Assessing the needs of West Virginians with

**Co-existing Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities and Mental Illness**

Riley, A.; Maha, G.; Brunson, L; Cottrell, L.; Frey-McClung, V.; West Virginia Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities and Mental Illness Co-existing Needs Assessment Survey. In Progress WVU IRB Protocol # 1806163329A001

This 2018 research study conducted by the WVU Center for Excellence in Disabilities examined barriers to existing services and explored service gaps for individuals with co-existing intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) and mental illness (MI). The primary objective of the study was to learn what needs people with co-existing I/DD and MI conditions have to better advocate for those services. **A total of 395 mental health and/or I/DD service providers from across the state completed the survey.**

**ACCESS TO CARE**

**73%**

Report People with I/DD receive

**less/lower quality mental health services**

than the rest of the population in WV.

**14%** Receive **about the same** mental health services

**4%**

Receive **more/higher quality** mental health services

**9%**

Not sure

9 out of 10 of WV mental health and/or I/DD service providers rated access to mental health services as “poor or fair”.

Top 5 Reported Barriers to Service.

* **Lack of in state resources/services – 69.6%**
* **Limited knowledge of existing resources – 66.8%**
* **Lack of agency/service collaboration – 61.0%**
* **Long waitlists – 59.2%**
* **Lack of transportation – 57.2%**

**Service domains explored:**

Collaboration between service models / agencies

• Community integration services

• Comprehensive community mental health resources

• Crisis response services / Crisis respite

• Daily living supports for people with brain injury

• Daily living supports for people with intellectual disabilities

• Daily living supports for people with physical disabilities

• Dietary and nutrition services

• Healthcare professionals knowledgeable of developmental disabilities / working with people who are not the “standard patient”

• Holistic healthcare options

• Long term housing assistance

• Intensive outpatient services

• Legal counsel

• Life skills resources / education

• Mental health treatment groups

• Substance abuse relapse prevention and compassionate treatment

• Music / Art / Recreational opportunities

• Peer support groups

• Positive behavior support services

• Rehabilitation and employment opportunities

• Specialized residential facilities

• Therapists / Mental health providers for people who have limited communication

• Transitional living services

• Transportation

• Trauma Informed care throughout systems

• Wraparound / Safe at home

Nearly **8 out of 10** rated **QUALITY** of each service domain as **POOR or FAIR** (range: 78.5% - 92.8%)

More than **HALF** rated the **LEVEL of NEED** for each of these service domains as a **HIGH Level or SIGNIFICANT Level\* of NEED** (range: 57.6% - 87.5%)

\*Does not refer to statistical significance

**Next Steps:**

1. Advocate for services for people with co-existing I/DD and MI to prevent crisis situations.
2. Promote awareness of existing services.
3. Establish services for I/DD.
4. Identify strategies to overcome barriers to services.
5. Improve access to quality care for individuals with co-existing I/DD and MI conditions.

For more information, please contact the PBS Program: **1-855-558-4296**

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