



# UPDATE ON SENATE BILL 74 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH REFORMS

Presentation to House - Health & Social Services

January 9, 2020

April Kyle, President

Alaska Behavioral Health Association (ABHA)

# A snapshot of our Behavioral Health System

Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Treatment Providers:

**Committed professionals doing good work but struggling to keep up.**



**Treatment Works & Recovery is Possible.** Click [HERE](#) to listen to Sharon's journey of living with and overcoming her addiction to opioids.

Alaska Scorecard 2018				
Key Issues Impacting Alaska Mental Health Trust Beneficiaries				
Click on the title of each indicator for a link to complete sources and information				
Key to symbols:	✓ Satisfactory	⚠ Uncertain	✗ Needs Improvement	
	Most Current U.S. Data	Previous Year's Alaska Data	Most Current Alaska Data	Status
Health				
<b>Suicide</b>				
1. Suicide (rate per 100,000)	14.0	25.3	26.9	✗
2. Percent of adults reporting serious thoughts of suicide	4.2%	5.2%	5.3%	✗
<b>Substance Abuse</b>				
3. Alcohol-induced deaths (rate per 100,000)	9.6	22.9	19.6	✗
4. Percent of adults (ages 18+) who engage in heavy drinking	5.7%	7.3%	8.4%	✗
5. Percent of adults (ages 18+) who engage in binge drinking	15.6%	18.1%	17.3%	⚠
6. Percent of population (age 12 and older) who use illicit drugs	10.9%	17.6%	16.8%	✗
7. Opioid overdose mortality rate	14.9	12.3	13.5	⚠
<b>Mental Health</b>				
8. Days of poor mental health in past month (adults ages 18+)	4.0	3.5	3.7	⚠
9. Percent of teens who experienced depression during past year	31.5%	33.6%	36.1%	✗
<b>Access</b>				
10. Percent of population without health insurance	6.7%	14.0%	13.7%	⚠
Safety				
<b>Protection</b>				
11. Child maltreatment (rate per 1,000)	9.1	10.8	15	✗
12. Founded reports of harm to adults (rate per 1,000)	*	1.3	1.5	⚠
13. Injuries to older adults (ages 65+) due to falls, hospitalized (rate per 100,000)	1,720	967	1,069	✓
14. Traumatic brain injury, hospitalized non-fatal (rate per 100,000)	*	77.0	78.1	⚠
<b>Justice</b>				
15. Percent of incarcerated adults with mental illness or mental disabilities	*	44.1%	44.1%	✗
16. Rate of criminal recidivism for incarcerated adults with mental illness or mental disabilities	*	30.2%	38.9%	⚠
17. Percent of arrests involving alcohol or drugs	*	38.9%	42.9%	⚠
Living With Dignity				
<b>Accessible, Affordable Housing</b>				
18. Chronic homelessness (rate per 100,000)	27.2	34.6	43.8	✗
<b>Educational Goals</b>				
19. High School Graduation rate for students with disabilities	*	58.7%	56.9%	⚠
20. Percent of youth who received special education who are employed or enrolled in post-secondary education one year after leaving school	*	66.1%	66.1%	⚠
Economic Security				
21. Percentage of income spent on housing if earning minimum wage	*	60.1%	81.9%	✗
22. Average annual unemployment rate	4.4%	6.5%	7.2%	✗
23. Percent of adult SSI recipients who are blind or disabled and are working	4.9%	6.6%	6.7%	✓
Prevalence Estimates: Alaska Mental Health Trust Beneficiaries				
Alaska Mental Health Trust Beneficiary Population	Estimate	Population	Rate	
Serious Mental Illness (ages 18+)	27,528		5.0%	
Serious Emotional Disturbance (ages 9 to 17)	11,322		6.0%	
Any Mental Illness (ages 18+)	111,429		20.3%	
Alzheimer's Disease (ages 65+)	7,500		9.1%	
Traumatic brain injury (all ages)	11,793		1.6%	
Developmental disabilities (all ages)	11,646		1.6%	
Dependent on or abuse of alcohol (ages 12 to 17)	1,341		2.2%	
Dependent on or abuse of alcohol (ages 18+)	38,715		7.1%	
Dependent on or abuse of illicit drugs (ages 18+)	19,741		3.6%	

February 2019

\* No comparable U.S. data available

<http://dhs.alaska.gov/dh/HealthPlanningPages/scorecard>

## UPDATE ON MEDICAID REFORM & IMPACT ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

- Senate Bill 74 was signed into law in 2016.
- The bill contained many behavioral health system reforms.
  - ❑ Authorization for the state to pursue an 1115 Medicaid waiver with CMS to improve access to earlier intervention and community recovery support.
    - Substance Abuse Waiver services started July 2019
    - Mental Health Waiver services have not started yet
  - ❑ Authorization to contract with an Administrative Services Organization (ASO) to manage the behavioral health system of care
    - ASO scheduled to launch next month

# SUCCESS OF REFORM EFFORTS DEPENDS ON...

- ✓ **Predictable, sustainable operational funding and programs and policies**
  - It's difficult to plan with added uncertainty
- ✓ **Start-up capital to fund the system changes**
  - Everything from work that needs to be done with updates to our billing systems and medical records for better care and required quality data reporting to transforming our outreach and clinical delivery
  - We are anticipating some guidance with the Division of Behavioral Health's soon to be released Gap Analysis
- ✓ **Transparency, Communication, Collaboration**

# THANK YOU

APRIL KYLE, PRESIDENT  
ALASKA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION  
[WWW.ALASKABHA.ORG](http://WWW.ALASKABHA.ORG)

