

# Arizona

## UNIFORM APPLICATION FY 2017 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH REPORT COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

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Center for Mental Health Services  
Division of State and Community Systems Development

# I: State Information

## State Information

### State DUNS Number

Number 805346798

Expiration Date

### I. State Agency to be the Grantee for the Block Grant

Agency Name Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System

Organizational Unit Division of Health Care Management

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### II. Contact Person for the Grantee of the Block Grant

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### III. State Expenditure Period (Most recent State expenditure period that is closed out)

From 7/1/2015

To 6/30/2016

### IV. Date Submitted

NOTE: This field will be automatically populated when the application is submitted.

Submission Date 12/1/2016 8:10:55 PM

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Footnotes:

## II: Annual Report

### MHBG Table 1 Priority Area and Annual Performance Indicators - Progress Report

Priority #: 1  
Priority Area: Youth  
Priority Type: SAT  
Population(s): Other

#### Goal of the priority area:

Increase the number of youth in the behavioral health system identified as having a diagnosed substance use disorder.  
Note- Goal is in progress and will be continued from previous submission.

#### Strategies to attain the goal:

The Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RBHAs) will continue efforts to promote access to substance abuse treatment services for adolescents during meetings with providers and collaborators, and through school and community-based trainings. Trainings provided by the RBHAs have included components on how to screen for substance abuse in the adolescent population, and effective substance abuse treatment such as ACRA and other evidence-based practices targeting the adolescent population. Additionally, providers continue to utilize SA screening tools, including ASAM and CRAFFT.

The Arizona Department of Health Services/Division of Behavioral Health Services (ADHS/DBHS) will monitor enrollment numbers for youth diagnosed with a substance use diagnosis within the system of care.

The RBHAs will continue to collaborate and meet regularly with child/adolescent providers to share information on substance abuse screening, trends and best practices.

The ADHS/DBHS and the RBHAs will provide and promote access to substance abuse training initiatives available to child/adolescent providers- including those employed through other agencies such as the Department of Child Safety (DOCS) and Juvenile Justice. The ADHS/DBHS will also provide education to providers and teachers.

The ADHS/DBHS and RBHAs will educate treatment providers, prevention providers, and coalitions on how to engage community stakeholders in identifying and referring youth to early intervention and substance abuse treatment services.

The ADHS/DBHS will ensure the availability of a standardized, parent-friendly, screening tool to identify substance use/abuse in children and adolescents.

The Arizona Department of Health Services/Division of Behavioral Health Services (ADHS/DBHS) will monitor enrollment numbers for youth diagnosed with a substance use diagnosis within the system of care.

The Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RBHAs) will continue to collaborate and meet regularly with child/adolescent providers to share information on substance abuse screening, trends and best practices.

The ADHS/DBHS and the RBHAs will provide and promote access to substance abuse training initiatives available to child/adolescent providers- including those employed through other agencies such as the Department of Child Safety (DOCS) and Juvenile Justice. The ADHS/DBHS will also provide education to providers and teachers.

The ADHS/DBHS and RBHAs will educate treatment providers, prevention providers, and coalitions on how to engage community stakeholders in identifying and referring youth to early intervention and substance abuse treatment services.

The ADHS/DBHS will ensure the availability of a standardized, parent-friendly, screening tool to identify substance use/abuse in children and adolescents.

#### Annual Performance Indicators to measure goal success

Indicator #: 1  
Indicator: Annual Performance Indicators to measure success on a yearly basis.

Baseline Measurement: Baseline measurement, FY15 7% of those under the age of 18, in the behavioral health system who were diagnosed as having a substance use disorder or dependence.

First-year target/outcome measurement: First-year target/outcome measurement (Progress to end of SFY 2016), 7.5%

Second-year target/outcome measurement: Second-year target/outcome measurement (Final to end of SFY 2017), 8%

New Second-year target/outcome measurement (if needed):

Data Source:

CIS enrollment numbers/data.

New Data Source (if needed):

Description of Data:

CIS data can be stratified by age group, diagnosis, and services received. CIS captures all elements needed to measure outcomes for this population.

New Description of Data: (if needed)

Data issues/caveats that affect outcome measures:

No data related issues anticipated.

New Data issues/caveats that affect outcome measures:

## Report of Progress Toward Goal Attainment

First Year Target:  Achieved  Not Achieved (if not achieved, explain why)

Reason why target was not achieved, and changes proposed to meet target:

How first year target was achieved (optional):

The RBHAs have worked to connect youth to appropriate SUD services by providing trainings to providers regarding screening tools to identify substance use in children and adolescents. Additionally the RBHAs have increased the capacity of SUD services for adolescents by increasing the number of evidence-based practices (i.e. A-CRA, MST, Matrix Model, Seven Challenges, etc.). In Pima County there have been two adolescent MAT programs added that comply with SAMHSA guidelines through use of buprenorphine and IOP services in the past year as well as an increased capacity for youth with SUD in SUD Behavioral Health Residential (BHRF) treatment. In Maricopa County the RBHA and their adolescent substance abuse treatment providers have collaborated with ADJC and MCJPD to provide treatment services for youth on probation or parole who are not eligible for Medicaid-funded services.

Priority #: 2

Priority Area: Older Adults

Priority Type: SAT

Population(s): Other (Entire population over the age of 55.)

Goal of the priority area:

Increase screenings, outreach, engagement and enrollment of adults over the age of 55 with a diagnosed substance use disorder.

Strategies to attain the goal:

The Arizona Department of Health Services/Division of Behavioral Health Services (ADHS/DBHS) will track and trend individuals screened for substance use and abuse in the Northern Regional Behavioral Health Authority (NARBHA) by age.

The ADHS/DBHS will evaluate the number of individuals over 55 who received a Brief Intervention/Brief Treatment related to their substance use/abuse.

The ADHS/DBHS will track and trend the number of individuals who were referred to a treatment provider for substance use/abuse.

The Arizona Department of Health services will educate the rest of the state on the Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) program.

## Annual Performance Indicators to measure goal success

Indicator #: 1

Indicator: Annual Performance Indicators to measure success on a yearly basis. .

Baseline Measurement: In Fiscal Year 2016, 8% of those with a substance use disorder or dependence were over the age of 55.

First-year target/outcome measurement: First-year target/outcome measurement (Progress to end of SFY 2016), 8.5%

Second-year target/outcome measurement: Second-year target/outcome measurement (Final to end of SFY 2017), 9%

New Second-year target/outcome measurement (if needed):

Data Source:

CIS enrollment data and SAIS data.

New Data Source (if needed):

Description of Data:

Data in both systems can be stratified by age, diagnosis, and service received.

New Description of Data (if needed)

Data issues/caveats that affect outcome measures:

SAMHSA has elected to eliminate the SAIS system and has rolled out the DCI. It is unclear how this will impact data collection and reporting.

New Data issues/caveats that affect outcome measures:

## Report of Progress Toward Goal Attainment

First Year Target:  Achieved  Not Achieved (if not achieved, explain why)

Reason why target was not achieved, and changes proposed to meet target:

How first year target was achieved (optional):

Some RBHA efforts include:

- Providing outreach to members who are presenting in hospitals but are not enrolled with a SUD provider. Engagement Specialists go out into the community, including hospitals and home addresses to discuss services and facilitate intakes
- Increased availability of peer support and intensive-community based services to members in an effort to keep them engaged in SUD services.
- In Southern Arizona the RBHA is working with a provider to increase their membership in their integrated care service for older adults (55 and over) in a program called "Cactus Bloom". The program focuses on screening and increasing accessibility to integrated services for older adults.

Priority #: 3

Priority Area: Service members and veterans

Priority Type: MHS

Population(s): Other

Goal of the priority area:

Increase enrollment of service members and veterans in the behavioral health system.

Strategies to attain the goal:

Enrollment of service members and veterans for substance abuse services out the total number enrolled in the behavioral health system increased from 0.6% in FY2012 to 1.1% in FY2013. Please note, the percent of service members and veterans out of the number of individuals enrolled in the Arizona behavioral health system for substance abuse services is 3.5%.

Our Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RBHAs) have been collaborating in various capacities, including holding memberships in ACMF's Resource Network and ACMF Leadership Council, and collaborating on ACMF's Resource Navigator training and the VA's Veteran's Summit. Additionally, Rally Point Tucson, a program of CPSA, staffed by experienced veterans continues to help veterans and their families in Pima County navigate and access various resources. Providers throughout the state have been engaged in multiple trainings that are specific to the needs of service members, such as Mental Health First Aid for Military, Veteran and Their Families, Trauma Informed Care, PTSD, Traumatic Brain injury, and employment assistance.

The Arizona Department of Health Services/Division of Behavioral Health Services (ADHS/DBHS) will continue to be engaged in the Arizona Coalition for Military Families, and will conduct outreach efforts to connect service members, veterans and family members to services throughout the State. The ADHS/DBHS will disseminate information to all levels of service and will encourage collaboration for the provision of culturally competent care.

The ADHS/DBHS will assist the Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RBHAs) in establishing a relationship their local Veterans Affairs (VAs) in order to coordinate care and participate in trainings.

The ADHS/DBHS and RBHAs will educate behavioral health providers (treatment and prevention) to offer culturally competent services for service members, veterans, and their families.

#### Annual Performance Indicators to measure goal success

Indicator #: 1

Indicator: Annual Performance Indicators to measure success on a yearly basis.

Baseline Measurement: Baseline measurement, FY 2016 1278/205000 (.6%)

First-year target/outcome measurement: First-year target/outcome measurement (Progress to end of SFY 2016), Increase FY16 data by 6%

Second-year target/outcome measurement: Second-year target/outcome measurement (Final to end of SFY 2017), Increase FY17 data by an additional 2% from the outcome for 2016.

New Second-year target/outcome measurement (*if needed*):

Data Source:

Client Information System (CIS) data.

New Data Source (*if needed*):

Description of Data:

Data can be stratified by military and veteran status, diagnoses, and services received.

New Description of Data: (*if needed*)

Data issues/caveats that affect outcome measures:

No data related issues anticipated.

New Data issues/caveats that affect outcome measures:

CIS data ran this year shows in FY2015 2,364 veterans and service members were enrolled with the behavioral health system, 394 of those were co-occurring (SMI and SUD).

### Report of Progress Toward Goal Attainment

First Year Target:  Achieved  Not Achieved (*if not achieved, explain why*)

Reason why target was not achieved, and changes proposed to meet target:

CIS data shows that in FY2016 2417 veterans and service members were enrolled with the behavioral health system, 389 of those were co-occurring (SMI and SUD). This is a 2.19% increase in enrollment of veterans and service members and a 1.29% decrease in the enrollment of veterans and service members with a co-occurring SMI and SUD. The state will work with the RBHAs to identify barriers to enrolling veterans and service members into services as well as discuss opportunities for implementing and supporting additional outreach and engagement programs.

The following are activities aimed and outreaching and engaging veterans into services:

Agencies contracted to provide outreach via community engagement specialists are also targeting efforts to enroll veterans who present in the emergency departments, detox facilities and those who are homeless. Cenpatco also participates in the planning and

marketing of Veteran Specific events around the state. Some of these events are the "Stand Downs", the veteran employment/resource fairs, and symposiums. Cenpatico set up training for the local warm lines on effective practices for working with veterans and families. This training certified all their warm line employees as Veteran Navigators trained by the Arizona Coalition for Military Families.

A new program called Project R.E.S.P.E.C.T. was launched in 2016 that focuses on re-entry from jail, and provides services based on Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT), also serving veterans.

Rally Point Phoenix, a program of Empact, attended peer support certification training to improve their engagement activities of service members and veterans

Mercy Maricopa Outcome data for Rally Point Phoenix mentioned above:

This program has seen an increase in call volume and member engagement, receiving 1120 calls to their hotline and 446 new veterans engaged in services. Approximately 72% of veterans in this program complete services within 3 months and 97% complete within 6 months. This provider reports an approximate increase of 35%, overall, of veterans and service members engaging into services

Mercy Maricopa Integrated Care are engaged with the VA system to improve response and engagement of service members and veterans into needed services to include high-needs members, members involved with court and legal system, incarcerated and vulnerable adults involved with Adult Protective Services

How first year target was achieved (*optional*):

Priority #: 4  
Priority Area: Healthcare Integration  
Priority Type: SAT, MHS  
Population(s): SMI

Goal of the priority area:

Increase Behavioral Health staff knowledge of health related topics and connection between physical and mental health, and improve the coordination of care between behavioral health providers and the recipients' Primary Care Physician.

Note- goal is continued.

Strategies to attain the goal:

ADHS will monitor and assist Maricopa County with the pilot healthcare integration program to provide behavioral and physical health care in one location for Seriously Mentally Ill (SMI) members in FY14. MMIC, the RBHA for Maricopa County has assigned Care Management staff at each Adult Provider Network Organization (APNO) direct clinic in order to provide a direct link to education and technical assistance; this has allowed an increase in awareness of the medical health related needs, service utilization monitoring, identify gaps, and provide educational resources related to coordination of care with medical providers. The Care Management staff also ensures the treatment goals in the members' Care Plans address both their physical and behavioral health needs. Efforts to increase Primary Care Providers (PCP) knowledge of behavioral health needs is also being addressed through the Integrated Care Training Academy which occurs quarterly, and includes topics such as the SBIRT process.

Effective October 2015, the state of Arizona will have integrated physical and behavioral health care for individuals diagnosed with a serious mental illness (SMI). The Arizona Department of Health Services/Division of Behavioral Health Services (ADHS/DBHS) will track the overall health for these individuals.

The ADHS/DBHS will work closely with healthcare providers to ensure that clients are receiving both physical and behavioral health services and that there is continued collaboration between all professionals.

#### Annual Performance Indicators to measure goal success

Indicator #: 1  
Indicator: Annual Performance Indicators to measure success on a yearly basis.  
Baseline Measurement: Statewide SMI coordination of care in FY16 - 90%  
First-year target/outcome measurement: First-year target/outcome measurement (Progress to end of SFY 2016), 95%  
Second-year target/outcome measurement: Second-year target/outcome measurement (Final to end of SFY 2017), 100%  
New Second-year target/outcome measurement (*if needed*):  
Data Source:

Case review

New Data Source(*if needed*):

Description of Data:

The ADHS/DBHS performs a random sample case file review for coordination of care for those with a seriously mentally ill diagnosis. Review will contain specific elements that will evaluate coordination of care activities.

New Description of Data: (*if needed*)

Data issues/caveats that affect outcome measures:

No data related issues anticipated.

New Data issues/caveats that affect outcome measures:

## Report of Progress Toward Goal Attainment

First Year Target:             Achieved                                     Not Achieved (*if not achieved, explain why*)

Reason why target was not achieved, and changes proposed to meet target:

The random sample case file review previously conducted by ADHS/DBHS has been discontinued and was not performed in SFY 2016 therefore Arizona cannot report progress towards this goal using previously indicated data source. The RBHAs conduct periodic reviews to ensure care coordination is occurring within their provider networks and implement performance improvement plans as needed to assist providers in improving care coordination efforts. For contract year 2017, AHCCCS has included multiple methods to measure coordination efforts for its integrated plans, but will not have that data to report until 2017. Some of the coordination efforts the RBHAs are monitored on include but are not limited to:

- Contractually required annual reports that focus on activities specifically demonstrating integration and coordination between physical and mental health providers on behalf of members diagnosed with a serious mental illness. These reports focus on planned activities for the upcoming year, as well as an evaluation of the previous year's activities.
- Contractual requirements for Integrated Health Plans to monitor specific coordination activities (via regular chart audits) between behavioral health professionals and primary care physicians.

Below are activities involving care coordination as reported by the RBHAs.

Activities in Maricopa County:

In SFY2016, Maricopa County focused on the development of integrated care practices, workforce development and information sharing to support integrated care models of care. To better understand our provider's readiness to implement integrated care models, Mercy Maricopa utilized the SAMHSA Integrated Provider Assessment Tool (IPAT). Then based on evaluation results, Mercy Maricopa has provided an variety of resources such as toolkits, trainings, curriculum and Practice Transformation Consultant (PTC) to providers preparing for and implementing integrated care programs.

To date, three integrated health homes, launched a virtual health home model primary care sites and have also added the inclusion of primary care on several Assertive Community Treatment teams.

Moving forward, Mercy Maricopa will continue to stay focused on four main areas: integrated care model development and provider expansion, workforce development, value based contracting and technology and evaluation. As stated prior, we continue to expand our integrated care network and provide resources to ensure behavior health staff is knowledge on health related topics and the importance of an integrated care approach. We have implemented integrated care treatment plan and expanded our scopes of work to ensure provides are have integrated case consultations inclusive of medical providers. To ensure we have sufficient and skilled professionals, Mercy Maricopa has developed a certified training program so that providers can deliver training to develop skills in the delivery of integrated healthcare and work processes that will result in positive outcomes. To drive positive outcomes, Mercy Maricopa has implemented value based contracts which have shared incentives with medical providers for medical outcomes such as reduced emergency room utilization, inpatient medical utilization and increased contact with a member's physical health providers. These contracts also include the inclusion of health outcomes such as smoking cessation and diabetic care. Mercy Maricopa has deliverable that addresses gaps in care and requires SMI clinic providers to work with members to close identified gaps. To support the delivery of integrated care, Mercy Maricopa recognizes the importance of real time data and ability to share data to coordinate care in an integrated fashion. Mercy Maricopa is working to implement a population health management tool that will allow for real time collaboration and the delivery of comprehensive integrated healthcare services.

Activities in Southern Arizona:

Cenpatico-IC conducts a wide range of coordination of care activities for all members, inclusive of the SABG funded members with an SMI diagnosis. All integrated and SMI members can receive care management or care coordination from Cenpatico-IC. At the provider level, all members are assigned to a Recovery Coach to assist in coordinating their care.

For SMI-Integrated members that have substance abuse diagnosis, the Care Management department provides the following services:

- Coordination of care for medical and behavioral health

- Transitional planning for members that are transitioning into substance abuse inpatient services
- Discharge planning for members transitioning into the community to maintain outpatient substance abuse treatment services towards maintaining their recovery
- Monitoring referrals for specialty services provided by ICCA's and Specialty Providers
- Adult Recovery Team participation with the member and the clinical team
- Continued outreach and comprehensive assessment to support members behavioral health and medical health needs
- Care Planning for high risk SMI members
- For complex member issues, concerns may be referred to the Interdisciplinary Team Meeting that consist of Medical Doctors, Pharmacy, Housing, Cenpatico clinical staff and external stakeholders to provide recommendations, appropriate interventions towards supporting the member's needs

In addition to care management, members are able to access Adult Recovery Team (ART) Facilitators to assist in any issues that may arise. Cenpatico-IC's Health and Wellness Program Development Specialist provided support and technical assistance to clinical and leadership teams within each Intake and Coordination of Care Agency (ICC Agency) to assist in the development of chronic disease and wellness programs, focusing on a whole-person approach in support of SAMHSA's eight dimensions of wellness. Support and assistance included providing information and education related to specific evidenced-based disease management programs and best practices and coordinating with Envolve PeopleCare, Centene Corporation's Disease Management subsidiary. Examples of current wellness and disease management programs currently in progress include:

- Stanford Chronic Disease Self-Management Program
- Specialized Diabetes Management Programs, including utilization of Clinical Pharmacist for diabetes med reconciliation
- In SHAPE program: Several of our ICC Agencies are former or current In SHAPE grant recipients. This is a competitive program through Dartmouth that trains ICC Agencies' staff to address obesity within their population, and provides them with tablets and other equipment to do so. <https://www.thenationalcouncil.org/training-courses/dartmouths-shape-implementation-study/>
- Exercise groups/classes: Several ICC Agencies have a certified personal trainer on staff to facilitate group exercise classes. Other ICC Agencies have exercise equipment (treadmills, stationary bikes, etc.) on site and allow members to drop in and use the equipment as desired. Other exercise programming include walking groups or group exercise using workout videos.
- Cooking/nutrition classes and demonstrations.
- Weekly walk in wellness clinics for screenings.

Members of the Health Home Development Team coordinate with Envolve PeopleCare to provide quarterly disease management trainings for providers to develop their ability to coordinate care and assist members in managing their chronic conditions. We have also developed a health education library and website for additional provider education. In addition, Envolve PeopleCare is recruiting for a Certified Diabetes Educator and a Respiratory Therapist who will be able to provide additional training as requested, assist C-IC Med Management with care plans, and also be of assistance to ICC Agencies for member-specific questions and case reviews. All of the ICC Agencies have developed ongoing training on various health and wellness topics to improve their staff's knowledge and skills related to physical health. Cenpatico has also met with the Arizona Smoker's Helpline (ASH Line) and the Pima County Health Department for the first of what will hopefully be regular meetings to develop a smoking cessation program for our members. Cenpatico is working with Choose Health, Cultural and Community Affairs, and Marketing teams to coordinate health promotion activities and messages for providers, members, and the community. We are ensuring consistent message C-IC wide. Cenpatico is also working with QI and training to develop pilot program for Motivational Interviewing specific to chronic disease management. As well as ongoing work with Med Management Chronic Disease Management Program

The Cenpatico Health Home Development team developed and delivered a 'train the trainer' program on Integrated Case Management in 4 different cities, covering all 19 ICC Agencies operating Health Homes, covering coordination of care. Provider agencies use this training as an integral part of their new employee orientation (NEO) onboarding process. The training is currently being updated and will be launched again during the next quarter.

#### Activities in Northern Arizona:

##### Approach to Integrated Care Coordination and Care Management

Health Choice Integrated Care utilizes data-driven and evidence-based strategies to provide integrated Care Coordination and Care Management services to all members. Our Care Management Department utilizes a team-based approach that serves as the single point of whole health treatment. Our approach is centered on the member and family through a behavioral health-based Integrated Health Management regardless of the member's need, risk or cost profile.

Given the challenges of Northern Arizona's expansive geography and the need to transform the delivery of healthcare, HCIC will assign HCIC care managers (called Integrated Care Managers) to regional Integrated Health Home (IHH) sites to provide medical and behavioral health expertise, oversight, increased integrated system coordination and resources for "Top Tier" members with SMI who are high need/high cost. These Integrated Care Managers will assist the Adult Recovery Teams in developing an integrated approach to understanding and organizing the member's physical and behavioral health needs and services based on member/guardian/family preferences. This expertise will be supported by additional HCIC care managers (called Leads) with population-specific expertise, and our available technology suite and quality management systems to offer a comprehensive approach to serving members' needs. The intensive ("Top Tier") approach to Care Management for members who have been identified as high need/high cost uses our experienced staff, technology and community relationship resources to identify and track high risk/high cost members in order to ensure seamless care coordination across the service delivery system, and to identify and track how the program will improve overall health outcomes.

##### CARE MANAGEMENT

HCIC's care management program design promotes and supports "seamless" care coordination across the entire delivery system by offering members a single point contact for whole health treatment, while also offering a central point of clinical responsibility for outcomes from a managed care perspective. Data and support will be shared between the providers and HCIC in order to eliminate

blind spots and gaps in medically necessary care. This is achieved through a step by step approach that begins with an initial assessment to determine the member's specific Care Coordination or Care Management needs and the development of a Care Management Plan for members in the Top Tier.

#### The Integrated Health Home (IHH)

HCIC's approach to providing integrated Top Tier Care Management services for high need/high cost individuals will be based on the SAMHSA/HRSA Four Quadrant Model. This model stratifies members according to the degree of medical and behavioral health risk and need. Members with high medical and behavioral health needs are offered both physical health care and behavioral health care at the individual's behavioral health provider site, the Integrated Health Home. The HCIC Integrated Care Manager will also be assigned to the Integrated Health Home. Because services are located in the same facility, access to care, care coordination and care management activities are enhanced.

#### Integrated Health Home Case Manager

The Case Manager will be employed by the IHH, and serves as the single point of contact for members. The Case Manager will support the member's needs by developing a personal relationship with the member, collecting member information and helping the member navigate the system to obtain necessary services and supports. The Case Manager will work with the member/guardian/family and the ART/CFT to develop the Individual Recovery Plan/Individual Service Plan (IRP/ISP) as per policy. The Case Manager will assist the member in maintaining, monitoring and modifying covered services and other necessary resources. The Case Manager does outreach and engagement with the member when there is a missed appointment or crisis contact. The Case Manager is responsible for communication and coordination of care between the member's ART/CFT and the member's primary care provider. The Case Manager works closely with the Integrated Care Manager when a member is identified as high need/high cost.

Integrated Care Managers provide an administrative function that is not the day-to-day duties of case management or service delivery. Consistent with direction from ADHS/DBHS, the Integrated Care Managers will compile case analyses in collaboration with the member's clinical team, and ensure coordination of member care needs through development and oversight of a Care Management Plan for individuals with SMI who are included in the top tier care management program. The Integrated Care Manager will use a trauma-informed, and recovery-oriented approach, with a major focus on not introducing or re-introducing trauma in the members' life and also ensure that the clinical care maintains a focus on recovery, self-management and caregiver/family and peer supports.

The Integrated Care Managers are responsible for overseeing and assisting teams in:

- Effectively transitioning members from one level of care to another
- Streamlining, monitoring and adjusting members' Care Management Plans for individuals who are included in the SMI top tier program, based on progress and outcomes
- Reducing hospital admissions and unnecessary emergency department and crisis service use
- Providing ART/CFTs with the proper tools so members can self-manage care in order to safely live, work and integrate into the community
- Identifying and transferring important clinical information and test results, such as discharge summaries, critical lab results, medications, emergency room visits, etc.
- Updating the team on changes in member status, such as eligibility, court-ordered treatment, guardianship, DNR, transition to adulthood, SMI, incarceration, pregnancy, out of state treatment, all cause hospitalizations, etc.
- Ensuring members are scheduled for prevention, EPSDT, disease management and health promotion activities, consistent with need
- Analyzing predicted and actual outcomes and cost-effectiveness of a member's interventions/ services based on best practices

#### HCIC Interdisciplinary Care Team (ICT)

Members who are identified as high need/high cost will have an Interdisciplinary Care Team that is based on the member's needs. The ICT may consist of the member and family, the IHH Case Manager, peer/family supports, or physical and behavioral health providers. The Interdisciplinary Care Team is supported by HCIC's Care Manager and Population Care Lead. The ICT will provide more intensive oversight and coordination for the period of time when the member's need or risk is greatest.

#### The INTEGRATED Care Management Plan

The HCIC Integrated Care Manager will develop and implement an Integrated Care Management Plan (ICMP) for each TXIX member who has SMI in the Top Tier. The Care Management Plan will be consistent with the Individual Recovery Plan (IRP)/Individual Service Plan (ISP), but does not take the place of it. The Care Management Plan incorporates the member's physical and behavioral health needs at a much higher level than the IRP/ISP, focusing on areas that have traditionally been overlooked or are high need. The Care Management Plan describes the clinical interventions and services recommended to the ART/CFT, based on an administrative review of the member's health risk assessment, identified needs, claims, IRP/ISP, diagnoses, predictive modeling and best practices done on a quarterly basis. The content of the member's Care Management Plan will be documented and maintained using EXL Landa's CareRadius TM suite of care management software products which will be available to the 24 hour Crisis System and Nurse Advice Line, and will be shared with the IHH team.

The Integrated Care Management Plan includes:

- Clinical interventions recommended to the treatment team
- Strategies for successful transitions between levels of care/facilities/providers, discharge planning and coordination of care gaps
- Delineation of responsibilities for involved providers across systems for monitoring referrals and follow-up specialty care
- A schedule for routine health care services, medication monitoring, prevention, EPSDT, disease management and health promotion activities

#### CARE COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION

HCIC coordinates care for all populations as per the Scope of Work Section 5.1 so that members achieve their recovery goals described in their IRP/ISP. HCIC will ensure that coordination of care occurs at both the system level and at the provider level depending on the

member's need, goals and functional status. Care coordination is provided by HCIC care managers and clinical staff based on inter-agency collaboration with stakeholders, such as other AHCCCS Contractors and primary care physicians, DDD, tribal nations, justice and law enforcement, peer and family run organizations, DCS and other child-serving organizations. Care coordination and collaboration ensure:

- Early identification of health risk factors and special care needs
- Monitoring of the individual's health status and implementation/revision of the IRP/ISP, including periodic re-assessment and revisions to the IRP/ISP consistent with member needs
- Accurate and timely transmission of health care information, progress, services, lab reports, medications and member needs
- Communication between providers, family members and stakeholders so that services are delivered timely and meet the member's needs, especially in resolving complex, difficult care situations
- Participation in transitions to other RBHAs/ Health Plans, and in discharge planning from hospitals, jails or other institutions to ensure timely services post-discharge, member engagement and avoidance of gaps in care
- Referral management for providers, services and community resources
- Outreach and engagement of members who would benefit from services

For example, care coordination will be provided in a manner that recognizes the importance of Tribal Sovereignty and Nation Building, and will meet the needs of tribal members through the development of individualized tribal agreements. HCIC will also work to coordinate member access to Medicaid and state funded services as permitted during the pre-trial and post-release from jail or prison and during parole as per HCIC Memoranda of Understanding, agreements and protocols for jails and prisons. This will include coordination of care with forensic peer support programs and peer and family run organizations.

HCIC will provide coordination of care to children with developmental disabilities through strong collaboration with DDD and specifically via the HCIC Community Collaborative Care Team (CCCT). The purpose of the CCCT is to facilitate communication, collaboration, coordination of services and fiscal management in order to reach consensus and active decision making for the most complex DDD members.

How first year target was achieved (*optional*):

Priority #: 5  
 Priority Area: Suicide Rate  
 Priority Type: MHS  
 Population(s): Other (Entire population)

Goal of the priority area:

Original goal achieved.

New Goal. Reduce the Arizona Suicide Rate to 14% per 100,000 by calendar year ending 2016.

Strategies to attain the goal:

The Arizona Department of Health Services/Division of Behavioral Health will research and implement strategies to reduce the suicide rate. Strategies will include but are not limited to: social media messaging, social market/public awareness, youth leadership programs, gatekeeper trainings, improved data surveillance, and ongoing collaboration with stakeholders or systemic improvement.

Annual Performance Indicators to measure goal success

Indicator #: 1  
 Indicator: Annual Performance Indicators to measure success on a yearly basis.  
 Baseline Measurement: The suicide rate in Arizona for CY14 was 16.2 per 100,000 population.  
 First-year target/outcome measurement: First-year target/outcome measurement (Progress to end of SFY 2016), 15.2 per 100,000  
 Second-year target/outcome measurement: Second-year target/outcome measurement (Final to end of SFY 2017), 14.2 per 100,000  
 New Second-year target/outcome measurement (*if needed*):

Data Source:

Arizona Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health and Statistics (ADHS/PHS)

New Data Source (*if needed*):

Description of Data:

Each fall, the Arizona Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health and Statistics (ADHS/PHS) calculates the State's suicide rate by determining the number of death certificates of Arizona residents where "Suicide" was indicated by a medical examiner as the cause of death during the second most recent complete calendar year (i.e. CY 2016 data will be made available in fall 2017). This number is then aggregated across the general population to establish a suicide rate per 100,000 persons.

New Description of Data: *(if needed)*

Data issues/caveats that affect outcome measures:

No data related issues identified.

New Data issues/caveats that affect outcome measures:

## Report of Progress Toward Goal Attainment

First Year Target:  Achieved  Not Achieved *(if not achieved, explain why)*

Reason why target was not achieved, and changes proposed to meet target:

The Arizona Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health and Statistics (ADHS/PHS) has not yet released information on Statewide suicide rates for 2015. The most recent information available through ADHS/PHS and the CDC is CY2014. It is unknown when ADHS/PHS will release their CY2015 report. According to information reported to the statewide suicide prevention coordinator at AHCCCS, the number of deaths by suicide in 2015 was 1,340.

How first year target was achieved *(optional)*:

The State's 2017 End to Suicide in Arizona State Plan" is attached and outlines the state's plan to reduce deaths by suicide. The six targeted populations for suicide prevention in Arizona:

Veterans

Those age 65 and older

Native Americans

First Responders

Medical Examiners (for educational purposes)

Vendors of Firearms (for educational purposes)

Priority #: 6  
Priority Area: IV Drug Users  
Priority Type: SAT  
Population(s): IVDUs, Other (Entire Substance Abuse Population)

Goal of the priority area:

Increase the availability and service utilization of Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) options for individuals with a substance use disorder. The Arizona Department of Health Services/Division of Behavioral Health Services (ADHS/DBHS) will focus on reaching out to the IV drug use population.

Note- goal is in progress. Arizona has worked to improve MAT access and availability through provider network monitoring to assess needs, expanding lists of approved MAT medications, and increasing convenience of locations and hours. Providers and their prescribers receive training on the availability and use of MAT services, as well as education on MAT medications. Additionally, there is now Methadone and Suboxone Directories available for Maricopa County to assist in making appropriate referrals.

Strategies to attain the goal:

The ADHS/DBHS will further rollout the expanded MAT services available to those with a substance use diagnosis through additional advertising within the community.

The ADHS/DBHS and Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RBHAs) will provide education for healthcare practitioners on best practices and availability of MAT services.

The ADHS/DBHS will compile a listing of various MATs available throughout the State to assist clients in locating appropriate services.

Annual Performance Indicators to measure goal success

Indicator #: 1

Indicator: Annual performance measurement for outcomes.  
Baseline Measurement: 2014 measurement of individuals who are IVDU who received MAT services.  
First-year target/outcome measurement: First-year target/outcome measurement (Progress to end of SFY 2016), 51%  
Second-year target/outcome measurement: Second-year target/outcome measurement (Final to end of SFY 2017), 53%  
New Second-year target/outcome measurement(*if needed*):

Data Source:

Client Information System (CIS) data.

New Data Source(*if needed*):

Description of Data:

CIS report on the number of injecting clients with a SUD receiving MAT services out of number of injecting clients

New Description of Data: (*if needed*)

Data issues/caveats that affect outcome measures:

No data related issues anticipated.

New Data issues/caveats that affect outcome measures:

## Report of Progress Toward Goal Attainment

First Year Target:  Achieved  Not Achieved (*if not achieved, explain why*)

Reason why target was not achieved, and changes proposed to meet target:

Arizona has worked to improve access to MAT and all three RBHAs continue to monitor adequate access to MAT services. Arizona requires all SUD providers to receive training on available MAT for Opioid Use Disorders. Each RBHA is monitoring and addressing barriers to accessing MAT and working with the State on strategies to increase access to MAT. RBHAs have focused efforts on increasing access to MAT in rural areas through utilization of telemedicine medication reviews. Arizona continues to monitor utilization and network capacity to identify areas for expansion and improvement.

How first year target was achieved (*optional*):

Priority #: 7

Priority Area: Pregnant women and women with dependent children.

Priority Type: SAP, SAT

Population(s): PWWDC

Goal of the priority area:

Ensure that women have easy access to SAPT services.

Note- Goal is in progress. Strategies utilized by RBHAs and providers for collaborations include the following: creating a protocol for pregnant females using drugs intravenously in order to ensure MAT medications are appropriately prescribed for this population; collaboration with Arizona's Family First Program which provides substance use treatment services to parents who have involvement with DCS due to abuse of substances; and collaboration through the Women's Services Network who are currently developing tools for outreach to women in the community. In addition to statewide use of updated SABG posters, a Women's Services Directory was developed this last year that lists all treatment providers with treatment services and programs that are gender specific to women, and the Women's Treatment Group is developing a pamphlet and short video summarizing women's services that will be displayed for incarcerated women in jails, hospitals, and domestic violence shelters. Monitoring of the number of women in substance abuse treatment (particularly those on the waitlist), encounter values is being conducted statewide.

Strategies to attain the goal:

The Arizona Department of Health Services/Division of Behavioral Health Services (ADHS/DBHS) and the Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RBHAs) will collaborate on ways to expand public awareness campaigns directed towards the priority populations.

The RBHAs and the ADHS/DBHS staff will regularly monitor treatment waitlists to ensure access to care.

The ADHS/DBHS will review encounter codes to ensure that pregnant women and women with children receive the full array of covered services.

The ADHS/DBHS and RBHAs will monitor the utilization of services for this priority population.

### Annual Performance Indicators to measure goal success

Indicator #: 1  
Indicator: Annual Performance Indicators to measure success on a yearly basis.  
Baseline Measurement: Number of pregnant and parenting women with dependent children within the system receiving SA treatment in 2015.  
First-year target/outcome measurement: Increase the FY 15 enrollment by 3%  
Second-year target/outcome measurement: Increase the FY 16 enrollment by 2%  
New Second-year target/outcome measurement (if needed):

Data Source:

Client Information System (CIS) data

New Data Source (if needed):

Description of Data:

CIS enrollment data on number of pregnant and parenting women with dependent children receiving SA treatment. This data base is capable of stratifying data by gender, diagnosis, service received, number of children, pregnancy, etc..

New Description of Data: (if needed)

Data issues/caveats that affect outcome measures:

No data related issues anticipated.

New Data issues/caveats that affect outcome measures:

### Report of Progress Toward Goal Attainment

First Year Target:  Achieved  Not Achieved (if not achieved, explain why)

Reason why target was not achieved, and changes proposed to meet target:

How first year target was achieved (optional):

Below are activities focused on pregnant and parenting women the RBHAs have reported. Additionally the State works with the RBHAs and other stakeholders to support services for pregnant and parenting women. The State collects from the RBHAs information on what providers have services for PPW, including providers with gender specific services available.

Cenpatico Strategies and Updates:

- Cenpatico has updated the SABG posters for 2016 and has targeted marketing toward women and women with dependent children. All updated posters have been provided to SABG providers, and audits have been ongoing to ensure posters are posted at each clinic site.
- Cenpatico has collaborated with two Pima County providers to expand gender-specific treatment services to women, pregnant women and/or women with dependent children. One provider has recently established a collaborative relationship with Tucson Medical Center (hospital) to provide immediate SUD services for women and their infants, including MAT services. This initiative with both providers has resulted in a reduction of children removed by the Department of Child Safety, as providers are able to offer a full continuum of care, including BHRF, IOP, outpatient and transitional housing, for mother and her children.

AHCCCS and Mercy Maricopa will collaborate on ways to expand public awareness campaigns directed towards the priority populations.

- AHCCCS and Mercy Maricopa staff will regularly monitor treatment waitlists to ensure access to care. ALL SABG Residential Providers were trained on the electronic submission of the AHCCCS Waitlist Report and have implemented this process.
- AHCCCS and Mercy Maricopa will monitor the utilization of services for this priority population.

- Mercy Maricopa Integrated Care provided MAT Training for all GMH/SA providers in order to improve knowledge of this valuable service and strengthen partnerships resulting in better care for these members and increase referral and use of this service.
- Mercy Maricopa Integrated Care network providers are providing preventative care and coordinating care with the PCP and OBGYN as interim services in order to improve whole health and address risk factors associated with this population.
- Mercy Maricopa Integrated Care provided training to GMH/SA providers on the Opioid Epidemic in Arizona presented by ADHS Assistant Director, providing statistics and data and invite involvement in meeting the goals set by the State of Arizona to address this area.
- Mercy Maricopa Integrated Care continues to foster partnerships with MAT providers and the justice system to identify this 'at risk' population to engage them into MAT services prior to release and/or as being released.

Priority #: 8  
 Priority Area: Underage Drinking  
 Priority Type: SAP  
 Population(s): Other (Criminal/Juvenile Justice, Youth under the age of 21.)

Goal of the priority area:

Note- original goal was achieved.  
 New goal- Increase the percentage of youth who perceive 5 or more drinks of alcohol per day harmful to 2%, as measured by the Arizona Youth Survey

Strategies to attain the goal:

Conduct youth driven media campaigns to promote positive youth values and community pride. Campaigns will include: youth developed social messaging (radio; PSA poster contests; billboards; murals and alcohol free pledges.

- Collect samples of youth written letters to the editor with anti-alcohol messages.
- Host a statewide youth UAD prevention media display and recognition event.
- Verify that all prevention programs incorporate education on perception of harm into their prevention programs.

Implement afterschool and leadership programs for youth.

- Implement alcohol prevention focused peer leadership programs such as: SAD, YES, Sources of Strength, University leadership organizations.
- Host annual statewide and regional conferences/retreats/youth camps.
- Develop a statewide venue for recognition of youth UAD prevention projects and other successes.

Implement an adult targeted media campaign to educate parents about risks.

- Community media campaign/Draw the Line (DTL)/Hasta Aqui Implementation.
- Collect data on Inclusion of DTL.
- Identify programs needed to increase incorporation of DTL in their parenting program.
- Meet with Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RBHAs) Prevention Administrators to determine a means for inclusion of DTL in their programs.
- Distribution of DTL materials to RBHAs during alcohol awareness month.

Annual Performance Indicators to measure goal success

Indicator #: 1  
 Indicator: Annual Performance Indicators to measure success on a yearly basis.  
 Baseline Measurement: 2014 data reflects 78.9% of youths perceive having five or more alcoholic beverages in a row once or twice a week is of great risk.  
 First-year target/outcome measurement: 2% increase from baseline per post tests administered at the end of the year. 80.9 -2015 Arizona Youth Survey  
 Second-year target/outcome measurement: 2% increase from baseline per post tests administered at the end of the year. 82.9%- 2016 Arizona Youth Survey  
 New Second-year target/outcome measurement(*if needed*):  
 Data Source:  
 Pre and post test  
 New Data Source(*if needed*):

Description of Data:

Data will be obtained from the Pre and Post Tests (Adolescent Core Measure) that is part of the Arizona Youth Survey

New Description of Data: *(if needed)*

Data issues/caveats that affect outcome measures:

Due to a change in AYS reporting, the indicator used in this report will need to change from the perception of 1 to 2 alcoholic drinks as harmful to the perception of 5 or more drinks in a row as harmful. As a result,

New Data issues/caveats that affect outcome measures:

## Report of Progress Toward Goal Attainment

First Year Target:  Achieved  Not Achieved *(if not achieved, explain why)*

Reason why target was not achieved, and changes proposed to meet target:

The Arizona Youth Survey (AYS) is published every two years, typically in the fall. The 2016 AYS report has not yet been released and the data needed to update this indicator is not available. Below is the response from the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission, the state entity that administers the survey:

"Hi Lesley,

Thank you so much for reaching out to us. At this time, we are slated to release the AYS reports in the month of December. We are unable to process 2016 data requests until the full release has occurred, and all schools have received their reports. As a result, we will not be able to process this request by November 30th.

I'm happy to keep you posted on the release of these data, and will add your request to the queue for processing once the release has occurred. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Best,

Carlena A. Orosco, M.A.  
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How first year target was achieved *(optional)*:

The Southern Arizona RBHA maintained contracts with the following coalitions to address underage drinking and perception of harm: Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) established the Youth Empowerment and LGBTQ Leadership (Y.E.L.L.) coalition and facilitates Botvins Life Skills in 4 Tucson school and is developing a youth leadership component targeting LGBTQ youth and young adults 15 – 24 years of age. Social media is used to promote youth developed messages. Also, The RISPNET Coalition, funded through La Frontera, targets refugee and immigrant youth and families. Vetted mentors facilitate Botvins Life Skills in schools with high concentration of refugee students and the Botvins parent component is facilitated with parents to support parents talking to their children. Native American Advancement Foundation Healthy People Coalition in the GuVo Village on the Tohono O'odham Nation has established an afterschool program facilitating the Too Good for Drugs life skills program and providing evening family activities to promote alcohol perception of harm.

Maricopa AkChin CAASA established the "Be Awesome" Maricopa coalition. The SADD club develops media messaging, participates in community events and activities to increase the perception of harm of alcohol and for parents to talk to their children. The IMPACT Sierra Vista coalition, funded through Southeastern Arizona Behavioral Health Services (SEABHS), has an established SADD club that engages in community activities and develops messaging for youth and parents. Douglas Community Coalition has an established SADD youth leadership group that designs media messages and is involved in promoting alcohol perception of harm within the community and for parents to talk to their children. Ajo Community Coalition and Yuma YMCA are also establishing SADD youth leadership groups that will promote alcohol perception of harm and design related media messages and parents talking to their children.

In Maricopa County the RBHA's strategic plan includes multi-mode media campaigns with messages targeting youth, aimed at changing norms and attitudes about substance use. Several coalitions developed enhanced materials and/or expanded their reach to include multiple substances. These campaigns target decreasing adult attitudes that enable underage drinking, marijuana use, and prescription drug misuse and abuse. There are also campaigns targeting increasing youth perceived harms of underage drinking, marijuana use, and prescription drug misuse and abuse. Coalitions engaged youth in developing messages and materials. A total of 4,502,485 individuals were reached through public information and social marketing strategies throughout FY16.

- Social Media (Facebook, websites, Twitter, online banners, Youtube, etc.)
- Video and radio Public Service Announcements aired via movie theater, local public access TV, and radio advertisements (i.e. Pandora, local radio and/or TV)
- Billboards
- Print materials (door hangers, bookmarks, postcards, magnets, flyers, stickers placed on liquor coolers or store windows in establishments selling alcohol, posters, shopping cart ads, table tents, brochures)
- Health fairs
- Magazines
- Newspapers (including press releases)
- Alcohol-free pledges

Additionally in Maricopa County youth created press releases and articles, specifically regarding successes/outcomes of educating about Party Patrol and Sticker Shock campaigns. Coalitions held Town Halls, marketing campaign launch events, youth and/or adult recognition events to raise awareness of UAD, and media representatives were invited and/or participated in some events. Media was also part of all coalitions and recognized throughout the year for their part in promotion and raising awareness.

The Tempe Coalition (City of Tempe), WOW Coalition (DrugFreeAZKids.org), Chandler Coalition on Youth Substance Use (ICAN), Scottsdale Neighborhoods in Action (Scottsdale Prevention Institute), South Mountain WORKS Coalition (Southwest Behavioral & Health Services), COPE Coalition (TERROS), CARE Coalition (Touchstone Behavioral Health), the HEAAL Coalition (Tanner Community Development Corporation), UICAZ (Phoenix Indian Center) and the NOPAL Coalition (Valle del Sol) all included youth leadership programs addressing alcohol prevention in their comprehensive strategic plans and coalitions. Many of the youth leadership programs are associated with schools, but also local churches and other local community organizations. Coalitions also have formalized youth councils or subcommittees of their coalitions which meet regularly at the community level. All of these peer leadership and coalition groups focus on empowering youth to become agents of community level change, and youth receive leadership training and specific training to engage in activities such as shoulder taping, sticker shock, etc.

In Northern Arizona the RBHA and providers have conducted youth driven media campaigns to promote positive youth values and community pride. Additionally they have developed a project in Mohave County, including the Hualapai Tribe, to implement a "Not In My Home / Not In My House" project to spread awareness of the extent of harm for early use of alcohol

Priority #: 9  
Priority Area: TB Screenings  
Priority Type: SAT  
Population(s): TB

Goal of the priority area:

Increase the number of clients entering substance abuse treatment who are screened for tuberculosis to 18% by CYE 2017.

Note- Goal is in progress. The Arizona Department of Health Services/Division of Behavioral Health Services did not achieve its goal to increasing each year by 5%.

Strategies to attain the goal:

Focus on developing mechanisms to document and verify TB screening of those entering substance abuse treatment were implemented this last year. Strategies providers are and will continue to implement include: integrating education on TB (along with other communicable diseases) into client orientations, providing educational materials on TB to clients, providing clients with referral handouts for TB and HIV testing at specified locations, as well as including elements to capture TB screening documentation in contractors' audit tools.

In addition, the Arizona Department of Health Services/ Division of Behavioral Health Services (ADHS/DBHS) to provide guidance to the Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RBHAs) regarding accurate documentation on screening and referrals for TB services.

Annual Performance Indicators to measure goal success

Indicator #: -1  
Indicator: Annual Performance Indicators to measure success on a yearly basis.

Baseline Measurement: FY14 data on the number of patients receiving substance abuse treatment with documentation of TB services documented in their chart. Current baseline will be 14.6

First-year target/outcome measurement: First-year target/outcome measurement (Progress to end of SFY 2016), Increase FY15 data by 2%

Second-year target/outcome measurement: Second-year target/outcome measurement (Final to end of SFY 2017), Increase FY 16 data by 2%

New Second-year target/outcome measurement (*if needed*):

Data Source:

Independent Case Review

New Data Source (*if needed*):

Description of Data:

A random sample of charts will be pulled and scored based on pre-determined elements that include documentation evidencing screenings and referrals for further TB services.

New Description of Data: (*if needed*)

Data issues/caveats that affect outcome measures:

No data related issues anticipated.

New Data issues/caveats that affect outcome measures:

## Report of Progress Toward Goal Attainment

First Year Target:  Achieved  Not Achieved (*if not achieved, explain why*)

Reason why target was not achieved, and changes proposed to meet target:

Based on the 2015 Independent Case Review (ICR), the percent of clients entering substance abuse treatment who are screened for tuberculosis increased from 24.0% in FY14 to 30.8% in FY15.

How first year target was achieved (*optional*):

Footnotes:

# An End to Suicide in Arizona

## 2017 State Plan

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

According to officials at the World Health Organization (WHO), more than 800,000 people die by suicide annually; many more make an attempt. Suicide was the second leading cause of death among 15-29 year olds globally in 2012. It is a global phenomenon in all regions of the world and accounted for 1.4% of all deaths worldwide, making it the 15th leading cause of death in 2012.

In Arizona, the latest data shows some 1320 Arizonans died by suicide in 2015.

From 2009-2013, Arizona had more than 5,500 suicides, 2,000 homicides, and another almost 900 undetermined deaths. Many of those undetermined deaths were ruled unintentional poisonings; 750 Arizonans died by taking too much of one medication in 2012.

Suicide is not just a behavioral health concern. Suicide may be linked to depression and other mental illnesses, but the majority of those who have a behavioral health illness do not commit suicide. Suicide touches every family and community in Arizona, regardless of diagnoses, zip codes, ethnicities, or faith.

Suicide is the second leading cause of “years of potential life lost” in our state for American Indians, at 8.7%. Also of grave concern are suicides among our increasing populations of retirees and veterans. The 2015 state plan is a guideline for activities to prevent suicide in Arizona. This plan has been created with guidance and using the framework from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA) and the National Action Alliance’s plan for Zero Suicide. Special thanks to the authors of the Texas State Plan for Suicide Prevention 2014. Its comprehensive plan served as the framework to create a similar strategy for Arizona.

### HISTORY

The 2017 *End to Suicide in Arizona State Plan* follows the changes incorporated in the recommendations from the 2012 National Strategy for Suicide Prevention: Goals and Objectives for Action, a joint report from the U.S. Surgeon General and the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention: [http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/national-strategy-suicide-prevention/full\\_report-rev.pdf](http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/national-strategy-suicide-prevention/full_report-rev.pdf)

Also of note, on July 1, 2016, all behavioral health services in the state of Arizona were transferred from the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) to the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (the state Medicaid agency.) Suicide prevention is now managed by AHCCCS staff.

### 2017 STATE PLAN

The 2017 *End to Suicide in Arizona State Plan* provides recommendations including strategic directions, objectives and strategies specific to our state. The four strategic directions are the

same as those given in the National Strategy with the goals, objectives, and strategies closely following the national plan. The statewide strategies identified in the plan are those that can be directly supported by the Arizona Suicide Prevention Coalition and AHCCCS.

The 2015 Arizona state plan was based on the same model; the 2017 goals and objectives have been modified slightly to meet more current issues, as decided by suicide data. AHCCCS leadership conducted extensive community outreach for the 2015 plan; this plan is an extension of that work, along with many additional conversations with stakeholders.

Also, AHCCCS is outreaching Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act for suicide prevention. This federal funding to campuses can fund education and outreach activities related to mental health and substance abuse prevention, while funding to states and tribes can develop and implement youth suicide prevention and early intervention strategies. This federal suicide funding can be used toward government, university, and tribal projects. Previous recipients include:

- Arizona Department of Health Services
- Arizona State University
- Gila River Health Care Corporation
- Havasupai Tribal Government Office
- Native Americans for Community Action, Inc.
- Navajo Nation Dept. of Behavioral Health Services
- Tohono O'odham Nation
- University of Arizona
- White Mountain Apache/Johns Hopkins University

The following Arizona grantees have active funding:

The White Mountain Apache/Johns Hopkins collaborative:

[http://www.sprc.org/grantees/listing?title=&field\\_grant\\_type\\_value\\_many\\_to\\_one=All&field\\_program\\_status\\_value\\_many\\_to\\_one=All&province=Arizona](http://www.sprc.org/grantees/listing?title=&field_grant_type_value_many_to_one=All&field_program_status_value_many_to_one=All&province=Arizona)

Native Americans for Community Action, Inc.,: <http://www.sprc.org/grantees/native-americans-community-action-inc-5>

AHCCCS leadership will also be assessing other community resources for partnership, especially in rural communities. When appropriate, faith organizations and libraries may be excellent partners to disseminate suicide prevention education materials and hold trainings.

This plan was submitted to the Arizona Coalition for Suicide Prevention and other community partners for final review. As such, this plan is presented in collaboration with the Coalition, on behalf of the citizens of Arizona.

Together, our mission is to improve the health and wellbeing of all Arizonans by eliminating suicide.

### **KEY COMPONENTS**

Suicide prevention should be community-based; the effort to reduce stigma associated with suicide, and/or asking for help to address mental illness needs to be communal. Key mental health and suicide prevention terms used in this document follow definitions in the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention:

[http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/national-strategy-suicide-prevention/full\\_report-rev.pdf](http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/national-strategy-suicide-prevention/full_report-rev.pdf)

**STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS:**

1. Healthy individuals and communities
2. Ready access to prevention resources for clinicians and communities
3. Treatment and support services available to clinicians, communities, survivors
4. Continued evaluation and monitoring of prevention programming

A 2017 calendar is included in the index with a preliminary list of activities related to the following goals, objectives, and immediate points of action. As the year progresses, updates will be available on the AHCCCS blog.

**GOALS:**

1. Reduce the number of suicides in Arizona to zero through coordinated prevention activities
2. Develop broad-base support for the Zero Suicide model
3. Reduce stigma related to suicide
4. Promote responsible media reporting of suicide
5. Promote efforts to reduce access to lethal means of suicide among those with identified suicide risk
6. Provide training to schools, community, clinical, and behavioral health service providers on the prevention of suicide and related behaviors
7. Promote suicide prevention as a core component of health care services
8. Promote suicide prevention best practices among Arizona's largest health care providers for patients and staff
9. Provide care and support to individuals affected by suicide deaths or suicide attempts and implement community best practice-based post-vention strategies to help prevent further suicides
10. Increase the timeliness and usefulness of national, state, tribal, and local surveillance systems relevant to suicide prevention and improve the ability to collect, analyze, and use this information for action
11. Improve timeliness of data collection and analysis regarding suicide deaths
12. Evaluate the impact and effectiveness of suicide prevention interventions and systems, and synthesize and disseminate findings
13. Coordinate statewide calendar of suicide prevention activities, fostering a collaborative community of support

**GOAL 1.** Reduce the number of suicides in Arizona to zero through coordinated prevention activities

**OBJECTIVE 1.1:** Integrate zero suicide prevention into the core values, culture, leadership, conversation and work of a broad range of organizations and programs with a role to support suicide prevention activities.

STRATEGY 1.1.1: Implement programs and policies to build social connectedness and promote positive mental and emotional health.

STRATEGY 1.1.2: Implement organizational changes to promote mental and emotional health in the workforce.

STRATEGY 1.1.3: Increase the number of local, state, tribal, professional, and faith-based groups that integrate suicide prevention activities into their programs.

**OBJECTIVE 1.2:** Establish effective, sustainable, and collaborative suicide prevention programming at the state, county, tribal, and local levels.

STRATEGY 1.2.1: AHCCCS, in collaboration with the Arizona Coalition for Suicide Prevention, will coordinate and convene public and private stakeholders, assess needs and resources, and update and implement a comprehensive strategic state suicide prevention plan annually.

STRATEGY 1.2.2: Through the support of the AHCCCS, in collaboration with the Arizona Coalition for Suicide Prevention, county health departments and representatives from each RBHA will participate in local coalitions of stakeholders to promote and implement comprehensive suicide prevention efforts at the community level.

STRATEGY 1.2.3: AHCCCS will support the annual conference organized by the Arizona Coalition for Suicide Prevention.

**OBJECTIVE 1.3:** Sustain and strengthen collaborations across agencies and organizations to advance suicide prevention.

STRATEGY 1.3.1: Strengthen partnerships with agencies that serve individuals at higher risk of suicide, such as military, veterans, substance abuse, foster care, juvenile justice, youth, elderly, American Indian, middle-aged white males, mental health consumers, suicide attempt survivors, those bereaved by suicide, GLBTQ2S (gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender/questioning/two-spirited people), and other higher risk groups.

STRATEGY 1.3.2: Educate local, state, professional, volunteer and faith-based organizations about the importance of integrating suicide prevention activities into their programs, and distribute specific suggestions and examples of integration.

STRATEGY 1.3.3: Collaborate with AHCCCS' injury and violence prevention committee

**OBJECTIVE 1.4:** Integrate Zero Suicide into all relevant health care policy efforts.

STRATEGY 1.4.1: Encourage businesses and employers to ensure that mental health services are included as a benefit in health plans and encourage employees to use these services as needed.

**AHCCCS 2017 actions:** AHCCCS will organize regional meetings of suicide prevention stakeholders to discuss the Zero Suicide model and successful prevention activities. This will include coordination of Zero Suicide prevention plans by the regional behavioral health authorities, veteran groups, 22 American Indian tribes in Arizona, state universities, hospital systems, faith organizations, and major employers. AHCCCS will work with each of these entities to create and manage such plans.

**GOAL 2.** Develop broad-base support for the Zero Suicide model.

**OBJECTIVE 2.1:** Develop, implement, and evaluate communication efforts designed to reach defined segments of the population.

STRATEGY 2.1.1: Develop and implement an effective communications strategy for defined higher risk audiences and school personnel promoting suicide prevention, mental health, and emotional well-being, incorporating traditional and new media.

**OBJECTIVE 2.2:** Reach policymakers with dedicated communication efforts.

STRATEGY 2.2.1: Increase policymakers' understanding of suicide, its impact on constituents and stakeholders, and effective suicide prevention efforts.

**OBJECTIVE 2.3:** Increase communication efforts in mass and social media that promote positive messages and support safe crisis intervention strategies.

STRATEGY 2.3.1: Incorporate emerging technologies in suicide prevention programs and communication strategies, using best practices guidelines, and link to Teen LifeLine.

STRATEGY 2.3.2: Incorporate positive messages and safe crisis intervention information in suicide prevention communication programs.

**OBJECTIVE 2.4:** Increase knowledge of risk factors and warning signs for suicide and how to connect individuals in crisis with assistance and care.

STRATEGY 2.4.1: Increase public awareness of the role of the national and local crisis lines in providing services and support to individuals in crisis.

STRATEGY 2.4.2: Increase the use of new and emerging technologies such as tele-health, chat, text services, websites, mobile applications, AHCCCS social media, and online support groups for suicide prevention communications.

**AHCCCS 2017 actions:** AHCCCS will report on state Zero Suicide prevention efforts using AHCCCS website and will report activities from partners statewide.

**GOAL 3.** Reduce stigma related to suicide

**OBJECTIVE 3.1:** Promote effective programs and practices that increase protection from suicide risk. STRATEGY 3.1.1: Provide opportunities for social participation and inclusion for those who may be isolated or at risk.

STRATEGY 3.1.2: Implement programs and policies to prevent abuse, bullying, violence, and social marginalization or exclusion.

STRATEGY 3.1.3: Encourage individuals and families to build strong, positive relationships with family and friends.

STRATEGY 3.1.4: Encourage individuals and families to become involved in their community's volunteer efforts (e.g. mentor or tutor youth, join a faith or spiritual community, reach out to older adults in the community.)

**OBJECTIVE 3.2:** Reduce prejudice, discrimination or stigma associated with suicidal behaviors, and mental health and substance use disorders.

STRATEGY 3.2.1: Promote mental health, increase understanding of mental and substance abuse disorders and eliminate barriers to accessing help through broad communications, public education, and public policy efforts.

STRATEGY 3.2.2: Increase funding and access to mental health services in an effort to reduce suicide attempts, hospitalizations, or incarcerations due to mental health related behaviors.

**OBJECTIVE 3.3:** Promote understanding that recovery from mental health illness and substance use disorders is possible for all.

STRATEGY 3.3.1: Communicate messages of resilience, hope, and recovery to communities, patients, clients, and their families with mental health and substance use disorders.

<http://suicidepreventionmessaging.actionallianceforsuicideprevention.org/>

**AHCCCS 2017 actions:** AHCCCS will coordinate suicide stigma reduction activities during the month of September—suicide prevention month. AHCCCS will also reach out to media to discuss suicide in our community and share effective prevention mechanisms. AHCCCS staff will be counseled in using the word “suicide” in lieu of softer language. AHCCCS will also work with the Spanish-speaking population for the creation of Spanish support groups for survivors and loss survivors.

#### **GOAL 4.** Promote responsible media reporting of suicide

**OBJECTIVE 4.1:** Encourage and recognize news and online organizations that develop and implement policies and practices addressing the safe and responsible reporting of suicide and other related behaviors.

STRATEGY 4.1.1: Disseminate *Recommendations for Reporting on Suicide* to news and online organizations. <http://reportingonsuicide.org>

STRATEGY 4.1.2: Encourage communication and feedback to news and online organizations in response to stories related to suicide, noting when they are appropriate and/or inappropriate, utilizing a variety of communications such as letters to the editor, op-eds, articles, online article comments, personal contacts, and phone calls.

STRATEGY 4.1.3: Develop a sample response template for recommendations to media and a procedure for dissemination of the recommendations.

STRATEGY 4.1.4: Recognize selected members of the news media industry who follow safe messaging guidelines at suicide prevention symposiums and regional meetings/summits.

**OBJECTIVE 4.2:** Encourage and recognize members of the entertainment industry who follow recommendations regarding the appropriate representation of suicide and other related behaviors. STRATEGY 4.2.1: Develop a sample response template for recommendations to the entertainment industry and a procedure for dissemination of the recommendations.

**OBJECTIVE 4.3:** Promote and disseminate national guidelines on the safety of online content for new and emerging communication technologies and applications.

STRATEGY 4.3.1: Encourage statewide groups, local coalitions, and gatekeepers to monitor and respond to the safety of online content and encourage the use of national guidelines on safe messaging and suicide prevention.

**OBJECTIVE 4.4:** Disseminate national guidelines for journalism and mass communication schools regarding how to address consistent and safe messaging on suicide and related behaviors in their curricula.

STRATEGY 4.4.1: Develop a distribution list of journalism and mass communications schools in Arizona and disseminate the national guidelines.

**AHCCCS 2017 actions:** AHCCCS will develop stronger relationships with local and national media to discuss suicide prevention efforts in an appropriate way. AHCCCS will also foster these relationships to ensure suicide reporting is conducted effectively.

**GOAL 5.** Promote efforts to reduce access to lethal means of suicide among those with identified suicide risk

**OBJECTIVE 5.1:** Encourage providers who interact with individuals and groups at risk for suicide to routinely assess for access to lethal means.

STRATEGY 5.1.1: Sponsor trainings and disseminate information on means restriction to mental health and healthcare providers, professional associations, patients, and their families.

STRATEGY 5.1.2: Incorporate lethal means counseling into suicide risk assessment protocols and address means restriction in safety plans.

STRATEGY 5.1.3: Sponsor medication take-back days and ongoing methods for the disposal of unwanted medications (e.g. secure collection kiosks at police departments or pharmacies).

STRATEGY 5.1.4: Encourage individuals and families to dispose of unused medications, particularly those that are toxic or abuse-prone, and take additional measures (e.g. medication lock box) if a member of the household is at high risk for suicide.

STRATEGY 5.1.5: Educate clergy, parent groups, schools, juvenile justice personnel, rehabilitation centers, defense and divorce attorneys, healthcare providers, and others about the importance of promoting efforts to reduce access to lethal means among individuals at risk for suicide.

STRATEGY 5.1.6: Encourage all individuals and families to store household firearms locked and unloaded with ammunition locked separately.

STRATEGY 5.1.7: For households with a member at high risk for suicide, take additional measures such as recommendations in the Means Matter website

[hsph.harvard.edu/means-matter/](http://hsph.harvard.edu/means-matter/)

**OBJECTIVE 5.2:** Partner with firearm dealers, gun owners, concealed handgun trainers and law enforcement to incorporate suicide awareness as a basic tenet of firearm safety and responsible firearm ownership.

STRATEGY 5.2.1: Develop a list of potential firearm suicide safe advocacy groups in Arizona, such as gun retailers, shooting clubs and ranges, manufacturers, firearm retail insurers, concealed handgun instructors, law enforcement, farm and ranch associations, and veterans groups.

STRATEGY 5.2.2: Initiate partnerships with firearm advocacy groups (e.g. retailers, shooting clubs, manufacturers, firearm retail insurers, concealed handgun instructors, law enforcement, farm and ranch associations and veterans groups) to increase suicide prevention awareness.

STRATEGY 5.2.3: Develop and implement pilot community projects to promote gun safety and suicide safe homes, incorporating the National Action Alliance's Zero Suicide recommendations.

<http://zerosuicide.actionallianceforsuicideprevention.org>

**OBJECTIVE 5.3:** Encourage the implementation of safety technologies to reduce access to lethal means.

STRATEGY 5.3.1: Promote safety technologies to reduce access to lethal means (e.g. reducing carbon monoxide, restricting medication pack sizes, pill dispensing lockboxes, barriers to bridges.)

AHCCCS 2017 actions: AHCCCS will work with community partners to advertise medication take-back days and the dangers of prescription medications left unattended. Additionally, AHCCCS will work with firearm vendors and advocacy groups to provide suicide prevention materials and education. AHCCCS, along with community partners, will develop appropriate materials for distribution at firing ranges, gun clubs and places where guns are sold.

**GOAL 6.** Provide training to schools, community, clinical, and behavioral health service providers on the prevention of suicide and related behaviors

**OBJECTIVE 6.1:** Provide training to community groups in the prevention of suicide and related behaviors.

STRATEGY 6.1.1: AHCCCS will promote the use of best practice programs and the Zero Suicide model.

STRATEGY 6.1.2: AHCCCS will support the Arizona Coalition for Suicide Prevention and Teen Lifeline on their work with schools in Arizona concerning suicide prevention, including helping to provide technical assistance to interested school districts in the creation of suicide prevention plans. [store.samhsa.gov/product/Preventing-Suicide-A-Toolkit-for-High-Schools/SMA12-4669](http://store.samhsa.gov/product/Preventing-Suicide-A-Toolkit-for-High-Schools/SMA12-4669)

**OBJECTIVE 6.2:** Provide training to all health care providers, including mental health, substance abuse and behavioral health, on the recognition, assessment, and management of risk factors, warning signs, and the delivery of effective clinical care for people with suicide risk.

STRATEGY 6.2.1: Increase the capacity of health care providers to deliver suicide prevention services in a linguistically and culturally appropriate way.

STRATEGY 6.2.2: Increase the capacity of healthcare providers to deliver routine suicide prevention screening and services using best practice guidelines.

**OBJECTIVE 6.3:** Promote the adoption of core education and training guidelines on the prevention of suicide and related behaviors by all health professions, including graduate and continuing education. STRATEGY 6.3.1: Integrate core suicide prevention competencies into relevant curricula and continuing education programs (e.g. nursing, medicine, allied health, pharmacy, social work, education, counseling, therapists.)

**OBJECTIVE 6.4:** Promote the adoption of core education and training guidelines on the prevention of suicide and related behaviors by credentialing and accreditation bodies.

STRATEGY 6.4.1: Review current core requirements for credentialing and accreditation bodies and make recommendations regarding suicide prevention and intervention guidelines to their curricula. **OBJECTIVE 6.5:** Develop and implement protocols, programs, and policies for

clinicians and clinical supervisors, first responders, crisis staff, and others on how to implement effective strategies for communicating and collaboratively managing suicide risk.

STRATEGY 6.5.1: Add suicide risk-specific protocols to programs and policies for mental health clinicians, supervisors, first responders, and their support staff.

STRATEGY 6.5.2: Enhance effective communication and coordination among mental health clinicians, supervisors, first responders, their support staff, and others on responding to clients at imminent risk.

**AHCCCS 2017 actions:** AHCCCS will provide support to behavioral health providers concerning recognizing suicide behaviors in members and how to prevent suicide. AHCCCS will encourage behavioral health providers and integrated health providers to ask specific questions about depression and suicidal thoughts. AHCCCS will also ask behavioral health providers to ask their members who are veterans, to better coordinate services with veteran service organizations (including the VA.)

## **GOAL 7.** Promote suicide prevention as a core component of health care services

**OBJECTIVE 7.1:** Promote the adoption of Zero Suicide as an aspirational goal by health care and community support systems that provide services and support to defined patient populations.

STRATEGY 7.1.1: AHCCCS will develop a pilot program and Zero Suicide Toolkit on how to implement suicide safe care centers in communities.

STRATEGY 7.1.2: Promote [zerosuicide.com](http://zerosuicide.com) website in publications and communications about treatment and support services.

STRATEGY 7.1.3: Educate providers of health care and community support systems about adopting zero suicide as an aspirational goal, and promote the organizational readiness survey of the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention.

**OBJECTIVE 7.2:** Develop and implement protocols for delivering services for individuals with suicide risk in the most collaborative, responsive, and least restrictive settings.

**OBJECTIVE 7.3:** Promote timely access to assessment, intervention, and effective care for individuals with a heightened risk for suicide.

STRATEGY 7.3.1: Advocate for funding for prevention and postvention for clinical care to individuals affected by a suicide attempt or bereaved by suicide, including trauma treatment and care for complicated grief.

**OBJECTIVE 7.4:** Promote continuity of care and the safety and well-being of all patients treated for suicide risk in emergency departments or hospital inpatient units.

STRATEGY 7.4.1: Promote the use of safety planning and other best practices for emergency department care as highlighted in the Suicide Prevention Resource Center's Best Practices Registry [sprc.org/bpr](http://sprc.org/bpr)

**OBJECTIVE 7.5:** Encourage healthcare delivery systems to incorporate suicide prevention and appropriate responses to suicide attempts as indicators of continuous quality improvement efforts. **OBJECTIVE 7.6:** Establish linkages among providers of primary care, mental health and substance abuse services and community-based programs, including peer support programs.

STRATEGY 7.6.1: AHCCCS and the Arizona Coalition for Suicide Prevention will promote suicide prevention regional summits to enhance linkages among providers of primary care, mental health and substance abuse services and community-based programs, including peer support programs.

**OBJECTIVE 7.7:** Coordinate services among suicide prevention and intervention programs, health care systems, and accredited local crisis centers.

**OBJECTIVE 878:** Develop collaborations between emergency departments and other health care providers to provide safe alternatives to emergency department care and hospitalization when appropriate, and to promote rapid follow-up and ongoing care after discharge.

STRATEGY 7.8.1: Promote rapid enhanced programs for immediate care after discharge, such as caring letters, postcards, texts, and letters.

AHCCCS 2017 actions: AHCCCS will work with healthcare entities statewide to provide training for staff concerning suicide prevention among patients and staff. AHCCCS will also help to develop suicide prevention materials for healthcare settings and materials for loss survivors upon a suicide death. AHCCCS will encourage healthcare providers to have policies on the discharge of suicidal patients.

**GOAL 8.** Promote suicide prevention best practices among Arizona’s largest health care providers for patients and staff

**OBJECTIVE 8.1:** Promote national guidelines for the assessment of suicide risk among persons receiving care in all settings.

STRATEGY 8.1.1: Educate providers about best practice-based toolkits and ways to implement the national guidelines for the assessment of suicide risk among persons receiving care in all settings, which can be found on the Suicide Prevention Resource Center’s Best Practices Registry, [sprc.org/bpr](http://sprc.org/bpr)

**OBJECTIVE 8.2:** Disseminate and implement best practice-based guidelines for clinical practice and continuity of care for providers who treat persons with suicide risk, such as guidelines posted on the best practices registry at [sprc.org/bpr](http://sprc.org/bpr)

STRATEGY 8.2.1: Educate providers about the best practice-based national guidelines for clinical practice and continuity of care for providers who treat persons with suicide risk, which can be found on the Suicide Prevention Resource Center’s Best Practices Registry, [sprc.org/bpr](http://sprc.org/bpr)

**OBJECTIVE 8.3:** Promote the safe disclosure of suicidal thoughts and behaviors by all patients.

STRATEGY 8.3.1: The Arizona Coalition for Suicide Prevention will advocate to eliminate penalties for suicide attempts from insurance providers.

STRATEGY 8.3.2: AHCCCS and community partners will educate providers about safe and effective guidelines for conducting safe suicide risk assessments such as the Chronological Assessment of Suicide Events (CASE approach -[suicideassessment.com](http://suicideassessment.com)), Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale (CSSRS - [cssrs.columbia.edu/](http://cssrs.columbia.edu/)), Assessing and Managing Suicide Risk (AMSR - [sprc.org/training-institute/amr](http://sprc.org/training-institute/amr)), Collaborative Assessment and Management of Suicidality (CAMS - [psychology.cua.edu/faculty/jobes.cfm](http://psychology.cua.edu/faculty/jobes.cfm)), and other programs identified on the Suicide Prevention Resource Center’s best practice registry, <http://www.sprc.org/bpr>, beginning with local mental health authorities, by 2017.

**OBJECTIVE 8.4:** Adopt and implement guidelines to effectively engage families and concerned others, when appropriate, throughout entire episodes of care for persons with suicide risk.

STRATEGY 8.4.1: Engage families and those at risk of suicide about the importance of including families and concerned others in the safety planning process.

**OBJECTIVE 8.5:** Adopt and implement policies and procedures to assess suicide risk and intervene to promote safety and reduce suicidal behaviors among patients receiving care for mental health and/or substance use disorders.

STRATEGY 8.5.1: Promote best practice risk stratification systems and pathways of clinical care.

**OBJECTIVE 8.6:** Promote standardized protocols for use within emergency departments based on common clinical presentation to allow for more differentiated responses based on risk profiles and assessed clinical needs.

**OBJECTIVE 8.7:** Promote guidelines on the documentation of assessment and treatment of suicide risk and establish a training and technical assistance capacity to assist providers with implementation.

STRATEGY 8.7.1: Promote best practice-based recommendations such as those identified in suicide prevention and resources for primary care by the Suicide Prevention Resource Center ([sprc.org](http://sprc.org)) and SAMHSA ([samhsa.gov](http://samhsa.gov)) related to assessment and treatment of those identified with suicidal thoughts and behaviors. Example: Recognizing and Responding to Suicide Risk in Primary Care, [sprc.org/bpr/section-III/recognizing-and-responding-suicide-risk-primary-care-rrsr—pc](http://sprc.org/bpr/section-III/recognizing-and-responding-suicide-risk-primary-care-rrsr—pc).

**AHCCCS 2017 actions:** AHCCCS will reach out to Arizona's largest employers to determine what policies are currently in place for helping suicidal employees and help create an appropriate plan for referring employees for further care. We will also continue to support the use of SafeTalk and ASSIST, so all community members are aware of the warning signs of suicide and how to get help.

**GOAL 9.** Provide care and support to individuals affected by suicide deaths or suicide attempts and implement community best practice-based post-vention strategies to help prevent further suicides

**OBJECTIVE 9.1:** Promote guidelines for effective comprehensive support programs for individuals with lived experience, including those bereaved by suicide and survivors of suicide attempts, and promote the full implementation of these guidelines at the state, county, tribal, and community levels.

[actionallianceforsuicideprevention.org/sites/actionallianceforsuicideprevention.org/files/The-Way-Forward-Final-2014-07-01.pdf](http://actionallianceforsuicideprevention.org/sites/actionallianceforsuicideprevention.org/files/The-Way-Forward-Final-2014-07-01.pdf)

STRATEGY 9.1.1: AHCCCS will add links and/or information on best-practice support programs or guidelines on the state website.

**OBJECTIVE 9.2:** Provide appropriate clinical care to individuals affected by a suicide attempt or bereaved by suicide, including trauma treatment and care for complicated grief.

STRATEGY 9.2.1: Disseminate guidelines on trauma informed care to clinicians, agencies, and first responders. [samhsa.gov/traumajustice/traumadefinition/guidelines.aspx](http://samhsa.gov/traumajustice/traumadefinition/guidelines.aspx)

STRATEGY 9.2.2: AHCCCS will collaborate with state initiatives on trauma informed care and systems of care to include suicide prevention and postvention.

**OBJECTIVE 9.3:** Engage suicide attempt survivors and those bereaved by suicide in suicide prevention planning, including support services, treatment, community suicide prevention education, and promote guidelines and protocols for support groups for suicide attempt survivors and those bereaved by suicide.

STRATEGY 9.3.1: AHCCCS will promote the development of follow-up services for attempt survivors, and those bereaved by suicide, in emergency departments and other community providers after a suicide attempt or death by suicide. Follow-up may include phone calls, post cards, email, or texts at intervals with caring messages and contact information for help.

STRATEGY 9.3.2: AHCCCS will promote inclusion of people with lived experience, including suicide attempt survivors and those bereaved by suicide, in local, regional, and state initiatives.

**OBJECTIVE 9.4:** Promote community postvention best practice-based policies and programs to help prevent suicide clusters and contagion.

STRATEGY 9.4.1: Inform communities and school districts about support for postvention including how to address suicide clusters and contagion through the local mental health authority suicide prevention coordinator, local suicide prevention coalitions, and the state suicide prevention coordinator.

**OBJECTIVE 9.5:** Adopt, disseminate, implement, and evaluate guidelines for communities to respond effectively to suicide clusters and contagion within their cultural context, and support implementation with education, training, and consultation.

STRATEGY 9.5.1: Support and encourage communities to develop a LOSS Team (Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors), trainings, support groups, and offer best practice-based bibliotherapy and other resources. [lossteam.com/About-LOSSteam-2010.shtml](http://lossteam.com/About-LOSSteam-2010.shtml)

STRATEGY 9.5.2: Provide support for open and direct talk about suicide postvention through best practice-based presentations, debriefing, and counseling.

STRATEGY 9.5.3: Provide support to schools and school districts for training and facilitated discussions with teachers, administrators, support staff, and parents after a suicide loss.

STRATEGY 9.5.4: Provide support to students after a suicide loss in one-to-one or small group discussions only.

STRATEGY 9.5.5: Provide awareness about the need for best practice supports to medical examiner officers, victim services groups, first responders, funeral homes and faith-based organizations for those bereaved by suicide deaths or affected by suicide attempts.

STRATEGY 9.5.6: Disseminate guidelines about best practices for online and social media after suicide attempt or loss.

STRATEGY 9.5.7: Develop or disseminate best practice based support materials targeted to youth after a suicide loss.

STRATEGY 9.5.8: Encourage safe messaging training for all individuals and organizations involved in prevention, intervention and postvention activities. [SuicidePreventionMessaging.org](http://SuicidePreventionMessaging.org)

**OBJECTIVE 9.6:** Provide health care providers, first responders, and others with best practice-based care and support when a patient under their care, or a colleague, dies by suicide.

STRATEGY 9.6.1: Provide support (including training, facilitated discussions, and counseling support) to professional caregivers in communities and schools after a patient or a colleague dies by suicide.

STRATEGY 9.6.2: Consider utilizing hospital or health care organizations' regular communications to inform other providers about increased suicide risk and potential clusters.

**AHCCCS 2017 actions:** AHCCCS will reach out to healthcare providers to see what information is being provided to loss and attempt survivors. AHCCCS will partner with Arizona Coalition for Suicide Prevention to develop appropriate resources and materials. AHCCCS will encourage healthcare providers to reach out to both groups within 24 hours after the event. AHCCCS will encourage loss and attempt survivor participation in suicide prevention policy creation and at the quarterly suicide prevention meetings statewide.

**GOAL 10.** Increase the timeliness and usefulness of national, state, tribal, and local surveillance systems relevant to suicide prevention and improve the ability to collect, analyze, and use this information for action

**OBJECTIVE 10.1:** Improve the timeliness of reporting vital records data at state, county, local, school, and higher education levels.

STRATEGY 10.1.1: Improve capacity for state epidemiologists and the state suicide prevention coordinator to review and report suicide data

**OBJECTIVE 10.2:** Improve the usefulness and quality of suicide related data, including death, attempt, ideation, and exposure to suicide.

STRATEGY 11.2.1: Promote a mechanism in Arizona to collect and disseminate suicide attempt data. **OBJECTIVE 10.3:** Improve and expand state, county, tribal, and local public health capacity to routinely collect, analyze, report, and use suicide-related data to implement prevention efforts and inform policy decisions.

STRATEGY 10.3.1: As allowed by law, encourage government entities to enter into memorandums of understanding to share suicide data that does not name a deceased person.

**OBJECTIVE 10.4:** Increase the number of national and state representative surveys and other data collection instruments that include questions on suicidal behaviors, related risk factors, and exposure to suicide.

STRATEGY 10.4.1: AHCCCS will review and make recommendations for the addition of questions to the Arizona Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Survey related to suicide prevention and gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender/two-spirited adults.

STRATEGY 10.4.2: AHCCCS will collaborate with Arizona State University on the state's data included in the National Violent Death Reporting System.

**AHCCCS 2017 actions:** AHCCCS will encourage the White River Apache Reservation to provide technical assistance to other Arizona American Indian tribes concerning suicide surveillance.

**GOAL 11.** Improve timeliness of data collection regarding suicide deaths

**OBJECTIVE 11.1:** Develop an Arizona suicide prevention research agenda with comprehensive input from multiple stakeholders.

STRATEGY 11.1.1: Form partnerships with higher education to promote and support suicide prevention research, including support of the National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS) -- new to Arizona: <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/nvdrs/stateprofiles.html>

STRATEGY 11.1.2: Consult with the research prioritization task force of the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention on how Arizona can develop a mechanism to prioritize state research.

**OBJECTIVE 11.2:** Disseminate national and Arizona-based suicide prevention research agenda. STRATEGY 11.2.1: Encourage Arizona researchers to apply for national grants and research opportunities on suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention.

STRATEGY 11.2.2: Encourage suicide prevention researchers to inform the AHCCCS about their articles and research projects so that their results can be shared statewide.

**Objective 11.3:** Promote the timely dissemination of suicide prevention research findings.

STRATEGY 11.3.1: Provide timely dissemination of suicide research findings through links on the AHCCCS website, Facebook, newsletters, Twitter, and other social media.

**OBJECTIVE 11.4:** Support a repository of research resources to help increase the amount and quality of research on suicide prevention and care in the aftermath of suicidal behaviors.

STRATEGY 11.4.1: Provide links to repositories of national suicide prevention, intervention and postvention toolkits and websites.

**OBJECTIVE 11.5:** Encourage Arizona foundations to support suicide prevention research.

**AHCCCS 2017 actions:** AHCCCS will foster relationships with state and private universities in Arizona to promote the research of suicide prevention. We will support the work of ASU with the NVDRS. We will outreach medical examiners and funeral home directors to have conversations about accuracy of death data. We will encourage and promote grant writing technical assistance for those needing help in applying for suicide research funding.

**GOAL 12.** Evaluate the impact and effectiveness of suicide prevention interventions and systems and synthesize and disseminate findings.

**OBJECTIVE 12.1:** Evaluate the effectiveness of suicide prevention interventions in Arizona.

STRATEGY 12.1.1: AHCCCS will publicize evaluation results of best practice-based suicide prevention projects, including the Zero Suicide pilot project.

**OBJECTIVE 12.2:** Assess, synthesize, and disseminate the evidence in support of suicide prevention interventions in Arizona.

**OBJECTIVE 12.3:** Examine how suicide prevention efforts are implemented in different states/counties and communities to identify the types of delivery structures that may be most efficient and effective.

**AHCCCS 2017 actions:** AHCCCS will work with other SAMHSA region 9 state suicide prevention coordinators to share information about state plans, successful programming and noted trends.

**GOAL 13.** Coordinate a statewide calendar of suicide prevention activities, fostering a collaborative community of support.

**OBJECTIVE 13.1:** Organize a statewide calendar, promoted by AHCCCS.

STRATEGY 13.1.1: Collaborate with as many community stakeholders as possible to keep an up-to-date calendar of community events related to suicide prevention and awareness.

## WHAT COMMUNITIES CAN DO TO ADVANCE THE STATEWIDE GOALS

### **STRATEGIC DIRECTION 1—HEALTHY AND EMPOWERED INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES**

- Participate in local coalitions of stakeholders to promote and implement comprehensive suicide prevention efforts at the community level. For more information, email: [kelli.donley@azahcccs.gov](mailto:kelli.donley@azahcccs.gov)
- Develop and implement communication strategies that convey messages of help, hope, and resiliency. [suicidepreventionmessaging.org/](http://suicidepreventionmessaging.org/)
- Provide opportunities for social participation and inclusion for those who may be isolated or at risk.
- Include those with lived experience such as attempt survivors and those bereaved by suicide for planning and implementation of programs.
- Consider sharing recommendations for reporting on suicide and safe messaging to media and encourage communication and feedback to news and online communities in response to local stories related to suicide. [suicidepreventionmessaging.org/](http://suicidepreventionmessaging.org/)

### **STRATEGIC DIRECTION 2—CLINICAL AND COMMUNITY PREVENTIVE SERVICES**

- Implement suicide prevention programs that address the needs of groups at risk for suicide and that are culturally, linguistically, and age appropriate.
- Initiate partnership with firearm advocacy groups (e.g. retailers, shooting and hunting clubs, manufacturers, firearm retail insurers) to increase suicide awareness. [hsph.harvard.edu/means-matter/examples-of-means-restriction-programs/](http://hsph.harvard.edu/means-matter/examples-of-means-restriction-programs/)
- Educate first responders, clergy, parent groups, schools, juvenile justice personnel, rehabilitation centers, defense and divorce attorneys, and others about the importance of promoting efforts to reduce access to lethal means among individuals at risk for suicide. [hsph.harvard.edu/means-matter/](http://hsph.harvard.edu/means-matter/) and [sprc.org/search/apachesolr\\_search/means%20matters?filters=](http://sprc.org/search/apachesolr_search/means%20matters?filters=)
- Advocate with your local hospital, emergency departments and other health care providers to provide follow up connections through rapid enhanced programs for immediate care after discharge, such as caring letters, postcards, texts and letters. [bjp.rcpsych.org/content/197/1/5.full](http://bjp.rcpsych.org/content/197/1/5.full)

### **STRATEGIC DIRECTION 3—TREATMENT AND SUPPORT SERVICES**

- Coordinate the services of community-based and peer-support programs with the support available from local providers of mental health and substance abuse services to better serve individuals at risk for suicide.
- Consider providing support services for those with lived experience such as suicide attempt survivors and those bereaved by suicide.

### **STRATEGIC DIRECTION 4 —SURVEILLANCE RESEARCH, AND EVALUATION**

- Work with a local university to evaluate your suicide prevention program

## RESOURCES:

2012 National Strategy for Suicide Prevention -

<http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/national-strategy-suicide-prevention/>.

After a Suicide: A Toolkit for Schools

<https://www.afsp.org/coping-with-suicide-loss/education-training/after-a-suicide-a-toolkit-for-schools>

Assessing and Managing Suicide Risk (AMSR)

<http://www.sprc.org/training-institute/amr>

Best Practices Registry, Suicide Prevention Resource Center

<http://www.sprc.org/bpr>

Counseling on Access to Lethal Means Project (CALM)

<http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/means-matter/examples-of-means-restriction-programs/> Center for Elimination of Disproportionality and Disparities

[http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/hhsc\\_projects/cedd/](http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/hhsc_projects/cedd/)

Chronological Assessment of Suicide Events (CASE approach - [www.suicideassessment.com](http://www.suicideassessment.com)),

Clinical Workplace Preparedness and Comprehensive Blueprint for Workplace Suicide

Prevention <http://actionallianceforsuicideprevention.org/task-force/workplace/cspp/training>

Collaborative Assessment and Management of Suicidality (CAMS)

<http://psychology.cua.edu/faculty/jobes.cfm>

Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale

(CSSRS) <http://www.cssrs.columbia.edu/>

Framework for Successful Messaging

[www.SuicidePreventionMessaging.org](http://www.SuicidePreventionMessaging.org)

LOSS Team Postvention Workshops and Trainings

[http://www.lossteam.com/About-LOSsteam-](http://www.lossteam.com/About-LOSsteam-2010.shtml)

[2010.shtml](http://www.lossteam.com/About-LOSsteam-2010.shtml) Means Matters, Harvard School of Public

Health

<http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/means-matter/examples-of-means-restriction-programs/>

National Registry of Evidence-Based Prevention Programs

<http://nrepp.samhsa.gov>

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, 1-800-273-8255

<http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org>

Preventing Suicide: A Toolkit for Schools

<http://store.samhsa.gov/product/Preventing-Suicide-A-Toolkit-for-High-Schools/SMA12-4669>

Recommendations for Reporting on Suicide

<http://reportingonsuicide.org>

Self-Directed Violence Surveillance Uniform Definition and Recommended Data Elements

<http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/self-directed-violence-a.pdf>

Suggested Guidelines for Implementation of a Trauma-informed

Approach

<http://www.samhsa.gov/traumajustice/traumadefinition/guidelines.asp>

x

The Way Forward - Pathways to hope, recovery, and wellness with insights from lived experience

<http://actionallianceforsuicideprevention.org/sites/actionallianceforsuicideprevention.org/files/The-Way-Forward-Final-2014-07-01.pdf>

Zero Suicide in Health and Behavioral Health Care

<http://zerosuicide.actionallianceforsuicideprevention.org>

**PARTNERS:**

- Area Agency on Aging
- Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence
- Arizona Coalition for Military Families
- Arizona Criminal Justice Commission
- Arizona Coalition for Suicide Prevention
- ASU – Center for Applied Behavioral Health Policy
- AHCCCS Bureau of Public Health Statistics
- AHCCCS Office of Injury Prevention
- First Things First
- Gila River Indian Community Police Department
- Glendale Police Department
- Goodyear Police Department
- Pasadera Behavioral Health Network
- Phoenix Police Department
- Pima County Administrator’s Office
- Pima County Medical Society
- St. Joseph’s Hospital and Medical Center
- Teen Lifeline
- Tucson Police Department
- Maricopa County Justice System Planning and Information
- Mercy Maricopa Integrated Care
- Northern Arizona Regional Behavioral Health Authority
- Cenpatico Integrated Care
- University of Arizona Medical Center

**2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

AHCCCS Regional Suicide Prevention Community Conversations

Tucson, Phoenix, Flagstaff

February May August November

Locations to be determined

Arizona Suicide Prevention Coalition: Second Tuesday of the month

JFCS

2033 N. 7<sup>th</sup> St. Phoenix, AZ

Dial in: 1-619-326-2772 #5131264

Verde Valley Suicide Prevention Coalition Second Wednesday of the Month

3:30-4:30 pm

Location varies

September:

Suicide Prevention Month

### III: Expenditure Reports

MHBG Table 3 - MHBG Expenditures By Service.

Expenditure Period Start Date: 7/1/2015      Expenditure Period End Date: 6/30/2016

Service	Expenditures
Healthcare Home/Physical Health	\$
Specialized Outpatient Medical Services;	
Acute Primary Care;	
General Health Screens, Tests and Immunizations;	
Comprehensive Care Management;	
Care coordination and Health Promotion;	
Comprehensive Transitional Care;	
Individual and Family Support;	
Referral to Community Services Dissemination;	
Prevention (Including Promotion)	\$
Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment ;	
Brief Motivational Interviews;	
Screening and Brief Intervention for Tobacco Cessation;	
Parent Training;	
Facilitated Referrals;	
Relapse Prevention/Wellness Recovery Support;	
Warm Line;	
Substance Abuse (Primary Prevention)	\$
Classroom and/or small group sessions (Education);	
Media campaigns (Information Dissemination);	
Systematic Planning/Coalition and Community Team Building(Community Based Process);	

Parenting and family management (Education);	
Education programs for youth groups (Education);	
Community Service Activities (Alternatives);	
Student Assistance Programs (Problem Identification and Referral);	
Employee Assistance programs (Problem Identification and Referral);	
Community Team Building (Community Based Process);	
Promoting the establishment or review of alcohol, tobacco, and drug use policies (Environmental);	
Engagement Services	\$
Assessment;	
Specialized Evaluations (Psychological and Neurological);	
Service Planning (including crisis planning);	
Consumer/Family Education;	
Outreach;	
Outpatient Services	\$
Evidenced-based Therapies;	
Group Therapy;	
Family Therapy ;	
Multi-family Therapy;	
Consultation to Caregivers;	
Medication Services	\$
Medication Management;	
Pharmacotherapy (including MAT);	
Laboratory services;	
Community Support (Rehabilitative)	\$
Parent/Caregiver Support;	

Skill Building (social, daily living, cognitive);	
Case Management;	
Behavior Management;	
Supported Employment;	
Permanent Supported Housing;	
Recovery Housing;	
Therapeutic Mentoring;	
Traditional Healing Services;	
Recovery Supports	\$
Peer Support;	
Recovery Support Coaching;	
Recovery Support Center Services;	
Supports for Self-directed Care;	
Other Supports (Habilitative)	\$
Personal Care;	
Homemaker;	
Respite;	
Supported Education;	
Transportation;	
Assisted Living Services;	
Recreational Services;	
Trained Behavioral Health Interpreters;	
Interactive Communication Technology Devices;	
Intensive Support Services	\$
Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient (IOP);	

Partial Hospital;	
Assertive Community Treatment;	
Intensive Home-based Services;	
Multi-systemic Therapy;	
Intensive Case Management ;	
Out-of-Home Residential Services	\$
Children's Mental Health Residential Services;	
Crisis Residential/Stabilization;	
Clinically Managed 24 Hour Care (SA);	
Clinically Managed Medium Intensity Care (SA) ;	
Adult Mental Health Residential ;	
Youth Substance Abuse Residential Services;	
Therapeutic Foster Care;	
Acute Intensive Services	\$
Mobile Crisis;	
Peer-based Crisis Services;	
Urgent Care;	
23-hour Observation Bed;	
Medically Monitored Intensive Inpatient (SA);	
24/7 Crisis Hotline Services;	
Other (please list)	\$
Total	\$0

Footnotes:

### III: Expenditure Reports

MHBG Table 4 - Set-aside for Children's Mental Health Services

State Expenditures for Mental Health Services		
Actual SFY 2008	Actual SFY 2015	Estimated/Actual SFY 2016
\$7,038,779	\$4,680,656	\$5,902,894

States are required to not spend less than the amount expended in Actual SFY 2008. This is a change from the previous year, when the baseline for the state expenditures was 1994.

**Footnotes:**

Calculations for the set-aside for Children's Mental Health Services are based on the baseline for state expenditures in accordance with 42 U.S.C. §300x-2(c); the State will expend for such system not less than an amount equal to the amount expended by the State for fiscal year 1994 (\$5,789,298). The calculation includes expenditures from the Mental Health Block Grant.

Letter to SAMHSA dated April 7, 2017 & required documents were uploaded to the official grant file at SAMHSA.

### III: Expenditure Reports

MHBG Table 7 - Maintenance of Effort for State Expenditures on Mental Health Services

Total Expenditures for SMHA		
Period (A)	Expenditures (B)	<u>B1(2014) + B2(2015)</u> 2 (C)
SFY 2014 (1)	\$465,688,067	
SFY 2015 (2)	\$515,846,015	\$490,767,041
SFY 2016 (3)	\$519,716,708	

Are the expenditure amounts reported in Column B "actual" expenditures for the State fiscal years involved?

SFY 2014	Yes	<u>X</u>	No	_____
SFY 2015	Yes	<u>X</u>	No	_____
SFY 2016	Yes	<u>X</u>	No	_____

If estimated expenditures are provided, please indicate when actual expenditure data will be submitted to SAMHSA: \_\_\_\_\_

**Footnotes:**

Arizona transitioned its Statewide Accounting System beginning July 1, 2015 and is in the process of developing the reports required to meet the State's reporting requirements for State Fiscal Year 2016. This includes federal block grant reporting due 12/1/2016. We anticipate to have the information to meet a January 6, 2017 deadline.

The calculations reflect the aggregate state expenditures spent on authorized activities at the State Mental Health Agency (SMHA), which directly administers the MHBG. The methodology is based on the requirements of 42 U.S.C. §300x-30(a). The methodology utilizes generally accepted accounting principles and is applied consistently each year. The calculation includes expenditures from the State General Fund (GF). The calculation excludes federal, city, and county funds.

The amount reflected in Column (A) SFY 2014 should be \$479,695,705 to coincide with the revised restatement of MOE for SFY2014, per SAMHSA letter dated 10/14/15.

OCT 14 2015

Ms. Margery Ault  
Interim Deputy Director  
Division of Behavioral Health Services  
Arizona Department of Health Services  
150 North 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 500  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Ms. Ault:

This letter is in response to the State of Arizona's correspondence to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) regarding its state fiscal year (SFY) 2014 maintenance of effort (MOE) under the Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG) program. Specifically, the state requested approval to adjust the methodology used to calculate the MOE for the two prior SFYs. This adjustment would eliminate the shortfall and the state would be found in compliance with the MOE requirement for the SFY involved.

The state's request was reviewed in accordance with Section 1915 of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act, which requires the state to maintain aggregate state expenditures for authorized activities at a level that is not less than the average of such expenditures maintained by the state for the two-year period preceding the fiscal year for which the state is applying for a grant.

SAMHSA made a final determination that the state complied with the statutory and regulatory requirements regarding MOE for SFY 2014. Arizona initially appeared to have a shortfall in SFY2014. The state submitted a letter expressing the need to restate/recalculate the prior two state fiscal years. In the letter, the state identified unspent Medicaid State Match funds that were returned to the department. The unspent funds reverted to the State General Fund. This was an anomaly and contributed to the MOE deficiency. Based on the adjusted methodology, the state expended \$479,695,705, which is \$19,361,506 (or 4.2 percent) above the the previous two-year average of \$460,334,199. This letter will serve as notice to the state of Arizona that the state complied with the statutory and regulatory requirements regarding MOE for SFY 2014.

The state is encouraged to make every effort to continue to comply with the MOE requirements of Section 1915 of the PHS Act in the future years. Please contact your State Project Officer, Ms. Cathleen Crowley, at (240) 276-0639 or Erica Talbert at [erica.talbert@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:erica.talbert@samhsa.hhs.gov) if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Page 2 - Ms. Margery Ault

SAMHSA appreciates your continued support for community based mental health services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cyntrice Bellamy".

Cyntrice Bellamy, M.S., M.Ed.

Director

Division of State & Community Systems Development

Center for Mental Health Services