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Ohio Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness: PATH Program Report: Q1--FFY 2014



Prepared by Kraig J. Knudsen, PhD



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ABSTRACT

This survey was developed to track PATH program services, utilization and outcomes over the first quarter of FFY 2014. Data were collected over two weeks at the end of the quarter on the 12 participating provider organizations. 1,639 individuals received services from the PATH program. The largest number of participants came from Cuyahoga, Hamilton, and Franklin Counties. 47% of the PATH participants had a Co-Occurring Substance Use Disorder. At time of enrollment over 50% were living in short term shelters at first contact. The mean County PATH allotment was \$38,953, with the largest allotments going to Franklin and Cuyahoga Counties. Statewide, the program on average supported 6.4 employees, with 4 of those employees being full-time. The most frequent services offered were Outreach (33%), Case Management (22%), and Screening and Assessment (15%). The least provided services were Residential Supportive Services (1%) and Security Deposits (2%). Average cost per client across all programs was \$386 (high=\$1,562, low=\$204).

PURPOSE

A survey is conducted quarterly by the Bureau of Research and Evaluation to gather Service and Referral information regarding the SAMHSA –funded PATH program administered by the Ohio Department of Mental Health. The goal of the survey is to gather and disseminate information to the field in a timely manner to ensure that participating provider organizations and ADAMH Boards have information to guide program and policy development and quality improvement efforts. This report summarizes the first quarter of FFY 2014.

Figure 1. Participating PATH Counties Highlighted in Blue



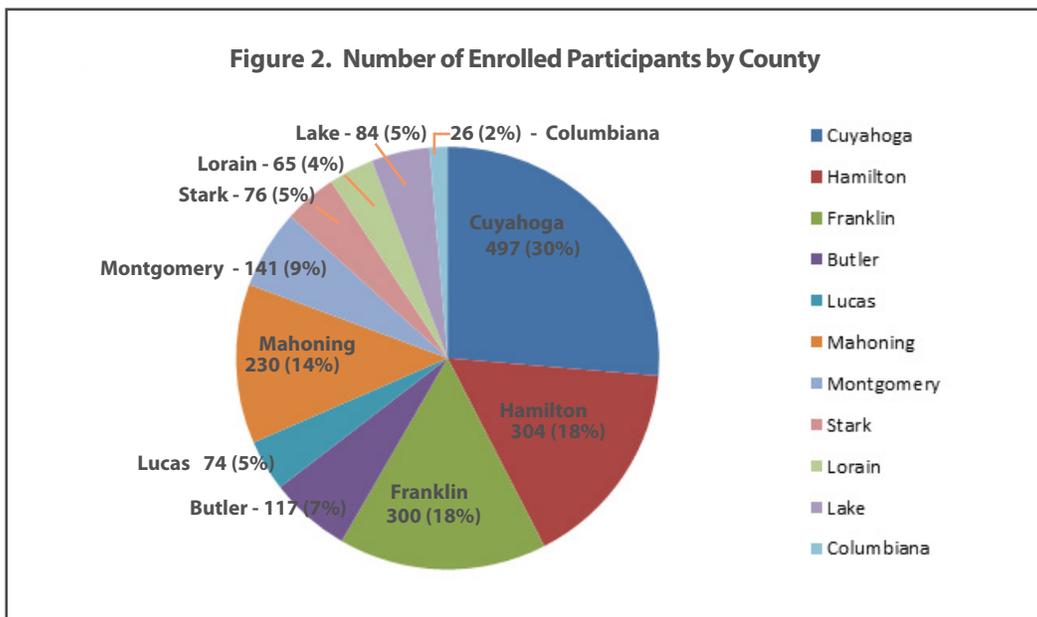
METHOD

Participating Counties

The survey was completed by 12 provider organizations representing Ohio’s major metropolitan areas. Ohio’s PATH funded counties currently include Summit, Butler, Cuyahoga, Lucas, Hamilton, Montgomery, Mahoning, Stark, Franklin, Columbiana, Lake, and Lorain (see figure 1). 83% of the organizations are community mental health centers.

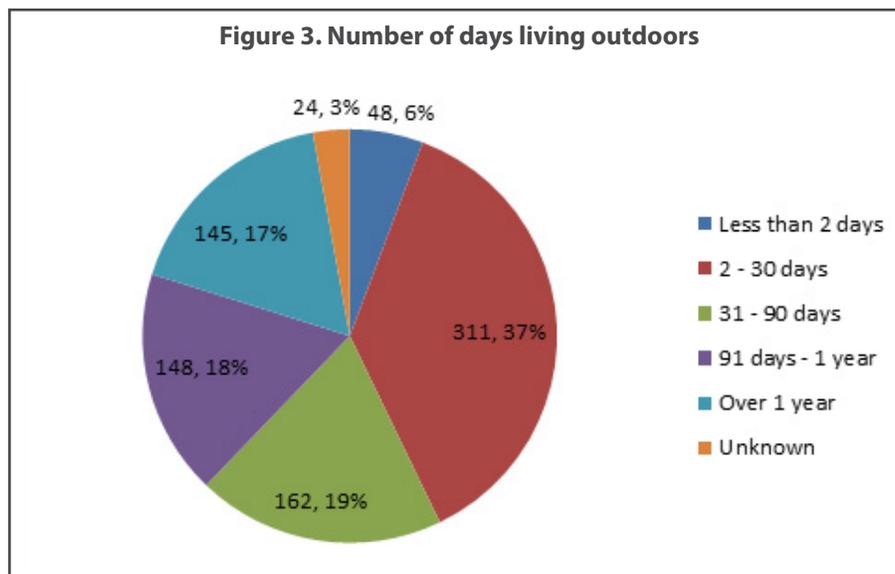
PATH Participants

Figure 2 shows there were 1,639 participants including (by county): 497 (30%) from Cuyahoga, 304 (18%) from Hamilton, 300 (18%) from Franklin, 117 (7%) from Butler, 74 (5%) from Lucas, 230 (14%) from Mahoning, 141 (9%) from Montgomery, 76 (5%) from Stark, 65 (4%) from Lorain, 84 (5%) from Lake, and 26 (2%) from Columbiana. Of those enrolled in PATH, the modal age was 31-50 (50%), with 66% male (34% female), 51% Caucasian, 44% African American, 3% Hispanic, .4% Asian, and 3% bi-racial. 41% of PATH participants had a Co-Occurring Substance Use Disorder. Veterans accounted for 7% or 75 of the total PATH participants.



As evidenced in Table 1, at time of enrollment the largest number of participants were living in Short Term Shelter (518, 51%), followed by Living Outdoors (268, 27%), and in Their Own or Someone Else’s Apartment, Room, or House (64, 6%). The median number of days Living Outdoors at time of first contact was two to 30 days (37% percent of enrollees) (see Figure 3). This was followed by 31-90 days (19%). 17% of the PATH participants were living in Short Term Shelter or Outdoors for over 1 year at time of first contact. (see Table 1).

Table 1. Numbers Housed and Types of Housing (at time of enrollment)	Total Number	%
Emergency shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher (Short Term Shelter & including Homeless Youth Shelter)	518	51%
Permanent housing for formerly homeless persons (such as SHP, S+C, or SRO Mod Rehab)	2	0%
Psychiatric hospital or other psychiatric facility	29	3%
Substance use treatment facility or detox center	11	1%
Hospital (non-psychiatric) or physical rehabilitation facility	2	0%
Jail, prison or juvenile detention facility	14	1%
Long term care facility (e.g. boarding or nursing home)	3	0%
Staying or living in a family member's room, apartment or house	37	4%
Staying or living in a friend's room, apartment or house	64	6%
Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher	14	1%
Foster care home or foster care group home	0	0%
Place not meant for habitation (e.g., a vehicle, an abandoned building, bus, train, subway station, airport or anywhere outside); including of "non-housing service site (outreach programs only)	268	27%
Other Safe Haven	10	1%
Rental by client, with VASH housing subsidy	0	0%
Rental by client, with other (non-VASH) ongoing housing subsidy	2	0%
Owned by client, with ongoing housing subsidy	0	0%
Rental by client, no ongoing housing subsidy	11	1%
Owned by client, no ongoing housing subsidy	0	0%
Don't Know	23	2%
Refused	3	0%



PROCEDURES

Data were collected by a spreadsheet for two weeks at the end of the quarter. All PATH provider organizations were asked to submit quarterly data on their PATH program activities. Data were collected on both eligible and non-eligible participants. All participating organizations were made aware that the Department will use this data for quality improvement and future funding determinations. Questions about the spreadsheet were fielded by the ODMH research office.

MEASUREMENTS

An excel spreadsheet was developed for the Ohio PATH program in FFY 2011 to track program processes in a more efficient manner. The spreadsheet was designed to provide ODMH and the provider organizations with programmatically-informative information about how PATH funds are being utilized to provide services, increase housing options and decrease homelessness in 12 Ohio Counties. The elements of the spreadsheet included demographics, funds allocated and services provided. Specific services reported were outreach, screening and diagnostic services, habilitation and rehabilitation, community mental health services, alcohol and drug treatment, staff training, case management, a variety of housing services. Program outcomes are no longer required to be collected by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). All data were actual numbers of participants (not estimates). Demographic variables were categorized (see questionnaire at end of report).

ANALYSIS

Descriptive statistics included totals, percentages, means, medians, mode, and standard deviations were calculated.

RESULTS

Funds Allocated and Staffing

Overall, there was \$467,437 of federal PATH and Matching funds distributed to partnering provider organizations over the first quarter of FFY 2014, with a mean county allotment of \$26,327. The largest percentage of the funds went to Cuyahoga (21%), followed by Franklin (17%), and Hamilton (11%) counties. On average there were 6.5 personnel (both full- and part-time) supported by PATH funds across all counties, with a high of 14 employees in Cuyahoga and a low of 3 employees in Butler, Columbiana, and Lake counties. The mean number of FTE staff per program was 3.5.

Table 2. PATH Allotment by County

County	Total FY Funds	Q1 funds	Percentage
Butler	94,365	23,591	5%
Columbiana	50,000	12,500	3%
Cuyahoga	393,664	98,416	21%
Franklin	326,542	81,635	17%
Hamilton	237,544	52,287	11%
Lake	50,000	12,500	3%
Lorain	83,500	20,876	4%
Lucas	165,000	41,250	9%
Mahoning	145,795	35,266	8%
Montgomery	176,268	32,592	7%
Stark	96,250	24,063	5%
Summit	129,845	32,461	7%
Total	1,948,773	467,437	100%

Numbers Served and Cost of PATH Services

Over the first quarter there were 1,639 persons screened for PATH services. Of the total, 807 (49%) were determined eligible and enrolled in PATH services. Cuyahoga county enrolled the largest percentage of those screened (92%), followed by Butler (78%) and Lucas (73%). Columbiana county had the lowest enrollment. 23% of persons screened in Columbiana were subsequently enrolled in PATH services (see Figure 3 for county specific details). In terms of cost, the mean cost per participant for all PATH services was \$387. The highest cost per client was Columbiana with \$1,562 per participant; the lowest was Lake with \$204 per client (see Figure 4).

Figure 4. Percentage of Eligible Enrolled

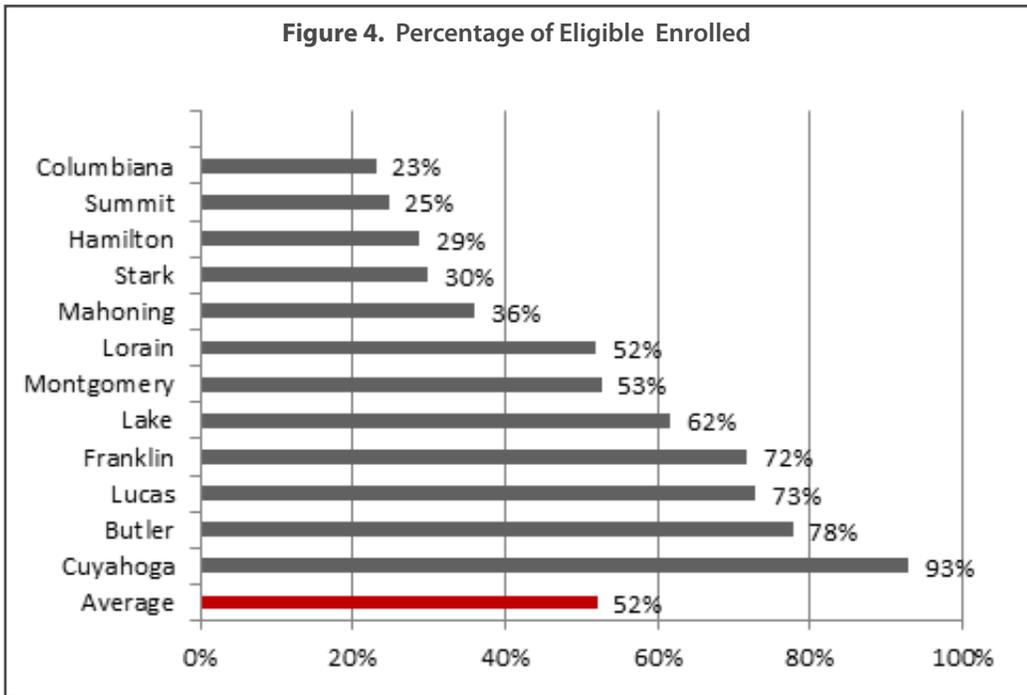


Figure 5. Cost per client

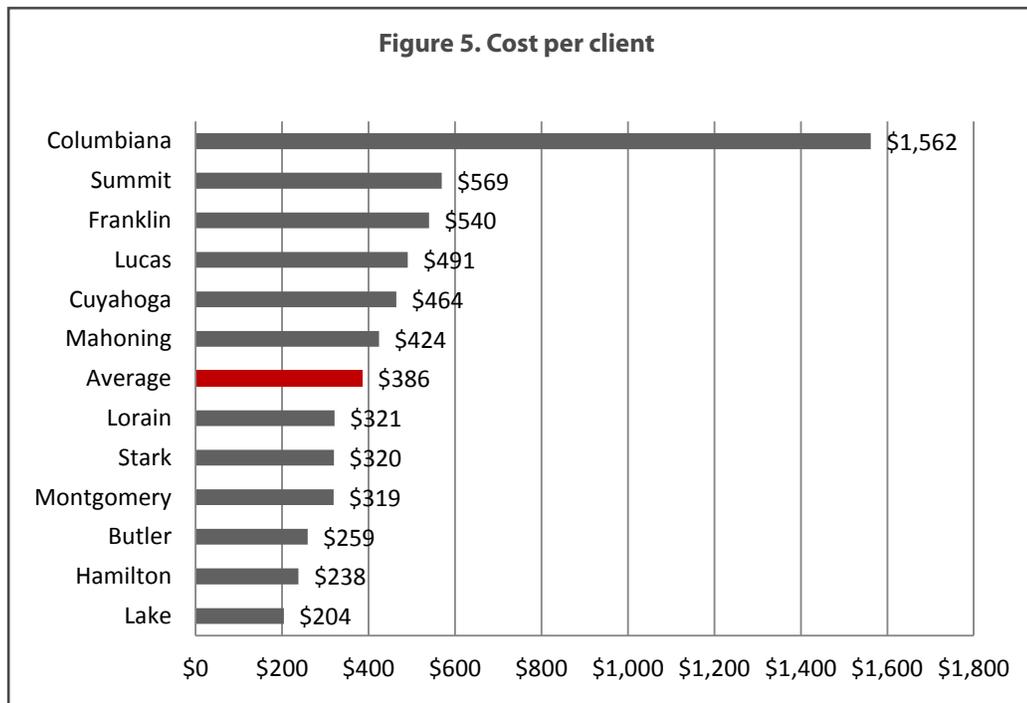


Table 3. Number of PATH Participants by County and Service

	Outreach	Screening	Habilitation	CMH	AOD	Case Management	Support Services	Costs Associated with Matching	TA	Security Deposits	Rental Payment	TOTAL # of Services Offered
Butler	91	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Columbiana	8	8	1	7	3	6	-	4	8	4	-	9
Cuyahoga	155	155	-	89	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Franklin	104	77	3	72	11	192	21	6	35	-	-	9
Hamilton	165	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Lake	37	37	-	26	-	-	-	-	61	3	-	5
Lorain	65	14	65	-	-	-	-	-	65	-	63	5
Lucas	51	52	-	-	-	69	-	-	17	3	-	5
Mahoning	83	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	56	-	-	4
Montgomery	97	30	-	-	-	94	-	-	56	-	-	4
Stark	87	52	9	-	-	80	3	48	-	1	62	8
Summit	105	5	1	51	5	51	16	7	14	3	-	10
TOTAL N	1048	478	79	245	19	492	40	65	312	14	125	---

Table 4. Services	Total Served N	Percentage
Outreach	1048	36%
Screening	478	16%
Habilitation	79	3%
CMH	245	9%
AOD	19	0%
Case Management	492	17%
Support Services	40	1%
Cost Associated with Matching	65	2%
TA	312	12%
Security Deposits	14	0%
Rental Payments	125	4%
TOTAL N	2,917	100%

SERVICES

PATH consumers were provided an array of 16 treatment and support services, however, our services show that only 11 were provided. Table 3 shows the services provided in each county. The most frequently provided services included Outreach (100%), Screening (66%), and Case Management (58%).

The least provided service was residential supervision (8%). Franklin and Summit Counties provided the largest array of services (10) followed by Columbiana (9). Butler and Hamilton Counties provided the least number of services (1). The modal number of services provided across all Ohio sites was four.

Outreach. All counties provided Outreach services. A total of 1,048 (36%) of all clients received this service during the quarter.

Screening and Diagnosis. Ten Counties (83%) provided Screening and Diagnosis Services. A total of 478 (16%) of all clients received this service. All but two counties (Hamilton and Butler) provided clients screening and diagnostic services.

Habilitation. Five counties (Summit, Lorain, Stark, Franklin, and Columbiana) offered Habilitation and Rehabilitation services to participants. 79 (3%) of overall PATH clients) participants received the service over the first quarter.

Community Mental Health. Five counties (50%) provided Community Mental Health Services (CMH). A total of 245 (9%) of all clients received this PATH service.

Alcohol and Drug Treatment Services. Four counties (25%) provided Alcohol and Drug Treatment Services (AOD). A total of 19 (0%) of PATH clients received this service.

Case Management. Six counties (50%) provided Case Management Services (CM). A total of 492 (17%) PATH clients received this service.

Supportive Services in Residential Settings. Three counties (25%) provided Supportive Services (SSR). A total of 40 (1%) PATH clients received this service.

Costs Associated with Matching Eligible Homeless with Housing Situations. There were four (4) participating counties providing the costs associated with matching eligible homeless persons with housing. A total of 65 (2%) PATH clients received this service.

Improving TA for Housing Assistance. Nine (9) participating counties provided TA for Housing Assistance. A total of 312 (10%) PATH clients received this service.

Security Deposits. Five (5) participating counties provided assistance with Security Deposits. A total of 14 (0%) PATH clients received this service.

One Time Rental Payments. Two (2) participating counties provided Rental Assistance (Lorain and Stark). A total of 125 (4%) PATH clients received this service.

CONCLUSION

This analysis examined the PATH program for the first quarter of FY 2014. To summarize the main results presented above, there were 1,639 participants in the PATH program over the first quarter of the fiscal year. The largest number of participants came from Cuyahoga, Hamilton, and Franklin Counties. At time of enrollment over 51% were living in short term shelters. 17% of the participants were Living Outdoors for over 1 year at time of first contact. The median county allotment was \$38,953, with the largest allotments going to Cuyahoga and Franklin counties. Statewide, the program on average supported 6.5 employees per site. The most frequent services offered were Outreach (100% of sites offered), Screening (83%), and Technical Assistance (67%). The least provided services were Security Deposits (1%) and Supportive Services (2%). Average cost per client across all programs was \$386 (high=\$1,5623, low=\$204).