

Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project

Agency of Human Services, Department of Mental Health
108 Cherry Street, Burlington, Vermont 05401

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

FROM: John Pandiani and Barbara Carroll

DATE: August 14, 2009

RE: CMH Children with SED and Young Adult Homelessness

This week's brief report is the second in a series that focuses on the relationship between Vermont's young adult homeless services population and its youth services population. The first in this series¹ focused on the relationship between Vermont's 2008 young adult homeless population and its CY2000-2007 Department for Children and Families youth custody population (including those in custody for delinquency and those in protective custody). This week's report focuses on the relationship between the same 2008 young adult homeless population and two groups of Vermont's CY2000-2007 children's mental health population (those identified as having a serious emotional disturbance [SED] and those not identified as having a SED).

Two data sets were used in this analysis. The first data set includes the date of birth, gender, and a SED² indicator (based on the Global Assessment of Functioning Scale³) for all children who received community mental health services from a Department of Mental Health designated community mental health (CMH) agency during 2000-2007 and who were aged 18-26 during 2008. The second data set includes the date of birth and gender of young adults aged 18-26 during 2008 represented in an integrated Vermont homeless services database that includes information from the 2008 AHS Emergency Shelter database, the 2008 Service Point Balance of State HMIS database, the Housing Works HMIS database for projects ending in 2008, and the January 2008 Vermont Point in Time homeless survey. Because these data sets do not share unique person identifiers, Probabilistic Population Estimation (PPE) was used to determine the unduplicated number of people shared by the two data sets.

Overall, 3.8% of CMH children with an indication of SED and 3.0% of CMH children with no indication of SED during CY2000-2007 received homeless services as young adults in 2008. In both groups, girls were significantly more likely than boys to receive homeless services as young adults (5.6% vs. 2.1%, respectively, for those with an indication of SED, and 4.2% vs. 1.8%, respectively, for those with no indication of SED).

Overall, 33.8% of young adults who received homeless services in 2008 had previously received CMH services for SED and 18.1% had previously received CMH services with no indication of SED. Female young adult homeless service recipients were significantly more likely than male young adult homeless service recipients to have received CMH services for SED (40.5% vs. 23.8%, respectively). There was no significant difference between female and male young adult homeless service recipients in rates of receiving CMH services with no indication of SED (21.4% vs. 13.4%, respectively).

We look forward to your comments and your suggestions for further analyses of these data. As always, you can reach us by e-mail at pip@vdh.state.vt.us or by phone at 802-863-7249.

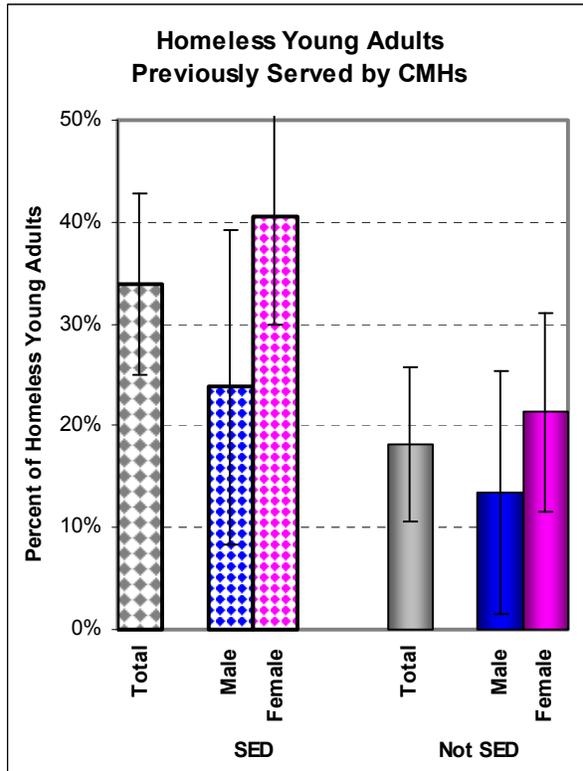
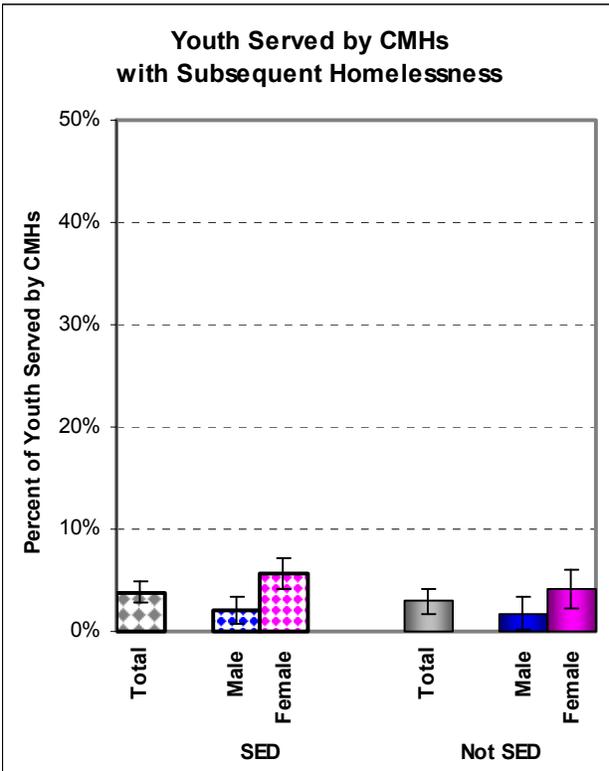
¹ <http://www.healthvermont.gov/mh/docs/pips/2009/documents/Pip062609.pdf>

² SED is defined by a Global Assessment of Functioning Score of 60 or lower.

³ American Psychiatric Association (1994). Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (4th ed.), Washington DC.

Youth Served by CMHs in 2000-2007 and Homelessness in 2008

Movement between Two Vermont Human Service Caseloads



	Unduplicated Counts of Individuals		Caseload Overlap		
	Served by CMHs in 2000-2007	Homeless 2008	Number	% of Served by CMHs	% of Homeless
SED					
Total	8,408 ± 209	950 ± 18	321 ± 85	3.8% ± 1.0%	33.8% ± 8.9%
Male	4,325 ± 155	381 ± 10	91 ± 59	2.1% ± 1.4%	23.8% ± 15.5%
Female	4,083 ± 140	569 ± 15	231 ± 61	5.6% ± 1.5%	40.5% ± 10.7%
Not SED					
Total	5,770 ± 124	950 ± 18	172 ± 72	3.0% ± 1.2%	18.1% ± 7.6%
Male	2,880 ± 87	381 ± 10	51 ± 45	1.8% ± 1.6%	13.4% ± 11.9%
Female	2,890 ± 89	569 ± 15	121 ± 56	4.2% ± 1.9%	21.4% ± 9.8%

Analysis is based on the Vermont Department of Mental Health (DMH) client database covering the period 2000 through 2007, and on an integrated Vermont homeless database including information from the 2008 AHS Emergency Shelter database, the 2008 Service Point Balance of State HMIS database, the Housing Works HMIS database for projects ending in 2008, and the January 2008 Vermont Point in Time homeless survey. Analysis includes all persons aged 18-26 in 2008.

Because data sets used in this analysis do not share unique person identifiers, Probabilistic Population Estimation was used to determine caseload size and overlap (with 95% confidence intervals).

Analysis performed by the Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project