

Eau Claire County Poverty Summit



**MENTAL HEALTH
ACCESS
Action Team**

ACTION TEAM HIGHLIGHTS

April 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presented Charter Statement and Action Plan at Poverty Summit Presentation & Celebration event.• Scheduled a Mental Health Jamborette and planned to invite key players in mental health arena from Eau Claire area.
May 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Postponed Mental Health Jamborette. Team will collaborate with Healthy Communities Mental Health Action Team before rescheduling.
June 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussed pros/cons/opportunities within Chippewa Valley Free Clinic's "no wrong door" policy that ensures every call is either addressed or forwarded to an organization that can help.
September 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coalesced around issues of creating a mentoring or peer support project to focus on helping individuals in poverty connect with multiple basic needs to support and enhance their mental health.
October 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Combined with Incarceration Transition action team to develop mentoring program as individuals are released from jail.• Explored options for peer support certifications including option of creating a local certification program.
November 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Narrowed focus to ex-prisoners leaving the Eau Claire County jail.• Learned that high repeat offenders often fall back into the system within a 2 week span.• Applied for a grant through Department of Justice to support creating a mentor program by people with similar and lived experiences.
December 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Considered grant opportunity through Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Associations (SAMHSA), due January 28, 2018.• Discussed applying for funds to provide scholarship for Peer Support Certification for mental health and substance abuse. Cost is \$700 per person.
October 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Throughout the summer and early fall of 2018 the Mental Health team has been working collaboratively with the Incarceration Transition team and recently conducted a joint SWOT analysis.• We have decided to merge into one action team and have begun the work of developing a joint mission and vision statement. This will be available after ratified at our October 31, 2018 meeting.• The joint committee has submitted applications from funders for dollars to support individuals with lived experience to attend the peer support training and certification. To date none of those have come through,

	<p>however our material is ready should other funding opportunities and the need arise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The joint committee has followed the county's hiring of a jail transition position and the development of the County operated clinic as a means of attempting to get more services for those incarcerated and in need of mental health care. We are pursuing adding both the jail transition worker and the clinic manager to participate on our action team. • The joint committee continues to meet monthly. Typically, the third Wednesday at 7:30 AM in Room G034 at the Eau Claire County Department of Human Services. • Researching funding options to assist 3 individuals who are seeking the ability to become Certified Peer Specialists.
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PROJECT CHARTER STATEMENT

Action Team: Mental Health Access

April 6, 2017

We, the **MENTAL HEALTH ACCESS** Action Team, believe that there is a lack of communication amongst Mental Health Action teams in the Eau Claire/Chippewa Valley area, along with a lack of infrastructure to combine/redistribute resources.

This is a serious issue that contributes to economic insecurity, lack of access to mental healthcare, and an increase in time required to access mental health treatment/resources in the Eau Claire community. We care about this problem because it does not fulfill the requirements of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (article 25) in regard to access to healthcare.

We propose to defragment the existing mental health service system, build connections amongst mental health service providers, and create an inventory of current mental health services available. We believe that this will help solve the problem by uniting community members and preventing continuous redundancy and gaps amongst action teams.

In order to implement this solution we intend to organize a room of several representatives in order to discuss what is being done all around Eau Claire/ Chippewa Valley area, eventually creating educational programs that will increase providers for mental health care in the Eau Claire area.