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KEYNOTE

Regina S. James, M.D. Chief, Division of Diversity & Health Equity and Deputy Medical Director, American Psychiatric Association



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FINDING OUR WAY BACK TO MENTAL HEALTH

Shape of the Region Conference The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia March 15, 2022

> Regina Smith James, M.D. Deputy Medical Director Chief, Division of Diversity and Health Equity

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In Northern Virginia over 500,000 adults are experiencing mental health issues like depression and anxiety.



Yet approximately 40% of those who want treatment don't have access

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Nearly everyone knows someone living with a mental health condition

Recent data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicate that between August 2020 and February 2021, the percentage of adults exhibiting symptoms of an anxiety or depressive disorder increased significantly, from 36.4 percent to 41.5 percent.



OVERVIEW



Identification + diagnosis + treatment = better quality of life

Barriers to mental health services

Barriers exacerbated by COVID-19 pandemic

Consequences of unmet mental health needs

Addressing mental health needs

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Early identification, accurate diagnosis and effective treatment of mental health and substance use conditions can help individuals maintain a good quality of life.



- Improve your productivity
- Allow you to focus on daily tasks
- Give you the motivation to get things done in a timely manner
- Help individuals reach their full potential



"BARRIERS TO MEETING MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS"



Cost and Insurance Coverage

Access/Location & Long Waits

Difficulty Navigating the Process

Shortage of Behavioral Health Providers

Stigma, Shame, Emotional Hesitation

Percentage of Adults Aged ≥18 Years Who Had an Unmet Mental Health Care Need Because of Cost in the Past 12 Months, by Age Group and Sex — National Health Interview Survey, United States 2019



QuickStats: Percentage of Adults Aged ≥18 Years Who Had an Unmet Mental Health Care Need Because of Cost in the Past 12 Months, by Age Group and Sex — National Health Interview Survey, United States 2019. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2020;69:1612.

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 - There were more 48 million than 48 million uninsured people when the ACA passed.
 - By pairing coverage expansions with access to mental health care, including allowing young people to stay on parents' plans until age 26 stay on parents' plans until agand expanding the Medicaid program, the uninsured number dropped to 30.4 million by 2018.
 - Despite the Affordable Care Act, many are still uninsured and even those with health insurance often don't have mental health services covered or have expensive co-pays or deductibles.

First 10 years of the ACA and mental health services – Access to mental health care has improved



ACCESS & LONG WAITS

- Nearly half of Americans, or 46%, have had to, or know someone who has had to drive more than an hour roundtrip to seek treatment.
- Long waits 96 million Americans, or 38%, have had to wait longer than one week for mental health treatments.



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Difficulty Navigating the Process

- It can be an overwhelming process to try and reach a mental health provider.
- Where to begin
 - My primary care doctor
 - My insurance company
 - Online resources
 - Family, friends or faith leaders
- What questions should I ask?

ating avenues leading to the Arc de Triomphe in Paris

Shortage of Behavioral Health Providers

- People living in mental health professional shortage areas: 111 million, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- The United States is suffering from a shortage of psychiatrists and other mental health providers, particularly in rural, urban and community mental health centers that often treat the most severe mental illnesses.



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Stigma and Mental Health





"Stigma surrounding the receipt of mental health treatment is among the many barriers that discourage people from seeking treatment," Satcher said in the report.

"Another manifestation of stigma is reflected in the public's reluctance to pay for mental health services."



"CONSEQUENCES OF UNMET MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS"

Societal Cost of Untreated Mental Illness

- Lost productivity as a result of two of the most common mental disorders, anxiety and depression, costs the global economy \$1 trillion (about \$3,100 per person in the US) annually.
- The economic case for investment in mental health is strong:
 for every \$1 invested in scaled-up treatment for depression and anxiety, there is a \$4 return in better health and productivity.

The Lancet Global Health. 2020. Mental Health Matters, Editorial. Volume 8, Issue 11 E1352, Nov 1 2020



Individual Consequences of Untreated Mental Illness

- Broken relationships
- Poor performances at school and work
- Poor physical health
- Substance use disorders
- Overdose
- Suicide
- Lost work productivity



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 Marginalized & Disenfranchised Individuals
Disproportionately Experience Unmet Mental Health Needs

- Racial/Ethnic Minoritized Communities
- LGBTQ+ Communities
- Individuals Experiencing Homelessness
- Individuals Who Are Incarcerated
- Individuals With Severe Mental Illness
- Individuals With a Drug Addiction
- Immigrant Populations

Unmet mental health needs for youth of color



Alegria, M., Vallas, M., & Pumariega, A. J. (2010). Racial and ethnic disparities in pediatric mental health. Child and adolescent psychiatric clinics of North America, 19(4), 759–774.

- Disparities in access to and intensity of quality mental health services exist for children of color.
- They are more likely to receive less and inferior health services as compared to white children.
- Those who have behavioral problems are more likely to be referred to the juvenile justice system than to healthcare providers, compared to nonminority youth.



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Northern Virginia and COVID 19



- Pre-covid 1 in 12 adults (8%) in Northern Virginia had active symptoms of mental health disorders.
- Today, it is **1 in 4** (25%).
- The COVID-19 pandemic has not only affected people's mental health, but the consequences are likely to linger on for years.





Young people & COVID 19 & Mental Health

- Disruptions in routines and relationships have led to increased social isolation, anxiety, and learning loss.
- An early study has found that students are about five months behind in math and four months behind in reading, compared with students prior to the pandemic.
- Emergency department visits for attempted suicide have risen 51 percent among adolescent girls.

Dorn E. et al 2021. McKinsey & Company. COVID-19 and education: The lingering effects of unfinished learning. McKinsey & Company July 27, 2021.

 $\label{eq:https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/12/07/us-surgeon-general-issues-advisory-on-youthmental-health-crisis-further-exposed-by-covid-19-pandemic.html$

COVID-19 & Worldwide Disruptions of Mental Health Services



The pandemic has disrupted mental health services in 93% of countries around the world, according to a survey by the World Health Organization (WHO).

More than 40% of countries had a full or partial closure of community-based services.

In addition, three quarters of mental health services in schools and workplaces were disrupted, on top of about 60% of all therapy and counseling services.

World Health Organization News Release. October 5, 2020. COVID-19 disrupting mental health services in most countries, WHO survey



"ADDRESSING UNMET MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS"



Collaborative Care Model

Collaborative care is more costeffective than usual care in all categories measured, including medication costs and inpatient, outpatient, and mental health specialty care, as well as for the management of mental health with comorbid physical disorders.

This model improves access, outcomes and patient satisfaction.

Ee, C., Lake, J., Firth, J. et al. An integrative collaborative care model for people with mental illness and physical comorbidities. Int J Ment Health Syst 14, 83 (2020).

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Presidents FY 23 budget proposes to double funding for primary & behavioral health integration programs The Department of Health and Human Services will test payment models that support the delivery of whole-person care through behavioral health integration and authorize Medicaid reimbursement of inter-professional consultations so that primary care providers can consult with a specialist.



Retrieved on 3/7/2022 from https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/03/01/fact-sheet-president-biden-to-announce-strategy-to-address-our-national-mental-health-crisis-as-part-of-unity-agenda-in-his-first-state-of-the-union/

Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act

- Recent 2022 MHPAEA Report to Congress shows that companies continue to violate this requirement.
- The agencies continue to place more rigorous enforcement, greater stakeholder engagement, and increased collaboration to identify ways to support the Administration's effort to increase access to MH/SUD treatment.

Mental health parity is a straightforward concept

insurance coverage for mental health conditions, including substance abuse disorder (SUD) treatment, should be equal to coverage for any other medical conditions.



The Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 (MHPAEA)

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Presidents FY 23 Budget proposes to improve rate parity

The President's budget will propose that all health plans cover behavioral health services with an adequate network of providers, including three behavioral health visits each year without costsharing.



Retrieved on 3/7/2022 from https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/03/01/fact-sheet-president-biden-to-announce-strategy-to-address-our-national-mental-health-crisis-as-part-of-unity-agenda-in-his-first-state-of-the-union/

Addressing Social Needs Can Improve Mental Health Outcomes



Social determinants of health where we are born, live, learn, work, play, worship.

Research supports that 90% of health outcomes are influenced by social and behavioral factors.

Addressing social need such as

- Food insecurity
- Transportation
- Housing

Can help improve mental health outcomes.

Accountable Health Communities

- The Accountable Health Communities Innovation model aims to address a critical gap between clinical care and the health-related social needs of Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries.
- This includes housing insecurity, hunger and interpersonal violence. Community-based organizations are eligible and encouraged to apply.



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Health plans can consider:

- ✓ Addressing social determinants of health in health insurance benefit designs.
- ✓ Establishing incentives to improve the acquisition of social determinants of health data.
- ✓ Support research to evaluate the best approach to integrating and financing non-medical services as part of health insurance benefit design.

Expand & Diversify the Behavioral Health Workforce

- Expand the behavioral health workforce.
- Diversify the behavioral health workforce.
- Studies support improved health outcomes when there is racial/ethnic concordance between patient and provider.



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President's FY23 budget proposes to expand training for behavioral health workforce

The proposed budget will invest \$700 million in programs – like the National Health Service Corps, Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training Program, and the Minority Fellowship Program – to encourage healthcare providers to practice in rural and other underserved communities.



Retrieved on 3/7/2022 from https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/03/01/fact-sheet-president-biden-to-announce-strategy-to-address-our-national-mental-health-crisis-as-part-of-unity-agenda-in-his-first-state-of-the-union/

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988 Dedicated call-in line

- The 988 system will be the dedicated call-in line for dispatching trained staff to respond to the mental health and substance use emergencies now met primarily by law enforcement.
- A new federal law mandates that, as of July 16, 2022, every U.S. state must have in place a call system to make it easier for people to seek immediate and appropriate for mental health or substance use crises. The National Suicide Hotline Designation Act of 2020 adds a complement to 911.

Enhancement of mental health crisis response through the American Rescue Plan Through the American Rescue Plan, the Administration has provided \$180 million to support local capacity to answer crisis calls and establish more community-based mobile crisis response and crisis stabilizing facilities to minimize unnecessary emergency department visits.



Retrieved on 3/7/2022 from https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/03/01/fact-sheet-president-biden-to-announce-strategy-to-address-our-national-mental-health-crisis-as-part-of-unity-agenda-in-his-first-state-of-the-union/



TELEMEDICINE

- PROVIDER FACING CONSIDERATIONS
 - ✓ Investment in telemedicine platforms versus utilizing more affordable technologies like Facetime and Zoom.
 - ✓ Resource limited health organizations may not have sufficient bandwidth to achieve reliable internet connection, and sound and video quality.
 - ✓ Workflow/training on telemedicine technologies, can require additional time and resources.

PATIENT FACING CONSIDERATIONS

- ✓ Access to telemedicine may be particularly challenging for low-income patients and patients in rural areas, who may not have reliable access to internet through smartphones or computers.
- ✓ While use of telehealth has opened the door for patients to maintain access to care during this public health crisis, ensuring quality of care of telehealth visits is still important.

We need to recognize, embrace and educate everyone that Mental health and physical health are inseparable

Because if we don't the result is continued stigma, discrimination in health coverage for mental health and the list goes on.

Everyone who needs help should be able to access care when and where they seek it.





THANK YOU

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DATA PRESENTATION: Finding our Way Back to Mental Health

Elizabeth Hughes Senior Director, Insight Region[™] Community Foundation for Northern Virginia

shape of the region



finding our way back to MENTAL HEALTH

The need for accessible, affordable treatment in the midst of collective trauma

A Shape of the Region[™] Special Report

cfnova.org/mental-health-report









WORRY excessive, uncontrollable



In Northern Virginia...



Read our full report at cfnova.org/mental-health-report



What does this mean?

ANHEDONIA loss of interest or pleasure

+ SADNESS feeling down, depressed, hopeless

= DEPRESSION

In Northern Virginia...



Read our full report at cfnova.org/mental-health-report

shape of nee	ed				
In Northern Virginia	nild (several days) 🔳 modera	ite (> half the days)	severe (nearly	every day) 🔳 clinical level	
	30%	9%	14%	53% 1,025,000	
	26%	8% 11	% 45%	869,000	
ANXIETY	24%			461,000	
+/or	24%	8% 8%	40%	769,000	
	25%	7% 8%	40%	774,000	
DEPRESSION	18%			358,000	
= DISORDER	28%			545,000	
				Read	our full report at choose org/mental-health-report

Certain demographic groups in our region have especially high rates of anxiety/depression and/or service needs



Read our full report at cfnova.org/mental-health-report

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Certain economic factors are also linked to high rates of anxiety/depression and/or service needs



370,000 adults in Northern Virginia want therapy... and 40% have not been able to get it



Read our full report at cfnova.org/mental-health-report



Why? Our report examines the relevance of four national barriers to receiving treatment in Northern Virginia...

(1) asking for help ... (2) finding a provider... (3) managing cost and logistics... (4) seeing results



Read our full report at cfnova.org/mental-health-report

shape of need



How do we respond...

and help Northern Virginia find its way back to mental health?



shape...>





PANEL #1: SYSTEM CHANGE

THE community foundation FOR NORTHERN VIRGINIA



Sandy L. Chung, MD, FAAP, FACHE AAP President 2022, CEO, Trusted Doctors



Darcy E. Gruttadaro, JD Director, Center for Workplace Mental Health, American Psychiatric Association Foundation



Germaine Buck Louis, PhD, MS Dean, College of Health and Human Services, George Mason University



Deborah D. Oswalt Executive Director, Virginia Health Care Foundation



Navid Rashid, MD, FAPA Medical Director, Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute







PANEL #2: EQUITABLE SOLUTIONS

THE community foundation FOR NORTHERN VIRGINIA



Chaplain Tahara Akmal Clinical Pastoral Education Manager, MedStar Washington Hospital Center



Dr. Alfiee M. Breland-Noble Founder, The AAKOMA Project, Inc.



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