



American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Mental Health

Public Safety Committee

June 10, 2022

Presented by: Maria Villagómez, Deputy City Manager

Presentation Overview



Today's presentation

- Presents draft plan based on committee input
- Stakeholder engagement
- Timeline and next steps

ARPA Mental Health Plan Development

Council Committee provides policy direction to City staff to develop a plan that:

1

Identify
COVID-19
Impact



2

Programs/
strategies
benefiting
community
members affected
by impact



3

Desired
Outcomes
& Metrics



4

Four Year
Plan



COVID Impacts

Plans based on three COVID impacts

- I. Address behavioral health problems especially in lower income communities where COVID-19 has exacerbated existing conditions
- II. Address the increase in mental health crisis as evidenced by the increase in 911 calls
- III. Address the increased social isolation, anxiety, depression, and suicide in school age youth, older adults, and veterans



Draft Mental Health Plan

I. COVID Impact: Address behavioral health problems in Bexar County, especially in lower income communities where COVID-19 has exacerbated existing conditions

Strategy/Program

Outcome

Partnership with Bexar County and the Center for Health Care Services (CHCS) to establish a “one convener” to serve and influence aligned upstream systems and with multiple community partners, serving on a collaborative commission

- Serves as clearing house for data, resources, fiscal oversight, education, navigation, and referrals with the goal of reducing Police 911 Calls
- Focus on social determinants of health to include access to stable housing, social & counseling services, and access to medical services in order to reduce the reliance on psychiatric treatment beds

Draft Mental Health Plan

Strategy/Program

Outcome

2) In Partnership with Bexar County and the Center for Health Care Services (CHCS) develop a 24/7 central phone number for families not experiencing an immediate crisis to receive services assistance and navigation.

2a) Increase awareness of existing programs and services available to families of individuals experiencing mental health illness in Bexar County.

3. Partnership with Bexar County and the Center for Health Care Services (CHCS) to develop a public education campaign to address mental health stigma and create hope for those affected by mental illness

3a) Enhance knowledge and awareness about mental illness, reduce stigma, and provide a series of “No Wrong Door” approaches to prevent mental health crises in Bexar County.

Draft Mental Health Plan

II. COVID Impact: Address the increase in mental health crisis as evidenced by the increase in 911 calls

Strategy/Program	Outcome
Partnership with Bexar County and the Center for Health Care Services Develop a dedicated Mental Health Option within the 911 system for individuals experiencing a mental health crisis	Direct 911 calls to the appropriate level of care
Expand the City of San Antonio SACORE team capability	Continues funding of SACORE team through FY 2026 Add two additional SACORE teams in FY 2023 through FY 2026
Expand mental health programs available to City of San Antonio first responders	

Draft Mental Health Plan

III. COVID Impact: Address the increased social isolation, anxiety, depression, and suicide in school age youth

Strategy/Program	Outcome
Expand access to cognitive behavioral therapy for children and youth	Enhance mobile mental wellness collaborative with schools More in-school, evening, and weekend access to mental health professionals Establish access to confidential text services Enhance crisis assessment teams to work with children and youth at schools
Expand Project Worth Teen ambassadors	Increase Project Worth ambassador program participation Improve health outcomes Improve positive social/emotional behavior among SA youth 7 th -12 th grade
Improve access to pre and post diagnostics services for children experiencing developmental disorder	Provide pre and post diagnosis services for families of children experiencing developmental disorders

Draft Mental Health Plan

III. COVID Impact: Address the increased social isolation, anxiety, depression, and suicide in older adults

Strategy/Program	Outcome
Access to mental health and psychological support services including 24/7 non-crisis line	Connect older adults with barrier to resources and services Expedite identification healthcare access and adherence to mental health treatment
Social interaction activities/programs at City senior facilities	Mitigate social and emotional issues and isolation to improve quality of life for older adults
Caregiver program services and coaching for loved ones caring for older adults	Improve quality of care provided by caregivers

Draft Mental Health Plan

III. COVID Impact: Address the increased social isolation, anxiety, depression, and suicide in veterans

Strategy/Program

Outcome

Mental health and substance abuse services for veterans

Outreach teams connect chronic and unsheltered homeless veterans to available mental health, substance abuse, and housing resources

Stakeholder Engagement



- Stakeholder engagement will occur during the month of June and July
- Update will be provided to the Public Safety Committee on June 21

Timeline and Next Steps

April 2022

- Policy direction from Public Safety Committee

June 2022

- Public Safety Committee
- Stakeholder Input

July 2022

- Stakeholder Input

August 2022

- Public Safety Committee approves Mental Health plan

Aug/Sep 2022

- City Council Approves Plan
- RFP Process Begins

Oct/Nov 2022

- Council Approves Contracts

Next Steps

Stakeholder Input

Date	Stakeholder Group
May 7, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Youth Commission
June/July	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Service Providers• SAT Coalition<ul style="list-style-type: none">• comprised of area upstream mental health and substance use provider organizations• Faith Based Organizations
June 25 th – 10am and July 9 th – 10am	Public Input Meeting



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