavioral health care that will:

Provide effective recovery-oriented services that mitigate the need for individuals to default to utilization of the emergency room, hospital beds and the county jail.

Provide access and availability for intervention and treatment services to individuals who have limited access.

Promote the provision of services in natural environments in order to reduce the incidence and severity of substance use and mental health disorders.

Provide interventions that divert individuals with mental health and substance use disorders from the criminal justice system to more appropriate options of care.

Support young children and families with early interventions and behavioral health promotion.

2018 Accomplishments

- Launched the GRACE program (Ground-level Response and Coordinated Engagement)
- Leveraged and secured state funding to support the construction of a new Crisis Stabilization Facility
- Expanded services to youth and families in North County
- Provided supportive services to individuals who are homeless and suffering from mental illness and SUD
- Added on-site supportive services in a new housing program

Whatcom County Behavioral Health Program

Year Ending December 31, 2018 Revenue Collected Expenditures

Revenue

Sales Tax Collected	\$4,755,570
Interest Earned	\$122,861
Other	\$223,842

Total Revenue **\$5,102,273**

Expenditures

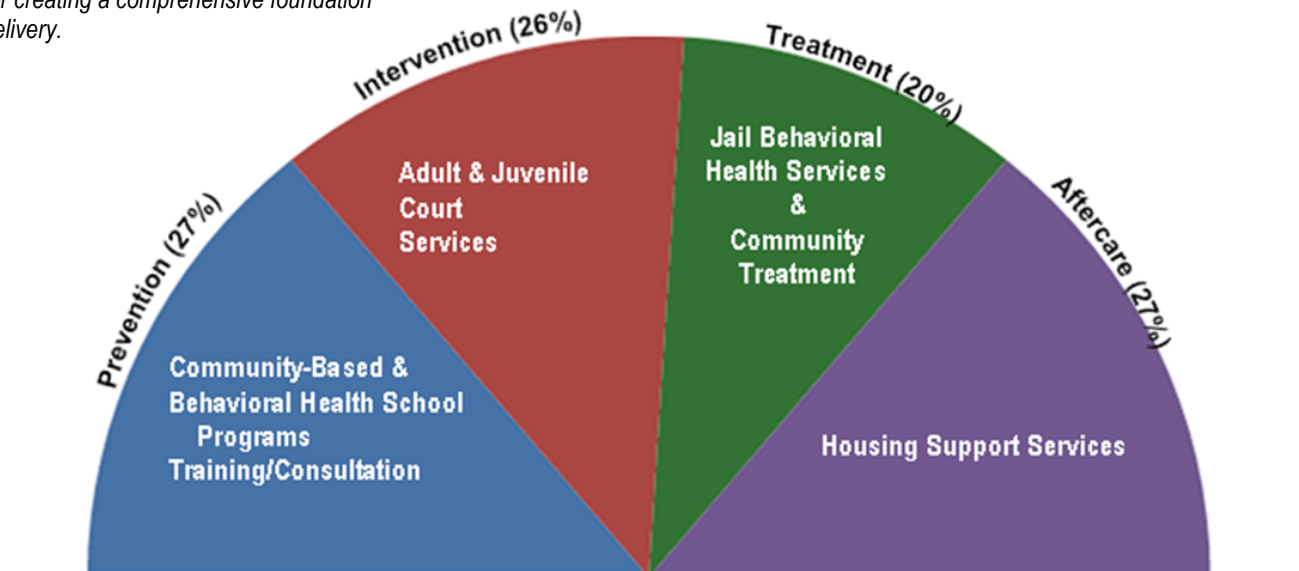
Prevention	\$368,899
Behavioral Health School Programs	\$684,437
Education, Training and Consultation	\$38,489
Court Services	\$937,193
Jail Behavioral Health Services and Re-Entry Services	\$704,873
Community Treatment and Supported Employment	\$207,895
Housing Support Services	\$1,061,411
Program Services Total	\$4,003,197

Direct Program Support	\$50,396
Administrative Costs	\$290,121

Total Expenditures **\$4,343,714**

PITA Continuum

The PITA model continues to serve as the framework for creating a comprehensive foundation for service delivery.



Behavioral Health is Essential to Health!

