



Program Dispatch

First Edition, Fiscal Year 2010-2011



Members Assertive Positive Solutions (MAPS)

Mental Health Services Act Dollars
Working in the Community!

Service Goals

The objectives of MAPS are to:

- **Reduce** psychiatric hospitalizations
- **Increase** public safety
- **Develop** independent living skills
- **Support** the Recovery Model and assist clients in achieving their hopes and dreams

Why was MAPS Created?

Some individuals tended to use the psychiatric hospitals as safe havens when they met barriers living in the community independently. This may be due to lack of financial support, terminated benefits or disagreements with family and/or friends.

Community members, their families and the service system felt the effects of increased hospital admissions.

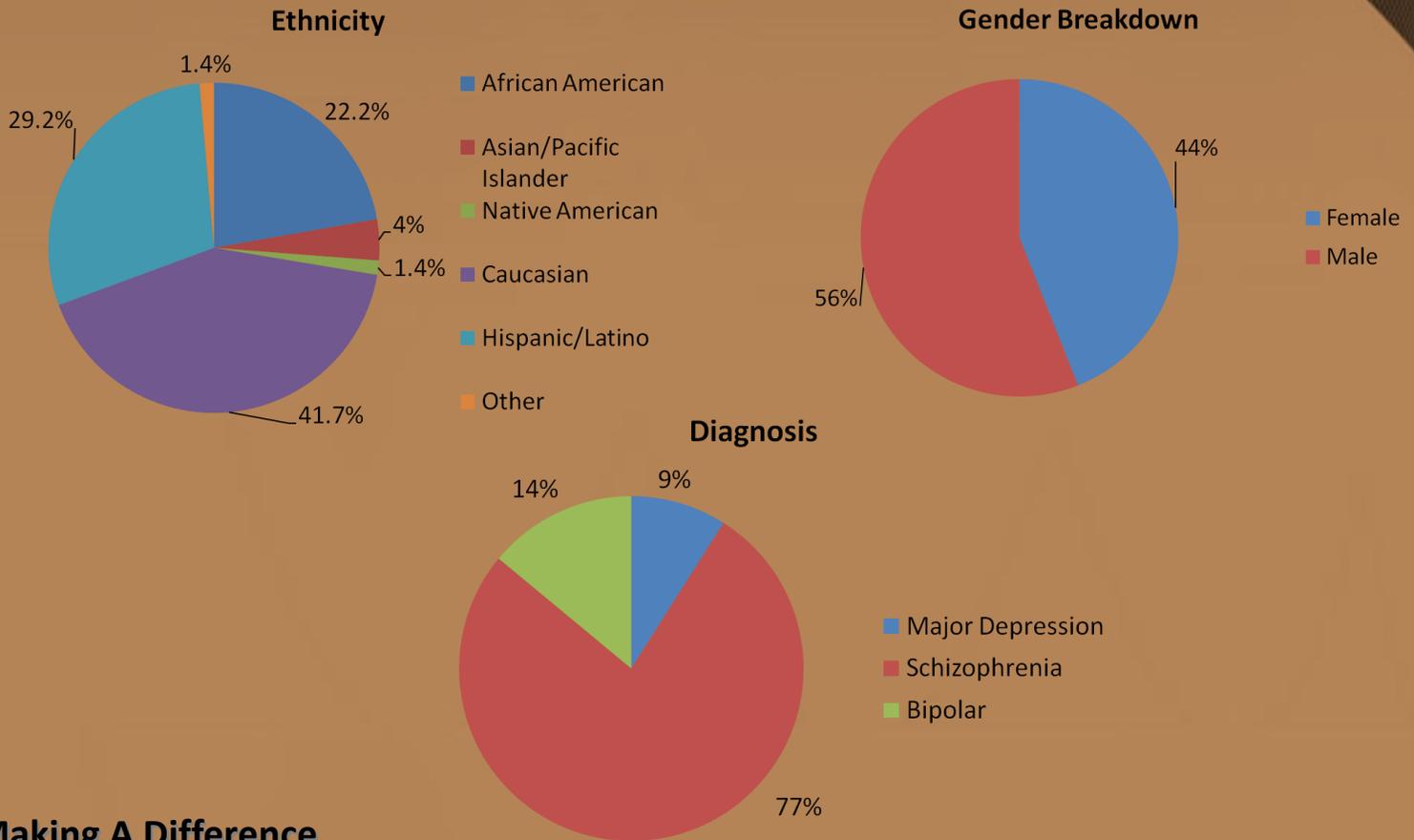
Calls to the police by the community to address mental health concerns, high inpatient costs, high numbers of consumers in locked settings and in the state hospital all led to the need for MAPS.



Positive Results

- A **47 % decrease** of inappropriate psychiatric hospital days over 3 years, which translates to **14,452 days** of community living for MAPS community members along with a **potential savings in hospital costs of \$7,948,600.**

Program Data



Making A Difference

MAPS member, "S," presented from a recent hospitalization. She had frequent arrests and hospitalizations. She had a very aggressive history and had been arrested for holding treatment staff hostage at gunpoint. When she started with the MAPS program she was extremely withdrawn, defensive, challenging and hostile in her demeanor. She was actively harming herself and would talk with no one.

Slow but steady progress has been made. MAPS has helped her access ongoing medical attention for all self inflicted injuries while continuing to work to decrease self harming behavior. "S" has not been arrested since starting with the MAPS program and she has only been hospitalized one time in the last eight months. She engages with staff members and is currently seeking volunteer opportunities. She can talk about her feelings and has begun discussing her family relationships. She has expressed gratitude for this help and sees MAPS as the **support system for her life**.

Challenges

- Limited housing opportunities which include board and cares, room and boards and residential programs
- Training staff to adequately meet the scope of practice is difficult for the program due to the level of skill desired
- The great needs of this specialized client population
- Clients tend to self medicate with drugs

Solutions in Progress

- Scheduled meetings between MAPS staff and the Department of Behavior Health staff to address program concerns.
- Staff meet on a daily basis to address daily challenges and staff needs required to provide services to community members.
- Staff participate on an Interagency Placement Committee that meets once a week and includes members from the county hospital, Diversion Unit, Conservatorship Investigation program, Adult Residential Services and a mental health counselor representative to address the needs of consumers struggling to remain in the community
- MAPS staff are working with community members to receive treatment and education regarding drug and alcohol use

Martha was completely isolated and had zero interactions with the outside world, she now attends birthday parties, outings to the ball park and goes to the store.

"Thank you for my progress, even my family thinks I am making progress."

Collaborative Partners

Thank you to the following partnering organizations:

Department of Behavioral Health

Arrowhead Regional
Medical Center

Consumers/participants
who received services

Public Guardian's Office
and deputies

Mental Health Court
Counselors and Court officers

Conservatorship Investigation
Program

Locked Setting/Augmented
Board and Care
program staff

For information regarding services please call:

ACCESS UNIT

(888) 743-1478 or (888) 743-1481 (TTY)

Dial 2-1-1 to get information and referrals for health and social services.
Get connected with a live operator 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.