

Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project

Agency of Human Services, Department of Mental Health
103 South Main Street, Waterbury, Vermont 05671

MEMORANDUM

TO: Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
Advisory Group and Interested Parties

FROM: John Pandiani and Barbara Carroll

DATE: April 16, 2010

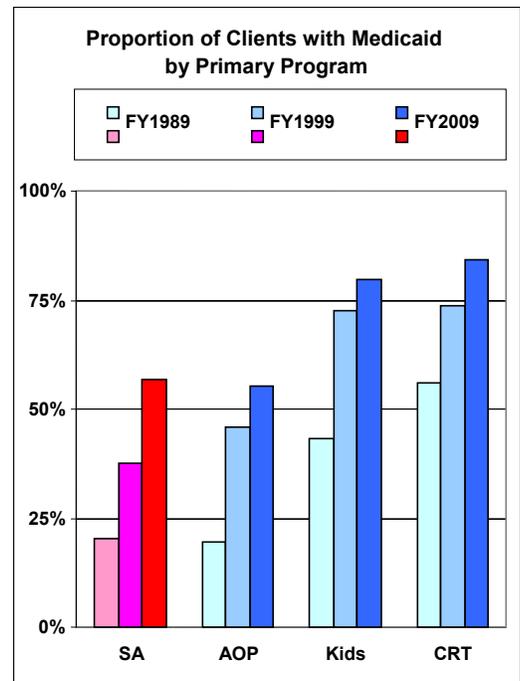
RE: Medicaid Coverage in Substance Abuse Programs

This week's report is the fourth in a series that examines historical and program level variation in the number and proportion of Vermont community mental health service recipients who were covered by Medicaid.¹ This report focuses on Substance Abuse (SA) programs at the Department of Mental Health (DMH) designated agencies that serve individuals with alcohol and/or drug abuse problems and their families in a community setting. Information regarding SA service recipients with Medicaid coverage is provided for each of ten designated agencies for fiscal years 1989, 1999, and 2009.

This report is based on analysis of Monthly Service Report data submitted to the Department of Mental Health by the designated agencies. All individuals reported by SA programs at the designated agencies are included in this analysis. SA clients who have Medicaid coverage may have other insurance coverage as well.

Historically, all four designated agency treatment programs have experienced substantial increases in Medicaid coverage during 1989 through 2009. During this period, however, Medicaid coverage rates in Substance Abuse programs and Adult Mental Health Outpatient programs remained substantially lower than Medicaid coverage rates in Children's Services programs and Community Rehabilitation and Treatment programs.

As you will see on the attached graph and table, there were substantial differences among SA programs in the proportion of SA service recipients covered by Medicaid during the study period. Statewide, 57% of SA service recipients were covered by Medicaid.



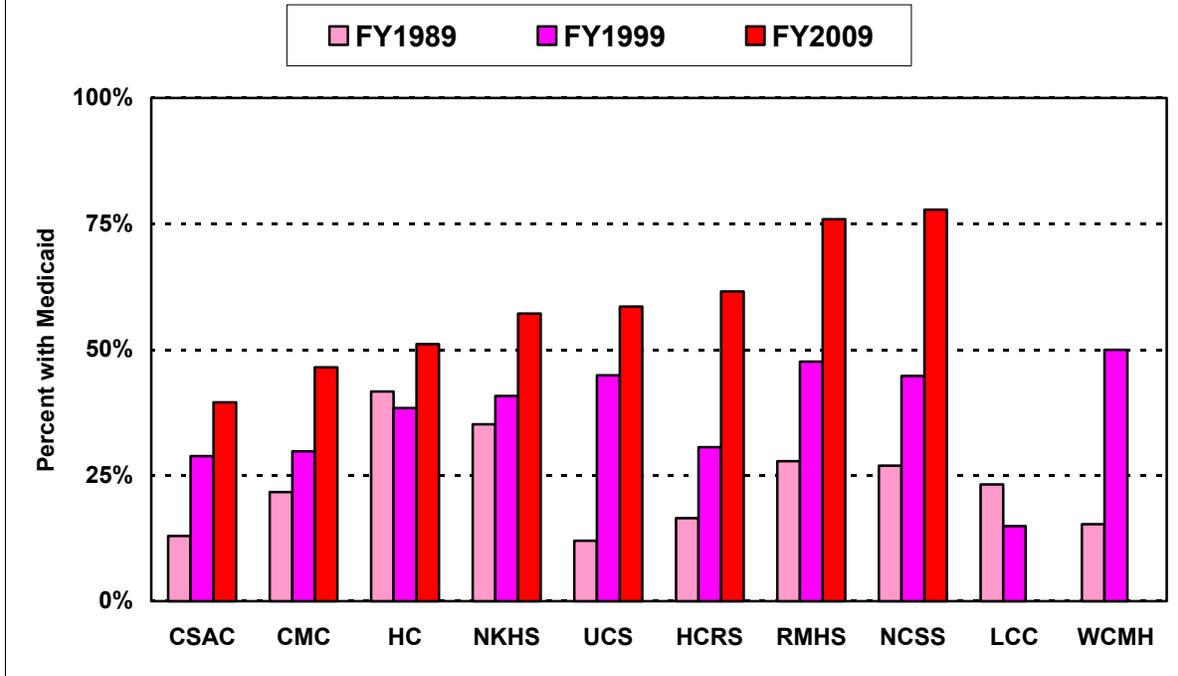
¹ For reports on Medicaid Coverage in Children's Mental Health, Adult MH Outpatient, and CRT programs, see <http://mentalhealth.vermont.gov/report/pip/topic#medicaid>

Medicaid coverage at the designated agencies, however, varied from more than 75% at Northwestern Counseling and Support Services (NCSS) and Rutland Mental Health Services (RMHS), to less than 50% at the Counseling Service of Addison County (CSAC) and the Clara Martin Center (CMC). Two agencies, Lamoille Community Connections (LCC) and Washington County Mental Health Services (WCMH), did not provide services through a Substance Abuse program in FY2009.

There were also substantial changes over time in the proportion of SA service recipients covered by Medicaid. Statewide, the proportion with Medicaid coverage increased from 20% in FY1989 to 38% in FY1999, and to 57% in FY2009. Among the agencies, the increase in Medicaid coverage was greatest at United Counseling Services (UCS), Health Care and Rehabilitation Services of Southeastern Vermont (HCRS), and CSAC. The increase in Medicaid coverage between 1989 and 2009 was least at HowardCenter (HC).

We look forward to your questions, comments, and requests for further analysis. As always, we can be reached at pip@vdh.state.vt.us or 802-241-4049.

Medicaid Coverage in Substance Abuse Programs



	<u>FY1989</u>		<u>FY1999</u>		<u>FY2009</u>	
	Total Number	% with Medicaid	Total Number	% with Medicaid	Total Number	% with Medicaid
CSAC	77	13%	170	29%	129	40%
CMC	129	22%	678	30%	546	47%
HC	24	42%	1,468	38%	1,619	51%
NKHS	91	35%	451	41%	586	57%
UCS	133	12%	345	45%	333	59%
HCRS	315	17%	562	31%	637	62%
RMHS	97	28%	659	48%	677	76%
NCSS	52	27%	96	45%	9	78%
LCC	99	23%	87	15%	-	-
WCMH	111	15%	2	50%	-	-
Statewide	1,128	20%	4,518	38%	4,536	57%

Analysis is based on Monthly Service Report (MSR) data submitted to the Vermont Department of Mental Health (DMH) by the designated agencies for FY1989, FY1999 and FY2009. All individuals reported by Substance Abuse (SA) programs are included in this analysis. SA clients who have Medicaid coverage may have other insurance coverage as well.

Analysis conducted by the Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project.