

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY  
HUMAN SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PLAN**

**2025-2026**

**Cumberland County Commissioners:**

**Kelly Neiderer, Chairman  
Jean Foschi, Vice Chairman  
Gary Eichelberger, Secretary**

For any questions regarding this plan, please contact:  
Brian Wilson, Cumberland-Perry Senior MH Human Services Program Manager  
(717) 240-6320  
[bkwilson@cumberlandcountypa.gov](mailto:bkwilson@cumberlandcountypa.gov)

CUMBERLAND COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PLAN  
FY 2025-2026

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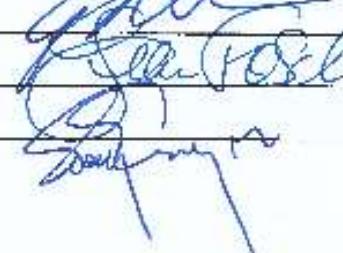
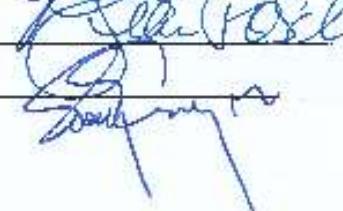
**Appendix A  
Fiscal Year 2025-2026**

**COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES PLAN  
ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE**

**COUNTY OF:** Cumberland

- A. The County assures that services will be managed and delivered in accordance with the County Human Services Plan submitted herewith.
- B. The County assures, in compliance with Act 163 of 2016, that the County Human Services Plan submitted herewith has been developed based upon the County officials' determination of County need, formulated after an opportunity for public comment in the County.
- C. The County assures that it and its providers will maintain the eligibility records and other records necessary to support the expenditure reports submitted to the Department of Human Services.
- D. The County hereby expressly, and as a condition precedent to the receipt of state and federal funds, assures that in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act of 1955, as amended; and 16 PA Code, Chapter 49 (relating to contract compliance):
  - 1. The County does not and will not discriminate against any person because of race, color, religious creed, ancestry, origin, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability in providing services or employment; or in its relationship with other providers; or in providing access to services and employment for individuals with disabilities.
  - 2. The County will comply with all regulations promulgated to enforce the statutory provisions against discrimination.

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS/COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

<i>Signature(s)</i>	<i>Please Print Name(s)</i>	
	Kelly Neidner	Date: 7/30/25
	Sean Foschi	Date: 7/30/25
	Gary Eichberger	Date: 7/30/25

**Appendix B**  
**County Human Services Plan Template**

**INTRODUCTION**

This Human Services Block Grant (HSBG) plan is submitted on behalf of the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners and incorporates input from the Cumberland-Perry Mental Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Program (C-P MH.IDD), Cumberland-Perry Drug and Alcohol Commission (C-P D&A), and Cumberland County Aging and Community Services Office. The plan was developed by a workgroup serving as an arm of the Cumberland County Human Services Policy Team.

Since 1967, Cumberland County has been a joinder with Perry County for the Mental Health, Intellectual and Developmental Disability Services and the Drug and Alcohol Commission. For these services, coordinated planning is ongoing between the two counties with service providers, individuals with lived experience, family members, other County Human Services, and Commissioners evaluating current services, need areas, and strategies for best how to meet the needs of the residents of Cumberland and Perry Counties. We are committed to ensuring this successful joinder arrangement maintains as it has provided opportunities for residents from both counties that would not have been afforded otherwise. As per the plan directive, narratives and information related to those joinder services are found in the Cumberland County (CC) Human Services Block Grant Plan and have been approved by the Boards of Commissioners from both Cumberland and Perry Counties.

**PART I: COUNTY PLANNING PROCESS** (Limit of 3 pages)

Describe the county planning and leadership team and the process utilized to develop the Plan for the expenditure of human services funds by answering each question below.

1. Please identify, as appropriate, the critical stakeholder groups, including:
  - a. Individuals and their families
  - b. Consumer groups
  - c. Providers of human services
  - d. Partners from other systems involved in the county's human services system.

Community stakeholders routinely participate in the overall human service planning process as a function of ongoing collaboration. Service needs and system enhancements with regard to human service planning are discussed at the following regular meetings, many of which involve individuals with lived experience and various community service agencies:

- Cumberland-Perry Community Support Program (CSP)
- Cumberland-Perry Child & Adolescent Service System Program (CASSP) Core Teams
- Cumberland County Specialized Mental Health Court Teams
- Cumberland County Community Opiate Overdose Prevention Coalition
- Cumberland-Perry Drug and Alcohol Provider Meetings
- Cumberland County Community Needs meetings (Carlisle and West Shore)
- Shippensburg Human Service Council meetings
- Healthy Ship Coalition
- Shippensburg Community Resource Coalition (SCRC)
- Perry County Family Partnership Board meetings
- Perry County Health Coalition

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- Housing Coalition of Cumberland County [formerly Local Housing Options Team (LHOT)] meetings
- NAMI Cumberland and Perry Counties, PA meetings
- Cumberland & Perry MH Provider and Base Service Unit (BSU) meetings
- Behavioral Health Managed Care committee meetings including Quality Improvement/Utilization Management (QI/UM), Clinical, Reinvestment Planning and Consumer & Family Focus Committee (CFFC) with our behavioral health partners - Capital Area Behavioral Health Collaborative (CABHC) & PerformCare
- LINK to Aging & Disability Resources Board meetings for Central Region as well as Perry County
- Cumberland County Human Service Policy Team, Criminal Justice Policy Team & Mental Illness Sub-Committee
- Student Assistance Program Education Council Meetings
- Partnership for Better Health (local foundation) Health Improvement Partnership Program Meetings
- Preventing Unnecessary Loss through Suicide Education (PULSE), our local suicide prevention taskforce
- Cumberland County Re-Entry Coalition
- Criminal Justice Advisory Board (CJAB) (Cumberland and Perry Counties)
- Regional Crisis Intervention Teams (CIT) Collaborative meeting
- CIT Steering Committee meetings
- Cumberland & Perry MH.IDD Advisory Board meetings
- UPMC – HUG Meetings
- Plan of Safe Care meetings in Cumberland and Perry Counties
- Child Advocacy Center (CAC) Board meetings
- Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers (PCCJPO) Behavioral Health Subcommittee Meeting
- Judges' Round Tables in both Cumberland and Perry counties
- CAIU # 15 Local Task Force

Information for the Human Service Plan is gathered continuously throughout the year via these collaborative and joint planning processes. Virtual and in-person meetings occur.

2. Please describe how these stakeholders were provided with an opportunity for participation in the planning process, including information on outreach and engagement efforts.

Information is discussed and gathered through the numerous committees and community meetings previously mentioned. Many of these meetings are open forums. The involvement of individuals with lived experience, family members, and providers is strongly encouraged through notifications via newsletters, emails, listservs, and social media. Many program committees include stakeholders as well to ensure voice and participation by those with lived experience in the planning process. Utilization of virtual platforms such as ZOOM and TEAMS have allowed for expanded access and participation for many stakeholders.

3. Please list the advisory boards that participated in the planning process.

Each of the identified human services departments (MH.IDD, D&A, and Aging and Community Services) hold regularly scheduled community advisory board committee meetings that are open to the public. Participants have the opportunity to attend in person or virtually.

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The Mental Health Procedures Act guides the selection of community stakeholders to serve on the Cumberland & Perry Counties' MH.IDD Advisory Board. This board also includes County Commissioner representatives from both counties. The advisory board, using the established term limits identified in the by-laws, has received new members during the last year. Additionally, the entire advisory board participated in a dedicated on-boarding session which included presentations from all operational areas of MH.IDD.EI. This Advisory Board is comprised of individuals from the community who represent various professional disciplines including faith-based, social work, education, aging, employment, and medical field, including a nurse and a psychiatrist, as well as family members of individuals receiving IDD and/or MH services. Advisory Board representatives are identified from both counties and are appointed by the boards of Commissioners of their respective counties. Various community stakeholders including individuals with lived experience, family members, and providers also attend and participate in the monthly advisory committee meetings which provides their voices and participation in the planning process. Meetings are convened using a hybrid format to promote transparency and invite greater awareness and participation from the community. These advisory committee meetings have been streamed live on Facebook.

The Boards of County Commissioners of Cumberland and Perry Counties also select volunteers representing various community and geographic interests to serve on the Cumberland-Perry Drug and Alcohol Commission Community Advisory Board. There are eight board representatives from Cumberland County and seven representatives from Perry County. The Drug and Alcohol Commission Community Advisory Board meets every other month. All of these meetings are open to the public. The responsibility of this group of 15 appointed members is to plan and oversee the delivery of public-funded drug and alcohol services in the counties, which includes coordination and collaboration with other county-managed human services.

The Aging Advisory Board has up to 15 members who are residents of Cumberland County with geographic representation from different areas within the county. Members are of all ages, half of which are required to be over 60. Backgrounds of members are varied, including local university professors, senior center members, retired state and federal workers, service agency representatives, Cumberland County Commissioner, and those with political backgrounds. The Aging Advisory Board reviews monthly data from the Homeless Assistance Program and provides input.

4. Please describe how the county intends to use funds to provide services to its residents in the least restrictive setting appropriate to their needs. The response must specifically address providing services in the least restrictive setting.

All of the County-managed human service programs place significant value and strong emphasis on building a broad range of community-based treatment and support services that reduce the need for and reliance upon more restrictive (and costly) residential, inpatient, and/or institutional programs. The County intends to use allocated funds to provide services to its residents in the least restrictive settings appropriate to individuals' needs.

The development of networks of care that will allow County residents to access appropriate services while retaining as much self-sufficiency and community connections as possible continues to be a guiding and foundational principle in our local human service planning. This approach applies to the recipients of all the human services described in this plan: individuals and

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families accessing mental health services, citizens with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities, persons in recovery from a substance use disorder, youth (including juvenile offenders), individuals who are homeless, older citizens, individuals with physical disabilities and those with co-occurring needs as well. Specific examples of this programmatic philosophy can be found within each human service area in this plan. All departments continue to strengthen their focus regarding how trauma impacts across a lifespan as well as suicide prevention.

Each department has an array of services available to residents and various processes to determine the most appropriate level of care to meet the individual's or family's needs. Our priority is to continue providing community-based services that best support individuals and families to remain successful in the community. The Human Service Development Fund provides funding for Home Modifications for safety, transportation, personal care, case management, protective services, and home delivered meals, all of which help residents to stay safely in their homes for longer.

Each program/service develops its own budget and determines expenditures based on the allocation of funds and needs of each program and the individuals and families receiving services. Each department/service reviews available data to determine the budget and anticipated expenditure of the state allocated funds.

5. Please describe any substantial programmatic and funding changes being made as a result of last year's outcomes.

Cumberland County continues to sustain significant population growth, similar or greater than other counties in the central and southeastern tier of the state. After years of collaborative work to provide education across many stakeholder groups regarding the need for adequate base funding for mental health services, this year, program cuts were needed during FY24-25 to attempt to balance the MH budget. Total program cuts during FY24-25 were approximately \$650,000. Effective July 1, 2025, an additional \$1.2 million in program cuts were instituted. The obvious concern is how these cuts will negatively impact the individuals served, their families, contracted service providers, their parts of the human services system, and the community as a whole. The priority for funding is to sustain the current infrastructure of community-based services as much as possible. County staff, providers, and stakeholders continue to have discussions on measures to take to decrease costs while maintaining needed services, despite the lack of any substantial budget increases.

The Regional Emergency Behavioral Health Crisis Walk in Center and mobile crisis program successfully opened in December of 2024 as a newly licensed crisis program to serve Cumberland, Perry, and Dauphin Counties. Connections Health Solutions expanded our current Crisis Intervention services by providing additional crisis walk in services, urgent behavioral health care, expanded mobile crisis, and up to 23 hours of stabilization time to best support individuals in our region. These services will positively impact on the overuse of the Emergency Department. As this service expands to full capacity, it heightens the recognition for crisis regulations, and the need for additional revenue sources to sustain the project.

In late 2023, Cumberland & Perry counties' MH Office was notified that we had a successful proposal to develop a Regional Long Term Structured Residence (LTSR) with neighboring Franklin & Fulton Counties' MH Program. Funds for this project have been annualized, however

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there is no cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) as part of the allocation. There is awareness that in a few years, new programs will operate with deficits due to the lack of COLA on appropriations.

# CUMBERLAND COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PLAN FY 2025-2026

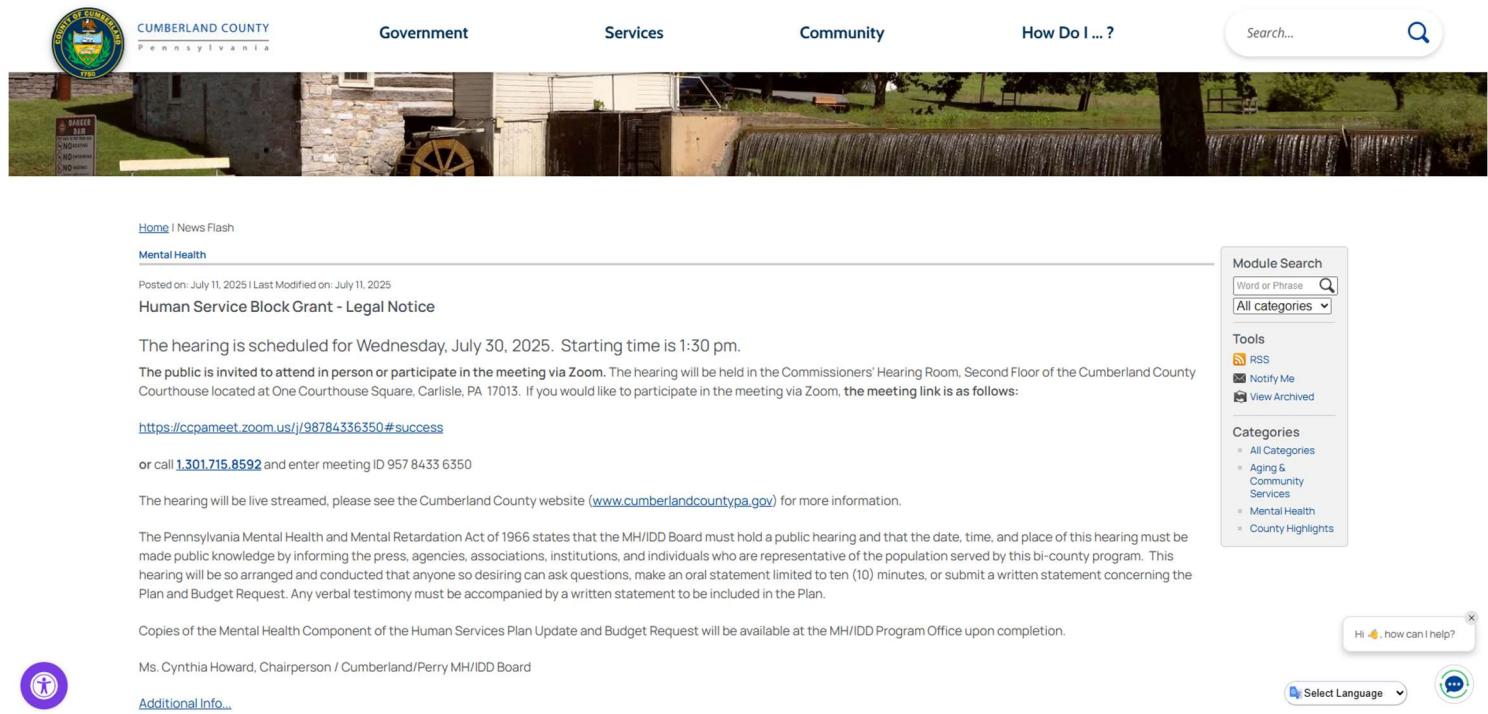
## **PART II: PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

Two (2) public hearings are required for counties participating in the Human Services Block Grant. One (1) public hearing is needed for non-block grant counties.

1. Proof of publication:
  - a. Please attach a copy of the actual newspaper advertisement(s) for the public hearing(s).
  - b. When was the ad published?
  - c. When was the second ad published (if applicable)?

\*If other media options were utilized, such as social media, internet, etc., for the public hearing announcement, please attach a copy(screenshot) of the notice, along with the date(s) posted.
2. Please submit a summary and/or sign-in sheet of each public hearing.

**NOTE:** The public hearing notice for counties participating in local collaborative arrangements (LCA) should be made known to residents of all counties. Please ensure that the notice is publicized in each county participating in the LCA.



The screenshot shows the official website of Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. The header features the county's seal and the text "CUMBERLAND COUNTY Pennsylvania". The main navigation menu includes "Government", "Services", "Community", and "How Do I ... ?". A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main content area displays a news flash titled "Human Service Block Grant - Legal Notice". The post was posted on July 11, 2025, and last modified on July 11, 2025. It includes a link to the Zoom meeting: <https://ccpameet.zoom.us/j/98784336350#success>. The hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, July 30, 2025, at 1:30 pm. The public is invited to attend in person or participate via Zoom. The hearing will be held in the Commissioners' Hearing Room, Second Floor of the Cumberland County Courthouse located at One Courthouse Square, Carlisle, PA 17013. The page also mentions that the hearing will be live streamed on the county website ([www.cumberlandcountypa.gov](http://www.cumberlandcountypa.gov)). A sidebar on the right contains a "Module Search" box, a "Tools" section with links to RSS, Notify Me, and View Archived, and a "Categories" section with links to All Categories, Aging & Community Services, Mental Health, and County Highlights. A live chat window is visible in the bottom right corner, showing a message from a user named "Hi :)" and a response from "how can I help?".

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AFFP

Public Hearing, Human Srv.

RECEIVED  
JUL 25 2025  
BY: .....

## Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF SS  
COMMONWEALTH OF  
PENNSYLVANIA }  
COUNTY OF PERRY }

Curtis Dreibelbis, being duly sworn, says:

That he is Publisher of the The News-Sun, Duncannon Record, Perry County Times, a daily newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in New Bloomfield, Perry County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the following dates:

July 16, 2025, July 17, 2025

### Legal Notice

The public hearing on the 2025-2026 of the Cumberland/Perry Counties Human Services Plan has been scheduled by the Cumberland/Perry Counties Mental Health/Intellectual Developmental Disabilities Board.

The hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, July 30, 2025. Starting time is 1:30 pm. The public is invited to attend in person or participate in the meeting via Zoom. The hearing will be held in the Commissioners' Hearing Room, Second Floor of the Cumberland County Courthouse located at One Courthouse Square, Carlisle, PA 17013. If you would like to participate in the meeting via Zoom, the meeting link is <https://ccpameet.zoom.us/j/98784336350#success>. or call 1.301.715.8592 and enter meeting ID 957 8433 6350. The hearing will be live streamed, please see the Cumberland County website ([www.cumberlandcountypa.gov](http://www.cumberlandcountypa.gov)) for more information.

The Pennsylvania Mental Health and Mental Retardation Act of 1966 states that the MH/IDD Board must hold a public hearing and that the date, time, and place of this hearing must be made public knowledge by informing the press, agencies, associations, institutions, and individuals whom are representative of the population served by this bi-county program. This hearing will be so arranged and conducted that anyone so desiring can ask questions, make an oral statement limited to ten (10) minutes, or submit a written statement concerning the Plan and Budget Request. Any verbal testimony must be accompanied by a written statement to be included in the Plan.

Copies of the Mental Health Component of the Human Services Plan Update and Budget Request will be available at the MH/IDD Program Office upon completion.

Ms. Cynthia Howard,  
Chairperson  
Cumberland/Perry MH/IDD Board

That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates.

SIGNED:



Publisher

Subscribed to and sworn to me this 17th day of July 2025.



Laurie S. Hower, Notary Public, Juniata County,  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

My commission expires: August 28, 2027

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal  
Laurie S. Hower, Notary Public  
Juniata County  
My commission expires August 28, 2027  
Commission number 1236295  
Member, Pennsylvania Association of Notaries

00005900 00232448

CUMB/PERRY MENTAL HEALTH  
1615 RITNER HIGHWAY  
CARLISLE, PA 17013

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Testimony Jessica Paul



## OFFICIAL AD PROOF

This is the proof of your ad scheduled to run in **Sentinel** on the dates indicated below. If changes are needed, please contact us prior to deadline at (717) 243-2611.

Notice ID: ilStJ25zmFg5DRjTu9jk | Proof Updated: Jul. 10, 2025 at 11:43am EDT  
Notice Name: 2025-2026 Human Service Plan - Hearing Notice | Publisher ID: COL-PA-1664

This is not an invoice. Below is an estimated price, and it is subject to change. You will receive an invoice with the final price upon invoice creation by the publisher.

See Proof on Next Page

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Trudy Kessler	Sentinel
takekessler@cumberlandcountypa.gov	
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07/17/2025: General Legal Notice	171.80
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Subtotal	\$191.80
Tax	\$0.00
Processing Fee	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$191.80</b>

# CUMBERLAND COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PLAN FY 2025-2026

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<https://ccpameet.zoom.us/j/9578436350#success>

or call 1.301.715.8592 and enter meeting ID 957 8433 6350

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The Pennsylvania Mental Health and Mental Retardation Act of 1966 states that the MH/IDD Board must hold a public hearing and that the date, time, and place of this hearing must be made public knowledge by informing the press, agencies, associations, institutions, and individuals whom are representative of the population served by this bi-county program. This hearing will be so arranged and conducted that anyone so desiring can ask questions, make an oral statement limited to ten (10) minutes, or submit a written statement concerning the Plan and Budget Request. Any verbal testimony must be accompanied by a written statement to be included in the Plan. Copies of the Mental Health Component of the Human Services Plan Update and Budget Request will be available at the MH/IDO Program Office upon completion.

Ms. Cynthia Howard, Chairperson  
Cumberland/Perry MH/IDD Board  
7/17 COL-PA-1664

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PLAN  
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**For Inclusion in the Cumberland/Perry County Human Services Plan**

As someone who walks alongside individuals living with serious mental illness, I've heard powerful stories about the value of county-funded mental health services. People consistently describe recovery-based supports—such as peer support, psychiatric rehabilitation, supported employment and community support programs—as essential to their healing and progress. These services have helped individuals stay grounded, avoid inpatient settings (including state hospitals), remain meaningfully connected, and live successfully in their communities. Many have gained the confidence to share their personal lived experiences in empowering and positive ways—something I have personally witnessed time and again.

Recently, a number of individuals have shared a growing sense of fear and sadness. Due to the county's current funding deficit, people who don't have Medicaid and rely on county base dollars are losing access to the services they depend on. These aren't just programs—they are lifelines. For those affected, losing access has left them feeling sad, overwhelmed, hopeless, and unsure of how they will cope.

To date, 27 individuals have lost access to peer support, 47 have lost access to psychiatric rehabilitation, and 70 have lost access to supported employment services. While peer support and psychiatric rehabilitation remain available to individuals with Medicaid, those without it no longer have access due to the lack of county base funding. Supported employment, however, was entirely county-funded and is no longer available to anyone, regardless of insurance status.

Some individuals with Medicaid may be able to access alternative supports—such as employment-related services within psychiatric rehabilitation programs, services through the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR), or Ticket to Work—but these do not offer the same level of intensive, individualized support that the county-funded supported employment program provided. These losses represent far more than statistics—they are real people in our communities who were making progress, now left feeling limited and uncertain.

These services are working. They promote recovery, build resilience, and give people the tools to thrive in their communities. But without flexible, sustainable funding, we risk cutting off the very resources that keep people well. We also risk increased crises, ER visits, homelessness, returns to inpatient care—including state hospitals—and ultimately, higher long-term costs to the system.

I urge the state to provide adequate, flexible funding so counties can continue to serve those who fall outside Medicaid eligibility. We must invest in a mental health system that ensures access for all—regardless of insurance status—so that every person has the opportunity to live, heal, and thrive in their community. These individuals deserve consistent, compassionate care—not the fear that their recovery will be cut short by a budget line.

Submitted with deep respect and commitment to the individuals and communities we serve,

Jessica M. Paul  
Executive Director  
Consumer Satisfaction Services, Inc.  
Community Support Program

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My name is Brenda Jumper. I have had seizures since I was 8 months old and am now 63. My doctor has changed since I wrote my last letter on Advocacy Day at the Capitol. will get a new doctor on August 20, 2025 to take care of my teeth.

STAR center offers friendship, lunch daily and crafts. I only have social help and not counseling. I am no longer eligible for group because of loss of funding. hope that funding can be returned to STAR so that I can have the counseling that I need.

Thank you for your time.

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My name is Matt M. I have been a consumer at STAR for 10 years or more. I was in the hospital for mental illness. When I got out I got housing services in an apartment at Louther Street Apartment Building in Carlisle. My STAR services are talking, psych rehab, groups, lunch and recreation. Without these services I might be back in the hospital. I get to see people who also have mental illness and talk. We get some learning services at STAR too. Without them people would just be roaming around.

I get my medications at Merakey. Without services I might not have meds or a home. If we all lost our funding, people might do something stupid things like crime or things we don't want to do.

We should get funding. I don't know what I would do. I might be homeless or in a mental hospital.

It was hard to write this letter. Thank you for listening.

Matt M.

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My name is Dawn Koller. I live at New Visions housing on Hanover Street, Carlisle. I have attended STAR center for psych rehab and groups for about 10 years.. I am able to talk to my peers about my issues. I also help out in the kitchen.

I get worried about the funding being cut. My case manager, Christine through New Visions, helps me do my bills, grocery shop, to the laundromat, and doctor appointments.

My peer support, Alex, talks to me about how I'm doing through the week. I can't work because I have seizures.

I really couldn't make it on my own. It would be a terrible struggle and I would probably be homeless. How could I make it on my own if services are cut more in the future?

Thank you for listening and please don't cut with services any more. Those of us with mental health problems would suffer a lot.

Dawn Koller

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I am Toan Quang Huynh. I am a citizen of the United States and I have lived here for 25 years. I have been coming to the STAR center for 7 years, from 11/18 to 7/25.

My services at STAR are psych rehab, groups, supportive living and medication management. I get help with shopping for groceries and going to doctor appointments from my case manager. My peer support person is now on medical leave. They help me with communication skills and how to talk with people. I miss them.

If I don't receive these services, I won't be in good shape mentally, physically or socially. I know many people who would also be in bad shape.

Please don't cut the funding anymore because we would all suffer. Thank you for listening to me.

After the CSP meeting I realized how much time and energy that's put in to the S.T.A.R. Program (Steps Towards advocacy and Recovery)

I don't know where I would be if it wasn't for this program. I've learned computer skills, community skills and how to interact with this Mental illness that I have. We at S.T.A.R. have group meetings thru out our days that helps us learn each others ways and give you're together and have become like family. Together we've learned how to react in public and the outings we go on helps us to realize the difference between healthy living and stigma about Mental illness.

I hope for the future to be a "normal" person and continue to grow spiritually, mentally, and physically.

Thank you for your time!

Sincerely,  
Julie Green

7-21-2025

Hi, my name is Karen Haverda. I am a consumer and a member of the STAR in Cumberland County. I am worried because Cumberland County has lost so much mental health funding and services.

I have been coming to STAR since around the year 2012, maybe even before that. The County funding paid for ~~the~~ the psych rehab groups that I was attending. I thoroughly enjoyed attending these ~~psych~~ rehab groups. I got a lot out of it. I saved all the paperwork and materials that I received from these groups.

Cuts from mental health services have prevented me from continuing to go to these groups since December of 2024.

~~One of my favorite services~~  
One of my favorite services that was cut because of decrease in funding was the Warm Line. The Warm Line was a non-crisis, over the phone, peer-to-peer support service. It gave people who received services the opportunity to work ~~through~~ through their feelings. I also lost my job at the Warm Line. I really enjoyed my job and being employed at

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②

Monkey. I miss helping people  
and consumers since 2012.  
I worked there since 2012 til  
December of 2024.

Thank you for taking the  
time to listen and for hearing  
my story. If you wish to contact  
me further, please do. I'd be delighted  
to hear from you.

My contact information is as  
follows.

Karen M. Havaea  
68 Dawn Ridge Loop  
Carlisle PA 17013-2454.

KarenHavaea@gmail.com

Home 717-422-5282  
cell 717-331-2687

Sarah may read this at the  
KarenHavaea hearing.

7/21/2025

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FY 2025-2026

MY NAME IS JAMES BASIC

I AM A RESIDENT OF CARLISLE, PA. I HAVE BEEN COMING TO STAR FOR THE PAST YEAR. IF I COULDN'T GET THESE SERVICES I PROBABLY WOULD HAVE COMMITTED SUICIDE. I GET COUNSELING, USE IN-OUT THERAPY, PSYCH REHAB, AND GROUPS. I GET AN UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT MY MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES ARE ABOUT, AND HOW TO MANAGE THOSE ISSUES. I AM AN INTROVERT, BUT IF I'M ENGAGED BY PEOPLE AT STAR I BECOME SOCIAL. MY DIAGNOSES OF BIPOLAR CAN CAUSE STIGMA. IF I COULD NOT COME TO STAR I WOULD BE IN THE HOSPITAL OR DEAD.

I JUST GOT A PEER SUPPORT PERSON KATE AND A CASE MANAGER MAGGIE. MAGGIE HELPED ME FIND A PLACE TO LIVE WITHOUT ~~ME~~ I WOULD BE IN THE HOSPITAL OR DEAD.

I'M ASKING YOU TO CONTINUE THESE SERVICES BECAUSE THEY SAVED MY LIFE.

THANK YOU FOR HEARING MY STORY AND FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION FOR MY REQUEST.

JAMES BASIC

SARAH CAN READ

My name is Harold Weber, I am a psych rehab worker at Metickey STAR Center in Carlisle PA.

During my time here, in this place and community for 2+ years, I've met many people, wonderful people, who mean well and want to be active and helpful community members. The recent loss of services like County funded psych rehab and Supported Employment has caused a lot of stress among our communities, and I have personally seen how deeply our community is hurting.

Our community members, who lose these services are left suddenly without key help or guidance, many folks, myself included are often fear stricken and need help with assertiveness. Without at least some help from others many never even get to voice their needs. Left alone or abandoned by their very friends family and neighbors.

I ask that when decisions are made, in an attempt to represent our communities, that these quiet and kind souls are remembered, and that they are represented fairly and justly as any other American citizen. It's that right.

Thank you for your time and consideration.  
- Harold Weber 7/21/25

Testimony of Jennifer Polhemus  
Cumberland County Human Services Block Grant Plan Public Hearing  
Commissioner's Hearing Room  
1 Courthouse Square, #200  
Carlisle, PA 17013  
Wednesday, July 30, 2025  
1:30pm-2:30pm

Good afternoon.

I didn't come here today to beg for money or reinstatement of programs and services or lash out in desperation or anger. I came to do two things:

1. Say thank you. I am your Return On Investment (ROI)
2. Share radical acceptance and offer hope.

**Radical acceptance:**

The county has lopped off programs and services from those it serves like limbs from a body, and people are hemorrhaging out with no one to sop up the carnage. We can cry and wail, or we can radically accept and heal. We are no strangers to wounds. We know the ways of resiliency. Radical acceptance is not resignation. Radical acceptance is a courageous act of hope.

**Hope:**

In the words of Colicchie, "hope....H.O.P.E....Hold On Pain Ends", a remake of Tracy Chapman's song "Fast Car":

Maybe we can make a deal  
Maybe together we can get somewhere  
Any place is better  
Starting from zero, got nothing to lose  
Maybe we'll make something  
Me, myself, I got nothing to prove

Yes, we embrace HOPE and we will find healing. And when more is ripped away, leaving our bones broken, jagged, and raw...we will turn to our communities...we will turn to each other.

We gotta make a decision  
Leave {our fright} or live and die this way

I am Jennifer Polhemus. I am your Return On Investment. Come with me:

H eal  
O penly,  
P ossibilities are  
E ndless!

Thank you.



# MINUTES

## Cumberland County Public Hearing

July 30, 2025 at 1:30 p.m.  
Commissioners' Hearing Room  
Courthouse, Carlisle, PA

Phone (717) 240-6150 Website: [www.cumberlandcountypa.gov](http://www.cumberlandcountypa.gov)

### Public Hearing

#### RE: The 2025-2026 Human Services Block Grant Plan

Board of Commissioners Present: Commissioners Kelly Neiderer, Jean Foschi, and Gary Eichelberger.

Staff Present: Angela Smyser, Deputy Chief Clerk; Lauren Kauffman, Executive Assistant.

Department Staff Present: Jill Kurutz, IMTO; Samantha Krepps, Communications; Katie Zimmerman, Grants Administration; Keeter Kallam, Veterans Affairs; Dana Best, Finance; Annie Strite, Brian Wilson, Kristi Parthemore, MH/IDD; Nikki Gresh, Children and Youth Services; Brenda Iliff, Drug and Alcohol.

Department Staff Present via Zoom: Shane Henry, IMTO; Kim Winton, Aging.

Others Present: Jennifer Polhemus, Citizen.

Others Present Via Zoom: Harold Weber, Karen Halfner, Citizens.

Other Agencies Present: Bill August, Superintendent, Shippensburg Area School District; Sarah Sporer, Debra Helwig, Cumberland/Perry Community Support Program.

Other Agencies Present Via Zoom: Greg Welker, Alyssa Smith, Cumberland Area Economic Development Corporation.

Media Present: Charlie Thompson, PennLive.

Call to Order: Commissioner Neiderer called the public hearing to order.

**The 2025-2026 Human Services Block Grant Plan:** Brian Wilson presented the Human Services Block Grant Plan stating that the comprehensive plan will highlight all human services' needs, strengths and weaknesses for populations and is due August 11. He explained this is one of the two public hearings required by the state.

Brian Wilson covered the Mental Health portion, sharing that due to the deficit, services and support had to be cut. He reported the main priority of the department is to maintain and monitor current services to keep them as they are based on allocations. Brian explained their goals and priorities, which include sustaining the system, crisis intervention, and suicide prevention initiatives.

Annie Strite shared the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities portion, stating they plan to focus on the areas that will help individuals to achieve the goal of living an everyday life, such as finding

employment and living independently through supports coordination and competitive employment. She reported they continue to have problems with affordable housing for residential needs for independent living and complex behavioral cases.

Brenda Iliff provided an overview for the Drug & Alcohol portion and reported that they will be using the funding from the block grant to provide treatment services for individuals as a funder of last resort. She reported that unfortunately, due to Medicaid cuts, they will be losing COBRA funding but they will continue to address issues including vaping, marijuana, and alcohol usage in youth, and opioid use.

The Commissioners asked if there has been any scientific correlation between gambling and addiction. Discussion ensued.

Kim Winton covered the Human Services Development Fund and Homeless Assistance Program portions. In the Human Service Development Fund portion, it provides funding to Aging for transportation, personal care, care management, protective services, home delivered meals, and it supports the 24-hour contact health line. In the Homeless Assistance Program portion, she explained they support several agencies in the county, including Safe Harbour, Community Cares, Maranatha-Carlisle, and Blue Mountain Escape. She explained their case management rental assistance program provides assistance finding affordable housing to the homeless or near homeless' and they also work closely with the Housing and Redevelopment Authority to assist their homeless clients.

**Public Comment:** Karen Halfner read her testimonial about losing her job and services due to the county's cuts of services and programs.

Debra Helwig read some testimonials from Jessica Paul, James Baldic, and Won Huan Hyun expressing the importance of the services and programs provided by these departments.

Sarah Sporer read testimonials from Harold Weber, Richard Greene, Brenda Jumper, Dawn Kohler and Matt M., which expressed concerns over the loss of services and programs that the county had once been able to provide and the effect it will have.

Jennifer Polhemus thanked the commissioners for the investment in the county's support in mental health support so far and shared her thoughts of optimism and how everyone needs to be resilient in pulling through as funding is cut.

Bill August said that as Superintendent of Shippensburg District, the cut that has been made to the Student Assistance Program is a cost that the schools must now handle and they do not have the mental health expertise to assist.

Commissioner Foschi shared her frustration that the state budget has not been passed and that payments are delayed to human service organizations. Commissioner Neiderer thanked everyone for attending and shared she has heard the frustrations. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Foschi moved to approve the 2025-2026 Human Services Block Grant Plan. Commissioner Eichelberger seconded the motion and it unanimously carried.

**Other Business:** None.

**Adjourn:** There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Neiderer made a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lauren Kauffman, Executive Assistant

### **PART III: CROSS-COLLABORATION OF SERVICES**

For each of the following, please explain how the county works collaboratively across the human services programs; how the county intends to leverage funds to link residents to existing opportunities and/or to generate new opportunities; identify partners and agencies involved in the provision of services; and provide any updates to the county's collaborative efforts and any new efforts planned for the coming year. (Limit of 4 pages)

#### **1. Employment:**

Due to the increasing budget deficits for the last several fiscal years and lack of additional county base funding, the difficult decision was made to close the Supported Employment program on June 30, 2025. This is a great loss for our consumer population with severe mental illness as it provided tremendous support to the 100's of people who received this support since its inception in 2008. An average of 72% of the individuals served were able to obtain and maintain employment while working with an employment specialist in this program. Those receiving this service were transitioned to other community employment supports as available however those supports will not provide the same level of service (i.e. after-hour and follow along supports) as the Supported Employment program did. Psychiatric Rehabilitation services were also offered to support those with vocational goals; however, Psych Rehab is not a mobile service. It is only provided at the site locations, not in the community. Additionally, it is only available to individuals who have HealthChoices as it is no longer funded by county mental health base funds.

The Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) program continues to offer Project SEARCH which involves collaboration between a business partner, a job coaching agency, the local OVR, the national Project SEARCH program, and the local IDD county office. Project SEARCH is a unique business-led program that facilitates a seamless combination of classroom instruction, career exploration and job-skills training through strategically designed internships. The program involves real-life work experiences to help folks with intellectual disabilities have a productive adult life. The goal for each intern is to obtain competitive employment in their community upon completion of the program.

Staff from Cumberland-Perry IDD Services attend the local school districts' Transition Coordinators' meetings held once a month at the Capital Area Intermediate Unit. In addition, Transition Coordinators in Cumberland, Dauphin, and Perry counties are part of our Employment First work group that meets monthly. Our Employment First initiative focuses on educating individuals and families, the schools, and employers about the need to start the planning process early for transition from high school into adult services. Members of this initiative include: County IDD representatives, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR), supported employment providers, school districts' transition coordinators, employers, family members, and individuals w/IDD.

#### **2. Housing:**

All the county human service programs work closely with the Cumberland County Housing and Redevelopment Authority (CCHRA) as well as the county Homeless Assistance Programs and the local shelters to assist individuals and families in locating, obtaining, and maintaining housing within the community.

Both planning for additional services and the provision of services are improved through the process of communication and collaboration with multiple agencies, both County and non-county and through interagency projects and workgroups. Funding is provided to Contact Helpline (211) through the Human Services Development Fund under Generic Services - information and referral.

Cumberland County Aging and Community Services, C-P Mental Health, a provider identified through C-P Mental Health, and CC Housing and Redevelopment Authority collaborated during the past year to create an Elder Cottage Housing Opportunity (ECHO) in Cumberland County. Aging and Community Services received the grant to develop the first cottage in the county in 2023. The home is built, and applications are being sought. A portion of the HSDF coordination funds supports the salary of the Homeless Assistance Program Supervisor. Also, funds from the MH Office support the salaries of the Homeless and Special Needs staff at CCHRA.

Cumberland & Perry counties participate with the Coordinated Entry System through the CCHRA. This system endeavors to align all housing and homeless service providers and supportive services with a streamlined assessment and referrals to available services for the homeless. One master Community Queue is utilized to address homeless needs, instead of separate waiting lists. Those who are experiencing homelessness or near homelessness can call or text for information, vulnerability assessment, and referral assistance through the Coordinated Entry System. While these efforts are not funded by the Human Services Block Grant, they have significantly strengthened and improved assistance to individuals and families impacted by homelessness within our counties.

The Housing Coalition of Cumberland County includes a broad group of community stakeholders who have shown commitment to the mission “to effect positive and sustainable change in the housing system to obtain equitable, affordable, accessible, and secure housing for all Cumberland County residents.” The coalition has created a Housing Roadmap to help identify steps in seeking housing and barriers to address.

Working in partnership with the CCHRA, C-P Mental Health, and CABHC, reinvestment funds from CABHC were approved by OMHSAS to be used for two housing development projects in Cumberland County (Citrus Grove and Harbour Village) that provide two units at each site to be identified specifically for individuals diagnosed with a mental illness. Citrus Grove hosted their grand opening in May of 2024, and Harbour Village hosted an open house in September of 2024. Housing is a critical component of everyone’s lives and affordable housing is sorely lacking in our area.

Additional HealthChoices reinvestment funds were allocated for a Bridge Housing program that began in FY 23-24. Aimed at supporting individuals with severe mental illness during the transition from mental health residential programs, including Community Residential Rehabilitation (CRR), Long Term Structured Residence (LTSR), and Specialized Community Residence (SCR) Programs to independent living, this program provides bridge funding until Housing Choice Vouchers are fully put into place. All individuals entering CRR are expected to complete a housing application in anticipation of eventual independent living.

A Social Determinants of Health (SDoH) initiative was also implemented within the behavioral health system using Reinvestment funds, in conjunction with CABHC. Housing, utilities, and

transportation have been identified as the primary concerns for which staff are providing support. These funds have allowed many individuals and families to avoid eviction or the loss of utilities and remain within their homes in their communities.

An online version of the Prepared Renters Program (PREP) is available for those seeking or maintaining housing. This program provides education to participants on their rights and responsibilities as a tenant. Completion of the program results in a certificate that can be helpful in obtaining housing as well as an increased understanding of landlord/tenant laws. Individuals do not have to be a client of CCHRA to participate, so there is strong collaboration with all human services agencies in providing this valuable service since housing needs cross all areas.

## **PART IV: HUMAN SERVICES NARRATIVE**

### **CUMBERLAND AND PERRY MENTAL HEALTH & INTELLECTUAL & DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PROGRAM**

In December 1967, a joint Mental Health & Mental Retardation program was established with the Boards of County Commissioners of Cumberland and Perry Counties in compliance with the Mental Health & Mental Retardation Act of 1966. The agency, now known as Cumberland-Perry Mental Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Program (C-P MH.IDD) operates as a department of Cumberland County government and serves residents of Cumberland and Perry Counties in need of those treatment services and rehabilitative supports. Our county joinder agreement has been mutually beneficial and remains in effect today.

#### **MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

Our mission statement of “Supporting all people with mental illness to live and participate fully as valued, integrated members of our communities with the choices, responsibilities, dignity, respect, and opportunities afforded all citizens” drives our planning process and provision of community-based mental health services within Cumberland and Perry Counties.

**a) Program Highlights: (Limit of 6 pages)**

Please highlight the achievements and other programmatic improvements that have enhanced the behavioral health service system in FY 24-25.

The Mental Health Office instituted 6-month budgets for providers, anticipating a continued struggle to have enough funds to adequately serve our growing community. Immediately following the passage of the Governor’s budget on July 11, 2024, County staff reviewed all provider budgets and convened meetings to discuss programs that would no longer be county funded. These initial program cuts were operationalized on January 1, 2025.

- Despite the county no longer funding the Community Support Program (CSP) per the Jan 1 program cuts, this vital initiative has continued through ongoing efforts to sustain and secure funding for needed services in the community. Community agencies and partners have stepped up to support ongoing events such as the Mental Health Awareness Walk, Advocacy Day at the Capitol, and monthly CSP meetings. Through a combination of grant support and grassroots fundraising, CSP has been able to maintain key offerings that promote connection, wellness, and recovery. This ongoing work reflects the commitment of community members and partners to fill the gaps and keep recovery-focused programming alive—even in the face of funding challenges. However, sustainable county or state funding would significantly enhance the reach, consistency, and long-term impact of these efforts.
- American Rescue Plan Act (**ARPA**) **funding** grants were awarded via the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners for projects identified as providing “mental health and physical health” support to positively impact the Cumberland County community in recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Most grants ended in December of 2024, with the exception of a grant with Penn State Hershey Medical Center to provide a

Psychiatric Residency Program. The goal is to increase the number of psychiatric physicians in our central Pennsylvania region. The most recent report indicates that one resident recently graduated and accepted employment at Penn State Holy Spirit Hospital. We continue to be hopeful to obtain positive outcomes of this important project.

- *Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) development* continues as we work to establish a robust CIT program to provide quality crisis response. The CIT Program is a local partnership between law enforcement, mental health providers, crisis intervention, local NAMI chapters and other human service agencies and community stakeholders designed to improve the outcomes of police interactions with people living with mental illness who are experiencing a behavioral health crisis. During 2024, the CIT program has continued to grow and evolve to strengthen the partnerships between first responders, including 911, law enforcement, and the community mental health system including crisis intervention, with the support of individuals with lived experience and family members. The CIT steering committee provided two, 40-hour trainings for law enforcement and other stakeholders on how to better respond to people experiencing a behavioral health crisis.

Two CIT trainings are held annually with 48 additional individuals being trained this past year including local Law Enforcement Officers, Crisis Intervention staff, Certified Recovery Specialists, Certified Peer Specialists, and Advocates. To date, there have been a total of 218 professionals trained through Cumberland-Perry Counties' CIT Program. The next training is scheduled for September 22-26, 2025, and currently at its cap of 24 individuals. Additionally, all 911 call-takers received the CIT Support Training for 911. This training will be provided as needed due to turnover and new hires.

CIT is not just a training. Effective CIT programs are based on strong relationships between law enforcement, 911 Dispatch, mental health care providers, advocates, families, and people living with mental illness. CIT is a long-lasting, evolving partnership based on mutual goals. CIT has been funded using HealthChoices Community Support funds and a grant from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD). The PCCD grant ended on June 30, 2025.

- *Development of Regional Crisis Walk-in Center and Expanded Mobile Crisis Services –* The Emergency Behavioral Health Crisis Walk in Center is located on South Cameron St, Harrisburg and serves 3 counties – Cumberland, Dauphin, and Perry. The Emergency Behavioral Health Crisis Walk in Center opened in stages from December of 2024 through mid January 2025., Connections Health Solutions provides walk in crisis intervention services, urgent behavioral health care, mobile crisis, and up to 23 hours of stabilization time to best support individuals in our region. Much work has occurred with 911, 988, all police jurisdictions, including state police, the courts, and numerous community stakeholders to provide education regarding the new service and how it is different from the existing crisis programs. The Connections Crisis program helps our counties to align with the SAMHSA best practice guidelines for crisis intervention services. Continued prioritization is required to address long term

sustainable funding, and the acknowledgement of the need for crisis regulations. In the short-term, ARPA grant funds are being utilized to cover operations until the grant is fully expended, funds must be used by September 30, 2025. Additional funds are provided using an Alternative Payment Arrangement (APA) which has been approved by OMHSAS to help offset expenses for individuals covered under the behavioral HealthChoices program. As Connections continues to negotiate with other 3<sup>rd</sup> party insurers, the Department of Human Services (OMHSAS) has approved HealthChoices reinvestment funds to cover operational expenses until a fee for service model can be fully realized.

- **988 Live** – significant expansion within the local 988 provider – Penn State Health Holy Spirit’s Crisis Intervention program became a part of the **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline network** on August 17, 2022. Previously calls from within our local area codes in our counties were routed to Butler County for this national hotline. Since 2022, “988” calls are answered locally by Cumberland and Perry Counties’ Crisis Program which expedites response in potentially time-critical situations and allows for more local knowledge for effective call resolution. Due to the loss of a 988 provider, Adams, York, and Dauphin counties have been added to our primary call answer region as well. Conversations continue in order to strengthen support of the 988-call center network and ensure sustainable funding, since little funding accompanied the expansion with these additional counties. Call volume continues to rise. In May of 2024, our call center was offered 609 calls with a 97% answer rate. In May of 2025, our call center was offered 912 calls with a 97.5% answer rate, thus showing a 50% increase in call volume for the region for the same month. There has been exceptional work with both 911 and the Connections Emergency Behavioral Health Crisis mobile team to develop protocols to best respond to community crisis events. As protocols have been established, both Perry County, and Dauphin County are working to mirror similar processes.
- **System-wide advocacy for improved funding** has continued to be a priority in our counties. The Cumberland and Perry Counties’ Mental Health Office and Stakeholders have provided leadership, intentional education, and advocacy in our communities. This year stakeholder groups both local and statewide have formed to continue to provide important education and advocacy regarding the importance of strong local community supports for individuals with lived experience of mental illness to provide ecosystems that support personal recovery. Numerous stakeholders have partnered to communicate directly with local legislators. Population growth and service utilization continue to outpace additional revenues received.

**b) Strengths and Needs by Populations: (Limit of 8 pages #1-11 below)**

Please identify the strengths and needs of the county/joinder service system specific to each of the following target populations served by the behavioral health system. When completing this assessment, consider any health disparities impacting each population. Additional information regarding health disparities is available at <https://www.samhsa.gov/resource/tta/national-network-eliminate-disparities-behavioral-health-nned>.

## 1. Older Adults (ages 60 and above)

- Strengths: **Collaboration with Office of Aging and Community Services** in both Cumberland and Perry counties continues to be very helpful in addressing the needs of this population. MH staff participate in both the Regional (Cumberland) **LINK meetings** as well as the Perry County LINK meetings and offer community resources as needed to support older adults to maintain independent living as long as possible.

A **Certified Peer Specialist** continues to be funded by the Cumberland County Office of Aging to provide peer support services through Merakey-Stevens Center to older adults who do not qualify under HealthChoices funding. Also, a **Senior Care Manager** works with a psychiatrist who is a **Geriatric Specialist** to address older adult needs through Penn State Health Holy Spirit Behavioral Health Center, a local mental health provider agency that serves both counties.

**Specialized Community Residences (SCR)** have continued to provide exceptional support to individuals with severe mental illness when they develop significant physical health needs, often with age, to support them in the community. Licensed as personal care homes and specially MH trained staff, these three SCRs are **at capacity**. New Visions, Inc., now provides this service for all three locations due to a previous provider electing to terminate their contract due to budget concerns. This created significant extra effort and expense to ensure that the sixteen (16) individuals receiving this service in the 2 affected homes did not end up homeless. The need for this type of living environment is significant, especially as the population continues to age and develop additional medical needs. The physical health needs of these residents continue to increase and require additional medical focus. This service is paid for by county-base funds.

- Needs: With Cumberland County remaining as one of the fastest growing counties in the state, a **continued growth** in the aging population has also been noted as well as an increase in suicide rates. Needs for this population continue to expand, but the availability of services has not. **Staffing in Human Services** is a significant need, and the aging population continues to be impacted by this service gap tremendously.

When **Medicare** is the insurer, access to needed mental health services is extremely difficult for older adults. There are significantly fewer outpatient community providers accepting Medicare. While this is less of an issue for those who are dual eligible [Medicare and Medical Assistance (MA)], those having Medicare without MA have significant difficulty in accessing services. Since Medicare is the primary funder of treatment for many older adults in our counties, this significantly impacts **service options as well as access to care**. Individuals with Medicare are finding lengthy wait times of 3 – 6 months or even longer for service.

**Telehealth** continues to be a challenge especially for this population who may not be digitally literate. Complaints from older adults on the quality and satisfaction with telehealth services have also been noted, with stated preference to be seen in person. In addition, internet accessibility is a challenge in the rural areas of our counties.

## 2. Adults (ages 18 to 59)

- Strengths: **Certified Peer Specialist (CPS)** services embedded in several community programs as well as 2 stand-alone CPS units (provided by Merakey-Stevens Center and PeerStar) are available in our counties. These services are paid for by HealthChoices. Unfortunately, county funded peer support was cut effective December 31, 2024, due to ongoing budget struggles.

**Psychiatric Rehabilitation** is provided by Merakey-Stevens Center who employs four Certified Psychiatric Rehabilitation Practitioners (CPRP). Psych Rehab is focused on skill building in the four domains of living, learning, working, and socializing. This program is based in Carlisle and operates as a satellite at the three additional Social Rehabilitation programs throughout Cumberland and Perry Counties. This licensed program is no longer funded by county-base dollars due to the mid-year budget cuts for our MH programs. Only those individuals who are Medicaid eligible can obtain this service.

In addition, three **Social Rehabilitation** providers (Merakey-Stevens Center, Aurora Social Rehabilitation Services, and New Visions) operate programs at four sites throughout Cumberland and Perry counties. Social Rehab is focused on recovery and community connectedness. This service is paid for solely by county-base funds.

**Wellness Recovery Action Planning (WRAP)** is offered on an individual basis within many of our consumer-run and consumer-directed programs. While we do not track who completes a WRAP, it is a highly valuable service for those individuals who choose to participate.

Four **Fairweather Lodges** operated by New Visions are located in Newport, Shippensburg, Newville, and Carlisle with members running a transportation business and limited janitorial business within the two counties. Due to budget cuts, we are no longer able to fund the two Fairweather Lodge Coordinator positions.

As previously mentioned, three **Specialized Community Residences (SCR)** provide services to individuals who require personal care for physical health supports with a specialized mental health focus. These residences are licensed personal care homes that are enhanced to meet the needs of individuals with mental illness. The existence of the SCRs has enabled several residents to transition from higher levels of care (State Hospital or LTSR) to this more community-based setting and/or avoid being placed in a higher level of care. This service is paid for with county-base funds.

**Supportive Living** services are provided to over 60 individuals by New Visions and Merakey-Stevens Center to aid in maintaining their housing in the community. This service is paid for solely with county-base funds.

**Supported Apartments** offer 20 individuals with high needs the opportunity to reside in the community and receive the extensive supports that are needed, including 24-hour on-site supervision. Funded by county-base funds and provided by New Visions, this service has supported many individuals to leave higher, more intensive, and restrictive levels of service, such as the State Hospital, EAC, or LTSR, and maintain within this community setting.

Cumberland-Perry Counties' Mental Health was awarded \$100,000 in managed care Reinvestment funds from CABHC which is being designated as "**Bridge Funding**". These funds are used to assist individuals with a priority mental health diagnosis who are transitioning from a residential setting to independent living. The referral process includes a recommendation from the individual's mental health case manager or primary residential worker that supports the individual's ability to live independently and identifies any supports and services needed for and agreed to by the individual. The individual must qualify for a Housing Choice Voucher and is given priority on the voucher waiting list. It may still take months for the individual to receive his/her voucher, but the "Bridge Funding" will be able to pay that portion of the rent while the person is living in their own place. The MH office works closely with CCHRA and provides funding to support individuals using a "housing first" approach. Our County has encountered a shortfall with HUD funding and vouchers have not been able to be disbursed since September 2024, so these funds are not going to support as many individuals as initially anticipated, and individuals continue to struggle with finding affordable housing. There is also concern about the sweeping changes to the federal housing budgets, with limited insight regarding how these changes will impact the local housing options.

**Social determinants of health (SDoH) supports** are critical in supporting individuals and families and helping them to live successfully in the community. As the recent pandemic and economic concerns have greatly impacted folks financially, reinvestment funds from CABHC were identified to support these needs for those with mental health or substance use disorders. These funds have successfully addressed needs in the areas of housing, utilities, transportation, childcare, food insecurity, employment, clothing and financial strain for some individuals and families.

The **Forensic MH Team** comprised of two Forensic case managers (employed by Penn State Health-Holy Spirit) works closely with County MH staff, Prison staff, Probation offices, and the Judicial systems in both Cumberland and Perry counties to help support those individuals with mental illness who have been incarcerated locally as well as coordinates with staff from State Correctional Institutes (SCI) for those individuals with severe mental illness being released from prison. These services are paid for by county-base funds and PerformCare (as Resource Coordination) if the individual receiving services is Medical Assistance eligible.

The addition of the **TOMS (Together Optimizing Mental Health Solutions) Court team** in 2017 has also been very beneficial in addressing the mental health needs of those who have forensic involvement. The Cumberland County TOMS Court is a pretrial diversionary program for participants diagnosed with a serious and persistent mental illness. Participants are referred to the program by Police Officers, Magisterial District Judges, Jail Treatment Staff, Attorneys, Probation Officers, Case Workers, and Judges. TOMS Court is comprised of the forensic mental health case managers, judge, assistant district attorney and public defender, deputy sheriff, probation/parole officer, prison treatment staff, county mental health staff, and treatment court coordinator. Our new Forensic Liaison Coordinator is part of this team as well. This partnership strives to address the specialized needs of participants with serious mental illness, thereby reducing recidivism rates, ensuring public safety, and improving the quality of life for participants by establishing mandatory, comprehensive, community-based treatment and services within the guidelines of the Cumberland County TOMS Court.

Our **local Suicide Prevention Initiatives** are a strength within our communities:

- **Preventing Unnecessary Loss through Suicide Education (PULSE) task force** continues to faithfully meet with the goal of providing community education and awareness to decrease suicides in our counties. Initiatives are based on the task force priorities of "Providing Support, Education and Outreach". The task force has had numerous successes in the last year by opportunities to participate in multiple community health fairs and other community events to distribute information about suicide prevention. Our CASSP staff have also supported this work by working to engage schools in our suicide prevention efforts.

For years the taskforce has expressed the desire to strengthen outreach and collaboration with local schools. The taskforce continues to develop stronger partnerships with our school partners. This year, working with CASSP and PULSE, the film "My Ascension" was shown in the West Shore School District followed by a panel to discuss suicide prevention efforts in our community.

As referenced in last year's plan, one of the Taskforce members has started a 501c3, "Cal's Hope," in honor of his late father and brother who passed away to suicide. The mission of Cal's Hope is to create scholarship opportunities for students entering the mental health field as a career choice. Additionally, one trained loss survivor is convening 2 support groups monthly, one in Dauphin County, and one in Cumberland County.

- **Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) training:** While QPR is not intended to be a form of counseling or treatment, it is intended to offer hope through positive action. QPR is also intended to help recognize the warning signs, clues, and suicidal communications of people in trouble and to act vigorously to prevent a possible tragedy. During the last fiscal year, 161 members of our community have received QPR training including Cumberland County staff, Cumberland County Prison Staff, Law Enforcement Officers, outpatient providers of services for individuals with substance use disorders, and college internship students.

Cumberland County's Human Resources Department is working in strong collaboration with the MH office to ensure county personnel have access to QPR training.

Additionally, a trainer with the Cumberland County Prison (CCP) provides QPR to all corrections officers. An EMT now trains EMS personnel, and a police officer provides QPR training to law enforcement officers. Several staff have reported being grateful for receiving the training as they have put the principles to use in either the workplace or their personal lives within a week of participating in the training.

While the number of individuals trained in QPR has decreased, it is important to remember that these efforts are led by volunteers who willingly offer their time and skill to train others. Despite these efforts, our communities' rates of suicide remain unacceptably high. More information is provided in section **(c) Recovery Oriented Systems Transformation** and **(d 5) Suicide Prevention Initiatives**.

**Assertive Community Treatment (ACT)/Community Treatment Team (CTT)** is available for C-P residents with HealthChoices/MA funds or county-base eligibility and is provided by Merakey-Stevens Center. This service allows individuals to be successful to live in a community setting, thereby diverting from more intensive, restrictive, and costly services, and promoting opportunities for personal growth and community engagement.

**Mobile Psychiatric Nursing** is a valuable service for individuals in Cumberland and Perry counties which is paid for by HealthChoices Behavioral Health Managed Care. Merakey-Capital has implemented this service to address these needs in our communities.

Also, the **Outpatient trauma-focused services** and training around DBT and CBT are significant strengths in our service array. Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) is also provided within our counties and found to be beneficial in addressing trauma-related needs. Of course, traditional Outpatient and Inpatient services (provided by numerous agencies) as well as county funded Administrative Base Service Unit (BSU) and Targeted Case Management (both provided by Merakey-Stevens Center and Penn State Health-Holy Spirit) supports continue to be provided. These services continue to be funded based on individuals' eligibility by HealthChoices/MA and county-base funds.

**Physical Health-Behavioral Health connections:**

- **Community Health Workers** for all age populations are available in Cumberland and Perry Counties via various funding from CABHC, Partnership for Better Health, the United Way of Capital Region, and their Contact to Care initiative. Community Health workers help to improve access to health care for un- and under-insured individuals in the Capital Region. Their focus is on social determinants of health and workers are available to help any individual in the

community. Sadler Center offers a team of workers who collaborate with non-profits and schools in both Cumberland and Perry Counties.

- **UPMC Street Medicine Program in Cumberland and Perry County** - serves anyone who is homeless and lacks a primary care doctor. They provide a range of services and outreach, using a portable medical backpack. The four-point program consists of: consults, clinics, street rounds and street feet (washing). They focus on troubleshooting key barriers of transportation and insurance funding/co-pay. The most difficult barrier is lack of trust. Those folks who are homeless often live in their cars or in local formal and informal campgrounds.
- **UPMC Carlisle HUG meetings** – brings together physical healthcare workers, behavioral health workers, and other community organizations to discuss specific individuals' needs and identify potential referrals and supports during a monthly meeting.

All these traditional and non-traditional services have made the difference for a substantial number of individuals in their recovery within our communities and counties.

- Needs: Analysis of how the loss of services will negatively impact local communities. During the past fiscal year, cuts have been implemented. The fallout from these cuts will be realized during this year.

Due to the budget deficit and lack of county funding, the **Supported Employment program** was closed on June 30, 2025. This is a great loss for our consumer population with severe mental illness as it provided tremendous support to the 100's of people who received this support since its inception in 2008. An average of 72% of the individuals served were able to obtain and maintain employment while working with an employment specialist in this program. Those receiving this service were transitioned to other community employment supports as available however those supports will not provide the same level of service (after hours and follow along supports) as the Supported Employment program did. Psychiatric Rehabilitation services were also offered to support those with vocational goals; however, it is not a mobile service and is provided at the Psych Rehab locations only and not in the community.

While we offer a wide array of services and supports, traditional outpatient psychiatry and therapy seem to be the services that are the most **difficult to locate and successfully connect folks**. We continue to experience a dwindling number of providers willing to serve those with severe and persistent mental illness and those remaining practices have minimal availability, long wait periods, or are not accepting any new referrals. Lack of

psychiatry and medication management has been the cause of hospital recidivism and frequent crisis intervention contacts.

The consumer-run **WarmLine** (provided by Merakey-Stevens Center) was a listening, problem solving, and reminder service for individuals and their family members that was staffed by workers with lived experience. Paid for solely by county-base funds, unfortunately this service ended December 31, 2024, due to the budget cuts made in our MH program and is no longer available in our counties. Alternate contact numbers for support were distributed to callers. It is noteworthy that national NAMI has developed a warmline that may be helpful.

Flexibility within our mental health system has significantly diminished over the last 15+ years, especially the ability to quickly accommodate presenting needs. Transitions from higher level intensive services are problematic when the community services needed do not exist or are full. People waiting for **12 – 20 weeks for a psychiatric evaluation** are ending up at Crisis Intervention and some are hospitalized psychiatrically. Had services been available, this higher level of care may not have been necessary. Individuals in higher levels of care have at times had lengthy delays transitioning to community supports since aftercare services are not readily available. We expect that the development of the Regional Crisis Walk-in Center will address some of these needs and provide helpful diversion, but increased capacity within the community service delivery system is critically needed.

**Access to affordable housing** continues to limit transition from community residential supports which continue to be full since those individuals have been unable to access independent housing. Significant decreases are anticipated in the Housing Choice Vouchers due to proposed changes in the Federal Budget. The lack of affordable housing stock impedes the ability of individuals to locate and maintain independent housing in the community. This is a focused goal area of the Housing Coalition of Cumberland County, formerly LHOST. In addition, Reinvestment funds were utilized in the development of 2 local Capital Projects (Citrus Grove and Harbor Village) for housing individuals with disabilities providing two (2) units each for set-asides specific for individuals with severe mental illness within the developments. Both programs opened this past year.

3. **Transition age Youth (ages 18-26)** - Counties are encouraged to include services and supports assisting this population with independent living/housing, employment, and post-secondary education/training.

- Strengths: A **Transition Age Youth Coordinator** (employed by Merakey-Stevens Center) continues to assist in addressing the needs of youth ages 16–23 as they transition from the child to the adult mental health systems of care. This position is available through Managed Care Reinvestment funds to support youth in planning for employment, housing, education, and other life activities that support them in functioning safely within the community. The biggest issues these individuals face are the lack of housing supports (vouchers, especially) and employment opportunities. Graduates of the program have been utilized as peer mentors and volunteers, which has been beneficial. For July-March 2025, a total of 57 unduplicated members were served. Please note that we do not have data for May and June 2025 due to the unavailability of claims. Additionally, it should also be noted that the program experienced staff turnover in December 2024 and April 2025 which impacted new enrollment of members.

Involvement in the **First Episode Psychosis Program: CAPSTONE** via the SAMHSA grant with Dauphin County is a benefit to this transition-age population in our counties. CAPSTONE, which stands for Clinical Assessment Peer Support Treatment Ongoing Education/Employment, utilizes the NAVIGATE model of Coordinated Specialty Care which conveys the mission of helping individuals with a first episode of psychosis and their families to successfully find their way to psychological and functional well-being, and to access the services needed in the mental health system. Operating in Dauphin County since April 2017 through a SAMHSA grant, Cumberland-Perry MH joined in Dec 2019. This collaborative approach with Pennsylvania Psychiatric Institute (PPI) providing mental health treatment services, Merakey Stevens Center providing Certified Peer Specialist, Penn State Health Holy Spirit providing Case Management, and Dauphin YWCA providing Supported Employment services supports young adults aged 16 – 30. Currently twelve (12) C-P residents are actively participating in this program.

Connections with natural and community supports are vital in providing the positive support that is needed for this transitional age population. **Community Employment Supports** such as Equus Work Force Solutions and CareerLink are utilized to support youth to find jobs and become productive citizens, which is paramount as opposed to allowing young adults to become entrenched in the public welfare system with SSI and publicly funded services.

Over the past year, efforts have been made to expand the **Peer Support Specialist** program to include services for the transition age population starting at the age of 14. Cumberland/Perry County increased provider capacity from 1 to 3, however one provider subsequently closed due to not receiving enough referrals. During the 2024-2025 fiscal year, a total of two adolescents were served by one of the new peer support specialist providers. This represents an area of potential growth for the county, highlighting the need to educate stakeholders and promote transparency and increasing awareness and understanding of these services.

- Needs:  
Transition age youth (TAY) aging out of Intensive Behavioral Health Services (IBHS) or Residential Treatment Facilities (RTF) often **do not meet the diagnostic**

**criteria of serious and persistent mental illness (SMI)**, which the state has established as eligibility criteria for county base-funded adult services. Some of these young adults have historically been successful in transitioning away from mental health services. A smaller subset of those young adults who have spent their youth in institutional environments and have not had more normalizing experiences also present with significantly challenging circumstances, such as serious self-harm behaviors. Additionally, a few of these adolescents also have co-occurring mental illness, autism, and/or Intellectual Disabilities. These transition age youth present a challenge to **keep them safe and support them in their recovery and independence** in a community setting, especially in a time when financial resources to provide support within the community mental health system are clearly insufficient. Over the past year, efforts have been made to expand the Peer Support Specialist program to include services for the transition age population starting at the age of 14. Cumberland/Perry County increased provider capacity from 1 to 3, however one provider subsequently closed due to not receiving enough referrals. During the 2024-2025 fiscal year, a total of two adolescents were served by one of the new peer support specialist providers. This represents an area of potential growth for the county, highlighting the need to educate stakeholders and promote transparency and increase awareness and understanding of these services.

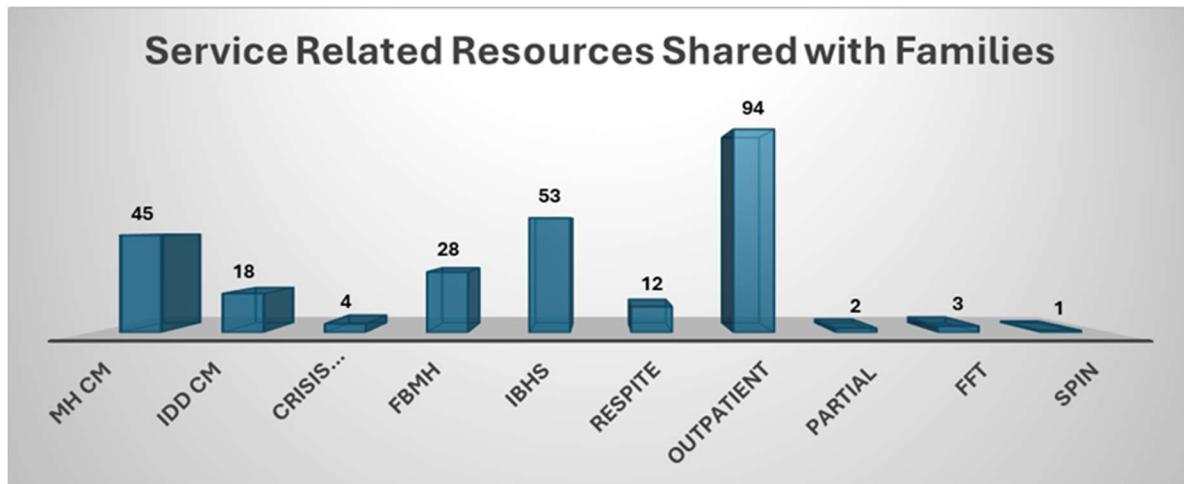
**Planning** to meet the needs of these youth is difficult, often due to loss of connections and normalizing experiences that children would typically attain within the family setting. Expansion of transition age programs to consider and/or include **short-term residential options** is needed to improve resiliency and support recovery in these young adults. Programs are also needed that provide **Supported Education** as well as **teaching fundamental skill sets about living independently** in the community, including such basics as interacting with others and boundaries due to the lack of parental-like supports in their lives.

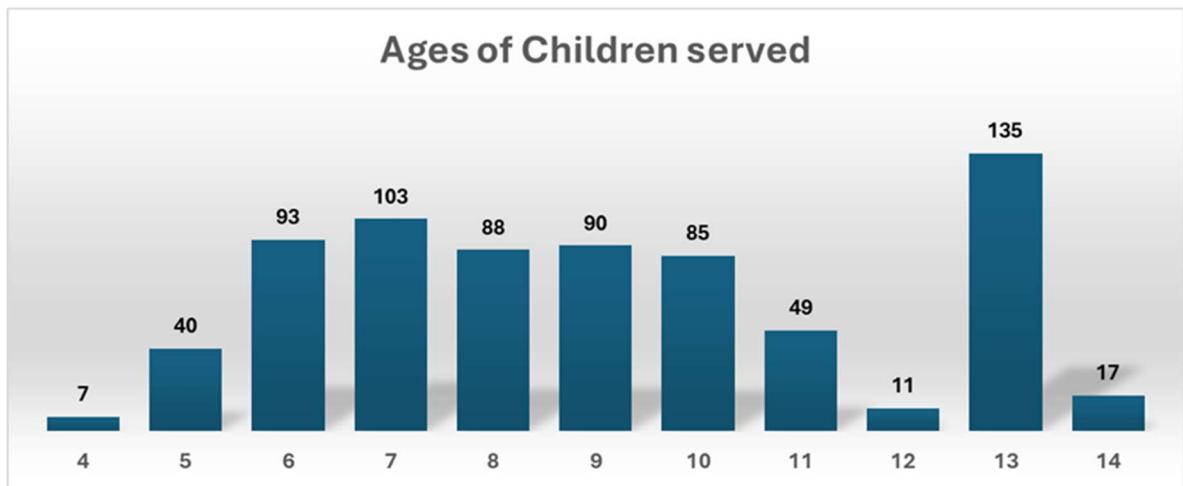
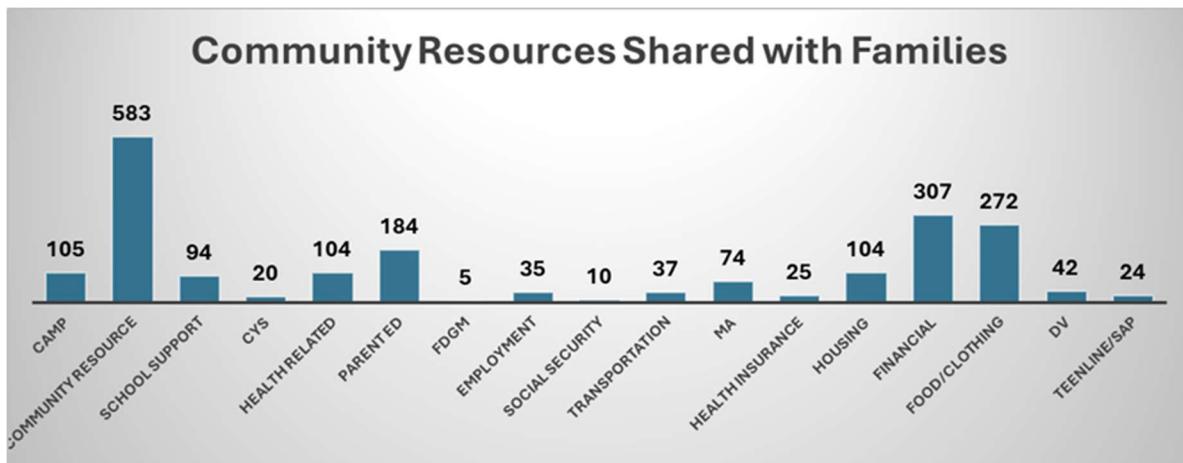
CABHC and the five counties developed a service description for a **Community Based Residential Treatment Facility Program (RTF)** to address some of these needs. With a focus on serving complex case needs, this community-based RTF, located in Lancaster County, allows more opportunity for family engagement and effective family reintegration. Community Services Group implemented this program with the first admission on November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023. It should be noted that the program had a suspension of referrals in August 2024 due to concerns regarding safety and quality of treatment. At that time, following a comprehensive review, a committee was established to evaluate all new potential admissions and slowly allow the provider to accept 1 member at a time. This permitted the provider the time they needed to address treatment practices accordingly. A soft reopening began in April of 2025, during which one Cumberland County member was served in this fiscal year.

4. Children (under age 18) - *Counties are encouraged to include services like Student Assistance Program (SAP), respite services, and Child and Adolescent Service System Program (CASSP) coordinator services and supports, System of Care (SOC) as well as the development of community alternatives and diversion efforts to residential treatment facility placements.*

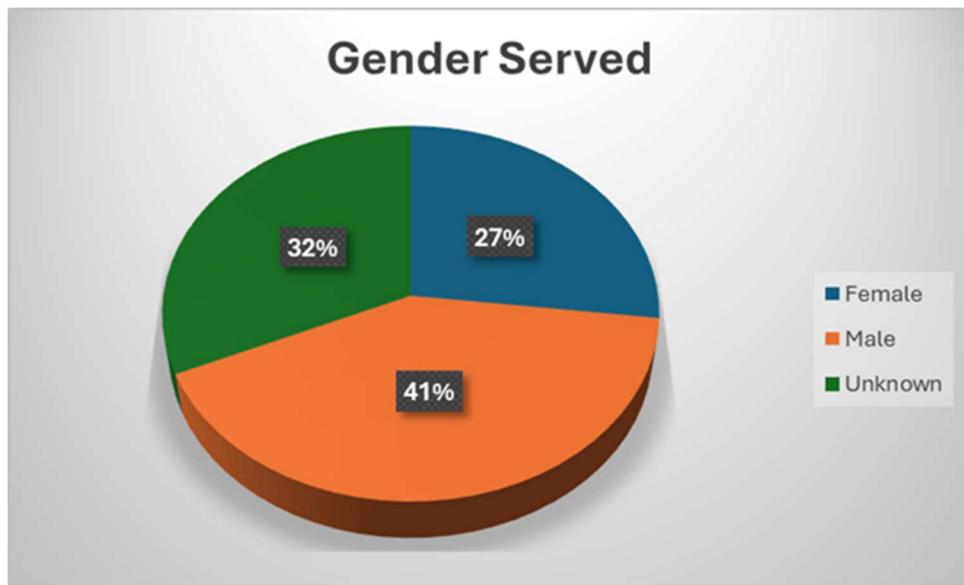
Strengths: The majority of children's services are not funded by county base dollars but rather by medical assistance and managed care as well as parents' private insurance. County base-funded *Outpatient, Family-Based and Case Management services* are also available for children if they are not covered by insurance.

Our CASSP *elementary school-based workers* are present in all 49 public elementary schools within the two counties to support school staff and families with connections to local resources and community services as needed. It is a short-term service that is aimed at early intervention in order to promote resiliency and build natural supports. This service provided support to 718 students and their families during 2024-2025 school year. Of the 718 students served during the school year, 496 cases were actively opened within the program. The remaining 222 were consultation cases, where staff supported school districts with resources and assistance, though the cases were not formally opened within the department.

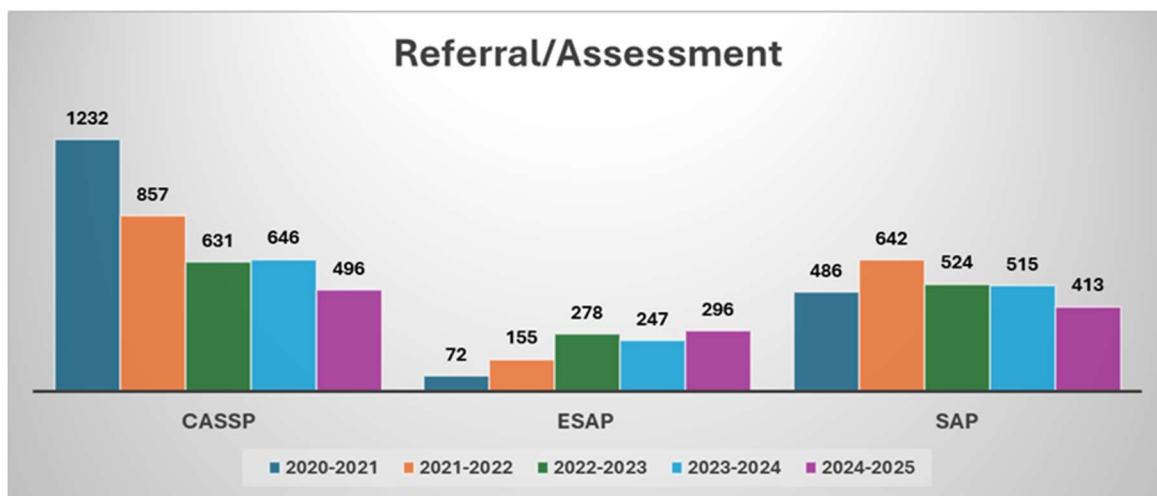




*Please note in the data above- although this program is designed to support elementary students, staff will screen all family members for areas of need, so the data may include individuals of older ages*



In addition, our office has been supporting the growth of *Elementary Student Assistance Program (ESAP)* to help bolster preventative and supportive services in the Elementary School Buildings in our counties. It should be noted that this program is an educational unfunded mandate that highly suggests that ESAP teams should be operating in all public-school buildings K-12. ESAP is currently operating in all elementary schools throughout Cumberland and Perry Counties. This school year, referrals for ESAP increased by 20% (247 cases to 296) and referrals for CASSP Elementary decreased by 11% (646 cases to 576). It should be noted that the same staff cover both ESAP and CASSP Elementary Programs (providing a dual role within their elementary buildings). When combining both programs (ESAP and CASSP), there was a 2% decrease in referrals this year. It's important to note that one staff member was on leave for two months, which impacted our ability to keep up with the referral demand.

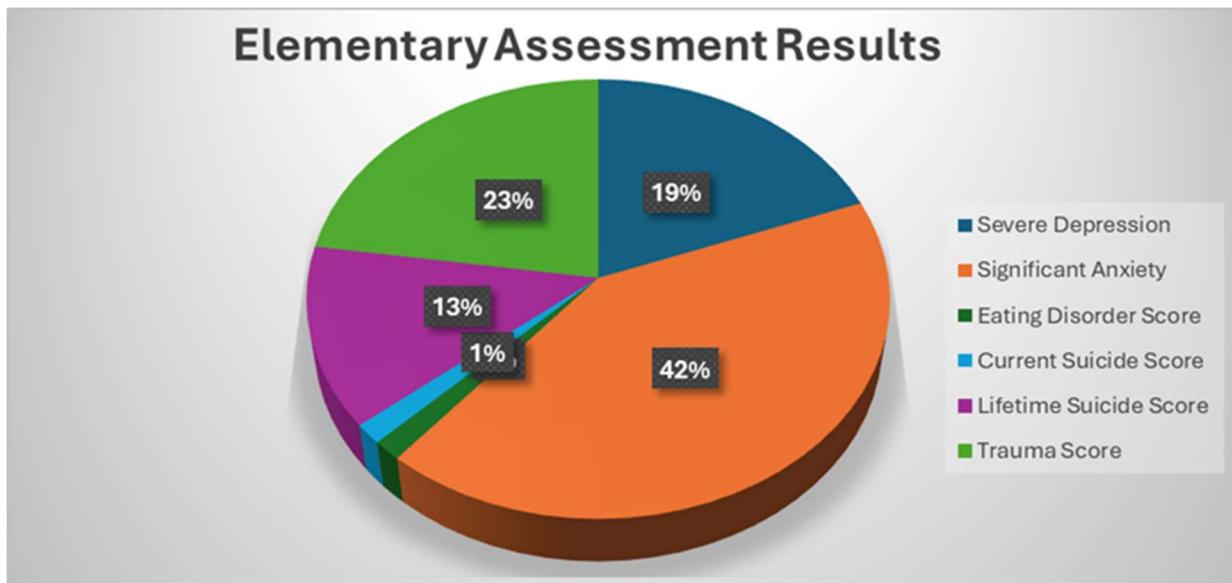


The *Student Assistance Program (SAP)* was provided through Teenline at Penn State Health-Holy Spirit and serves the middle and high school secondary levels throughout both counties for the mental health component. This school year SAP had a decrease of 23% referrals comparatively to last year which had a decrease of 20% Teenline conducted a total of 413 assessments as noted in the previous chart. Please note that, as of April of this year, it was decided to terminate the contract for this program due to inadequate funding resources. Additional information regarding the need for sufficient and sustainable funding is outlined below.

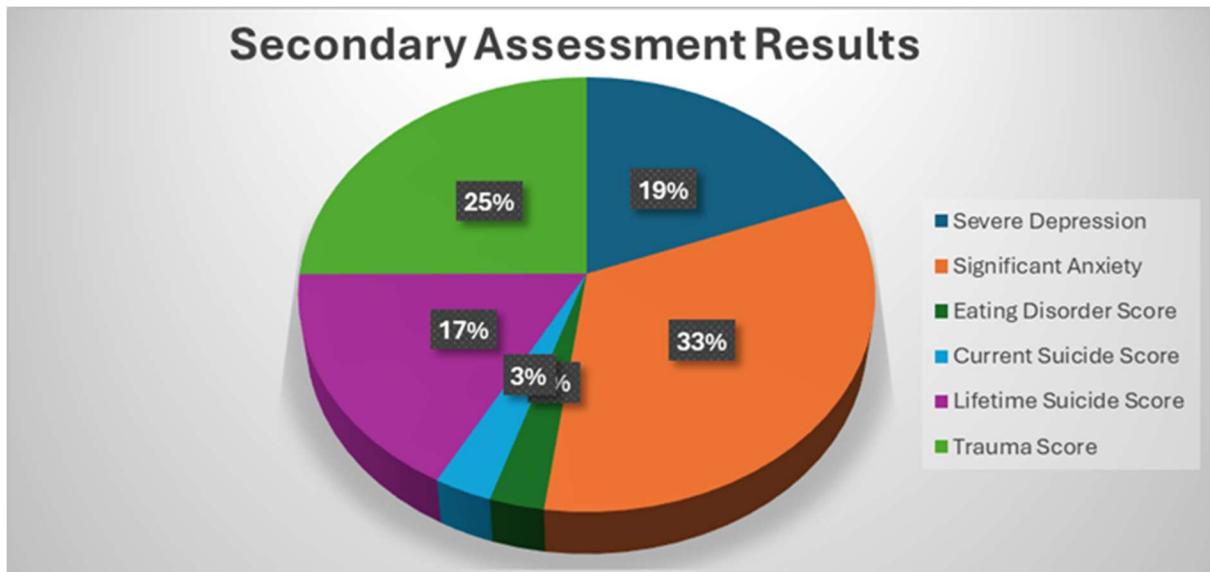
As the ESAP program continues to grow, we continue to hold 2 shared staff meetings with D&A liaisons and ESAP MH liaisons to discuss how to enhance our collaboration, discuss any trends/barriers, review processes and determine if we need to change any practices. These meetings also have been imperative in resource-sharing as both departments encountered significant staff turnover throughout the past school year. The ESAP program continues to follow the model of conducting maintenance meetings during the summer and the beginning of the school year. These meetings help the school building strengthen their practices and teaming by discussing challenges, needs, and supports. 17 meetings were performed during the 24/25 school year; 2 districts held 1 meeting for all elementary buildings at one time. School faculty were guided to have a stronger comprehensive understanding on how to identify students earlier, enhancing ways to market and increase referrals, understanding the impact of trauma with education, understanding the stages of change for parental engagement, how to build a strong ESAP foundation, and recognizing the value of building strong community connections and mentorships for the families that we serve.

*Behavioral Health-Works* - a data tracking software system implemented 2 years ago for CASSP, ESAP, and SAP has been beneficial. This web-based program enhanced our practices with providing stronger assessments, which aligns well with the MTSS process. It measures the student's critical needs and risk factors, as well as their strengths. BH works provides the opportunity to analyze and identify trends and need areas.

For the *Elementary student population*, the legal guardian completes an electronic assessment which outputs risk factors for the liaison to consider for areas of need. This year the Elementary aged population demonstrated a significant score, indicating high anxiety as well as moderate to severe depression.



For the *Secondary student population*, the student completes an electronic assessment which outputs risk factors for the liaison to consider for areas of need. This year the Secondary population demonstrated a significance of anxiety, moderate to severe depression, and trauma.



Our *CASSP coordinator* is highly involved with multifaceted projects throughout the year. Her data and trend analysis are extremely helpful in *identifying training and service delivery needs and gaps*.

The CASSP Coordinator attended the first Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) Pediatric Capacity Building Institute (PCBI) training. The nine-month training program convened twice a month and brought together various stakeholders who serve

the children and adolescent population across the Commonwealth. The training featured speakers from diverse professional backgrounds who shared insights and facilitated discussions on how to better support children and families with complex needs. At the conclusion of the training, participants collaborated in groups to develop projects based on topics of interest identified during the training, with a focus on an area of need prioritized by the group. Several resources presented during the training were shared with stakeholders at the county level. One particularly valuable resource shared was a tool called *Case Conceptualization*. This structure template helps professionals organize essential case information by topic, especially for cases with a long history of service involvement. It consolidates key details into a single document allowing providers to proactively review and assess the current need of the child/adolescent and family. In addition, it supports more effective problem solving and coordination of care to better meet the needs of the child and the family. In addition to its other benefits, the case conceptualization template is also a valuable tool to include in a case file to support smooth transitions during staff turnover. Unfortunately, when an agency experiences staff changes, critical case information often leaves with the departing worker. By maintaining an updated version of this document in the case file, new staff can quickly obtain necessary and at times critical information, accessing a clear snapshot of past concerns, current needs, and available supports. Another helpful resource shared during the training was the *Transition and Service Grid* document. This tool enables workers to identify and highlight the strengths of the youth and their family, while also organizing key services across critical domains such as education, behavior needs, support systems, therapy, medication management, crisis, etc. It offers a structured way to access needs across various areas, helping teams stay focused, aligned, and providing effective and relative support.

At the conclusion of this training, the CASSP Coordinator team of professionals from across the state developed a final group project focused on Workforce Development through Trauma Informed practices. The project addressed the urgent and widespread crisis surrounding staff recruitment and retention across various human service departments. This issue is critical, as the lack of workforce directly impacts access to the full range of mental health services. Investing in a sustainable and resilient workforce is essential to reducing turnover, increasing productivity, encouraging innovative thinking, improving operational efficiency, and shifting systems towards a more proactive rather than reactive approach. Trauma Informed practices play a key role in creating a healthy work environment and culture. Without them, workplaces can experience high turnover, burnout, and loss of productivity. One evidence-based approach highlighted in the project was the implementation of Reflective Supervision. This model offers supportive resources and training to staff, helping them process complex experiences, regulate emotional well-being, and improve critical thinking and decision making. Reflective supervision also prioritizes relationships and the complexities of human dynamics over administrative compliance and performance evaluation. This, in turn, leads to improved service quality,

stronger staff retention, and better outcomes for the individuals and families served. By integrating trauma informed principles and reflected supervision into workplace culture, human service agencies can foster healthy environments for staff, ultimately resulting in stronger, more consistent support for the communities they serve.

The CASSP Coordinator continues to support IBHS and FBMH providers by providing community-based resources so that the agency can build stronger preventive community-based supports to better support the families and clients they serve. Additionally, the CASSP Coordinator created and presented a PowerPoint presentation to ABA Clinicians on how to best support families within the community and foster resiliency by providing various community-based resources.

*Cumberland and Perry County Plan of Safe Care (POSC)* is required by federal and state law under Act 54. POSC consists of a cross-system committee who meet to provide support for infants that are born affected by substance use or withdrawal from symptoms that result from prenatal drug exposure or Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder (FASD). The plan is to improve the safety, early childhood development and well-being of the infant and their caregivers. The plans are individualized and multigenerational with the intention of connecting the infant and family to multidisciplinary resources and supports. The Cumberland County Plan of Safe Care Team partners to ensure that infants born affected by substances and their caregivers receive needed treatment which begins with early identification through appropriate screening and assessments. This year, less than 10 meetings were held for both counties.

The multidisciplinary teams (MDT) consist of staff from:

- Children & Youth
- Early Intervention
- Drug and Alcohol
- Mental Health
- Nurse Family Partnership
- Maternal Assistance Program – Penn State Health-Holy Spirit
- PA State Health Nurse
- Tri-County Community Action

*Children's Evidence Based Practices (EBP)* are implemented through several modalities within our counties. When CBT, DBT or EMDR are provided through an Outpatient (OP) modality, funding through HealthChoices, private insurance or County base-funds can be utilized based on eligibility.

*Parent-Child Interactional Therapy (PCIT)* is a program that serves children 2-7 years old and their families. Community Services Group (CSG) and Newport Counseling provide this

service within our counties. Since the pandemic, this program has continued to face challenges in achieving high service penetration rates, particularly in effectively reaching and supporting children under the age of 7. During this fiscal year, a total of five children were served in Perry County.

*Community Residential Rehabilitation–Intensive Treatment Program (CRR-ITP), Multi Systemic Therapy (MST), and Functional Family Therapy (FFT)* are available in our counties, via HealthChoices funding. CRR-ITP is similar to CRR Host Home (being provided in a home-like environment) with some programmatic changes - shorter length of stay, EBP therapies such as Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT), frequent intensive family therapy sessions and Therapeutic Leaves (TL's) with family reunification as the goal. Currently, the only provider that offers this modality is CSG. Referrals to this level of care have significantly declined due to the obstacles of locating a treatment home/provider. Currently, management from PerformCare, and CABHC are meeting internally to explore strategies for revitalizing the program. Many children who could be appropriately served through this level of care within the community are instead being referred to residential treatment facilities (RTF's) due to their behavioral challenges and complex treatment needs. MST provides high-intensity family-based counseling for adolescents with court involvement or at risk for out-of-home placement due to delinquent behaviors. Services include in-home counseling, case management, and crisis support and are provided by Adelphoi and Hempfield Counseling. During this fiscal year, a total of 44 adolescents were served, 36 Cumberland and 8 Perry County. FFT is a service that focuses on children and teens who are at risk or already involved with juvenile justice. Designed for youth ages 10–18 whose problems range from acting out to conduct disorder to alcohol and other substance use, and for their families, FFT can be provided in a variety of contexts, including schools, child welfare, probation, parole, and mental health, and as an alternative to incarceration or out-of-home placement. FFT is a short-term intervention provided by TrueNorth which served a total of 5 children- 4 Cumberland and 1 Perry County.

Through our *Child & Adolescent Service System Program (CASSP)*, families participate in cross system meetings and planning discussions with our CASSP core team, made up of representatives from MH, CYS, Drug & Alcohol (D&A), JPO, Education System, IDD, and Community Services. These meetings are held twice per month in each county and more frequently if needed. Family Centered Services is also utilized as an additional support for youth and their families in developing a family-centered plan that best supports their needs. These plans are created by family members and natural supports for the family. In addition, the CASSP Coordinator and/or the Cross-System Coordinator provide training for staff in various mental health and community programs regarding children's mental health as previously mentioned.

The CASSP coordinator continues to keep an exhaustive outpatient list that includes updated provider information such as what insurance they accept, do they provide

telehealth/in person or both, do they serve children/adults or both, what specialties do they offer, and provide a hyperlink to the agency's website. This list was shared with our local MH department, Base Service Units, case managers, and both crisis departments- Penn State Holy Spirit and Connections. The CASSP Coordinator continues to share the Physical Health resources guide that contains the insurance coverages under medical assistance. This guide provides information regarding what additional resources and supports that this coverage can offer. This guide is instrumental in illustrating the importance of human service agency staff to have an understanding that physical health struggles can greatly impact the emotional health of an individual. This guide has been shared with crisis, behavioral health providers, aging, early intervention, and children and youth. Also, during this fiscal year, the CASSP Coordinator played an integral role in updating the juvenile probation behavioral health resource guide. She serves as a member on the Behavioral Health subcommittee of Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers and was part of the team responsible for revising this comprehensive guide. The updated resource guide was created to support all newly hired juvenile probation officers to help guide and provide detailed information on various levels of care and resource information pertaining to mental health support.

(BH Services Guide Master Document Final 031325.pdf)

This fiscal year, the CASSP Coordinator was requested to sit on the Child Fatality Team for Cumberland County. This reestablished team had existed in the past but was inactive for several years. Recently the Cumberland County District Attorney revitalized the group to resume regular meetings. The primary purpose of this committee is to investigate and analyze child deaths deemed preventable. Its main role is to preview these cases, identify any patterns of reoccurring themes, and develop and implement strategies to prevent similar tragedies within the community. The team that attends these meetings is comprised of various stakeholders such as Children and Youth (CYS), law enforcement, Intellectual Developmental Disabilities (IDD), medical practitioners, etc.

The *Cross-System coordinator* works with CYS and JPO in both counties to improve education and awareness about appropriate access to needed mental health services for youth in their service systems. This position provides consultation and attends CYS staff meetings, school attendance and independent living work groups, and court hearings as appropriate to provide the perspective of and resources from the children's MH system. They also meet with all newly hired CYS staff each month to provide an overview of how her position supports CYS staff. Drop-In office hours were developed for JPO staff as an additional way to collaborate on case needs. This position also takes the lead with complex case reviews with CYS and IDD in discussions to strengthen the supports available to address these needs. Meetings are held monthly to review a list of identified complex cases and problem solve presenting needs and future planning. This past year, a total of 15 cases were discussed. Identified themes from this team include transition age youth requiring ongoing support, dual diagnosis population (MH & IDD/A) and their difficulty accessing services, and exposure to substances in utero. Quarterly meetings are

also held with the MH, IDD, and CYS administrators to report trends and identify macro-level solutions to assist complex cases. From an observed need, Cross-Systems Coordinator and team of 3 created a guide for CYS case workers on how to effectively facilitate a team meeting when there is multiple system involvement. Cross-System Coordinator also created a guide and subsequent training for MH case managers on how to identify, locate, and link a consumer to MH services when they are residing in a residential placement outside of their home county/MCO. The Cross-Systems Coordinator also participated in a meeting with local hospital and crisis intervention staff, to discuss increased presentation of complex children/adolescents who do not meet necessity for inpatient hospitalization but are left waiting in the ED for an extended period of time while attempting to locate an appropriate discharge placement and services.

The Cross-Systems coordinator also developed a summer camp resource guide to assist stakeholders and families in locating and connecting children to pro social activities that foster individual strengths and community engagement. Additionally, the cross systems coordinator conducted a training session with a local IBHS provider on provider roles and guiding CASSP principal philosophy within the children's mental health system. The cross systems coordinator also provided introductory training for newly hired mental health case managers at the Base Service Unit, covering topics such as county programming, the structure of the children's mental health system, and the role expectations for serving families and collaborating across systems. These efforts represent an ongoing commitment to strengthening county systems and providing proactive, comprehensive support to families within our community.

Additionally, the Cross-Systems Coordinator and IDD Administrative Entity (AE) updated training sheets for CYS, IDD Supports Coordination staff, and MH BSU/TCM staff to learn about MH and IDD/A case management and dual diagnosis individuals- serving children to adults. Several cross-system trainings were offered to CYS, MH CM and IDD/A SCs throughout the year on this topic. These trainings break down simple descriptions between what level of case management is most appropriate for children and adults they are serving (for example, if child is in emotional support classroom, then referral to MH case management versus when a child attends a life skills classroom, then referral to IDD for supports). Staff further reviewed the paperwork process and steps to complete the referrals and how to effectively communicate and collaborate on a shared case. Feedback the Cross-Systems Coordinator and IDD AE staff obtained from these trainings sparked formation of internal county representatives regularly meeting to develop an action plan to further enhance training, collaboration and processing case management referrals for children and adults with dual (MH/IDD-A) diagnoses. Future plans are being made to develop additional training opportunities for staff, developing Shared Case Reviews for dual diagnosis cases to increase collaboration, and creating a comprehensive Autism resource guide.

The Cumberland County Juvenile Probation (CCJP) office has continued to administer their evidenced based *Trauma Project* to improve outcomes for youth involved in their services. The project strives to identify trauma earlier in the process within the probation services to improve access to services and supports that will support their needs. All youth are administered the Child Trauma Screen as part of an evidenced based intake process to identify any indicators of concern that evoke a clinical trauma specific assessment to be completed. This project requires a collaborative effort between Cumberland County Juvenile Probation, Cumberland County Children and Youth, Cumberland-Perry Counties Mental Health and local service providers. This project implemented a Child Trauma Screen (CTS) at intake to identify youth with significant trauma concerns and make appropriate recommendations through all agencies involved. During Fiscal Year 2024/2025 the CCJP department completed 174 child trauma screens. This resulted in 7 youths being identified with significant trauma related concerns and referrals being made to outside providers for more comprehensive evaluation and treatment with regards to trauma and responsibility issues.

Perry County convened their first *Judges' Round Table* this year. This meeting was convened by the county dependency judge and co-facilitated by the Perry County Children and Youth administrator. The purpose of this meeting is to have stakeholder representation to discuss areas of concern with the dependency system and how to overcome barriers in a timely manner. Two areas of interest that were identified were school truancy and creating a stronger awareness of the mental health resources that are available in Perry County. The CASSP coordinator partnered with Perry CYS to host their first provider *Resource Fair* to increase awareness and support for the stakeholders in August 2024.

*Respite* is provided through Youth Advocate Program brokerage through Reinvestment funds from our Managed Care partners. The Respite workgroup currently meets on a bimonthly basis to review county specific outputs such as units delivered for In and Out of Home Respite. This committee continues to suggest and solicit new providers to provide both in-home and out-of-home services to address the continued need for this service.

*Cumberland Cares for Children & Families* and *Nurse-Family Partnership* are two additional services available in our communities that are aimed at early intervention and parenting but are not funded within the mental health system or by medical assistance.

*Needs: Adequate funding* is a huge area of need due to the significant impact on various supports within our children's MH programming. Neither Medical Assistance nor Commercial Health Insurance provide funding for some areas of need. For instance, the Student Assistance Program (SAP) for grades K-12 is a school-based, preventative program designed to identify students who may be struggling with mental health and/or drug and alcohol issues. Although SAP is an unfunded educational mandate, our county mental health office has been the primary funder since 1986. Unfortunately, due to a

serious budget constraint this year, we were faced with the difficult decision to cease funding for this program in the secondary schools for the upcoming school year 2025/2026. Since our mission focuses on prioritizing and valuing preventative services, this decision was not made lightly. However, the financial limitations left us with no viable alternatives at this time. The CASSP Coordinator and MH administrator met with 8 of the 13 school districts to offer resources and support, and to help guide the districts in taking next steps toward securing a provider funded via the school district for the upcoming school year. To support the schools and their decision-making process, our office shared with each district a list of current SAP providers, along with a list of questions to consider exploring when they scheduled provider interviews.

Another need is *accessibility to Mental Health treatment*. The system puts the focus on the child as the problem, rather than trying to address family system issues. Also given the vast amount of trauma that many children have experienced, more training is needed for staff to develop the expertise to better address these needs. As previously noted, enhancing training around trauma informed practices and reflective supervision within the Human Services field is a paramount priority by addressing the ongoing challenges related to timely access to mental health treatment. Strengthening workforce culture by fostering a sense of support, increasing confidence, and reinforcing the ability to achieve positive outcomes with families can have a significant impact. It is reasonable to believe that such efforts would directly contribute to reducing the critical levels of staff turnover currently impacting the field across all human servicing agencies and programs. This year, the CASSP Coordinator attended the first Children's Crisis Intervention training hosted by OMHSAS. Key takeaways from the presentation by a neighboring state, highlighted innovative practices that required a comprehensive system reform which took them many years to successfully implement. The training stressed the significant importance of building strong relationships with schools to support children's mental health needs. Schools often serve as the focal point of identification for children in need of specialized support, making them a critical partner in early intervention efforts. The decision to cease SAP funding for school-based MH prevention stands in contrast to these best practices. While it was made due to budgetary constraints, it does not align with the evidence-based direction emphasized in the training, which underscores the central role of schools and identifying and addressing mental health needs earlier.

In addition, there seems to be an *increasing volume of complex cases* that cross a multitude of systems – MH, IDD, and CYS - with limited discharge options. The complex trauma that many of these children have endured makes it extremely challenging to access services that meet their needs (either difficulty in locating CRR & RTF's that will accept them and/or families that are willing to re-integrate them back into their home). An internal county workgroup is focused on identifying strategies to support these needs. Our county is also currently participating in a state-facilitated complex case workgroup to work on these barriers.

Please identify the strengths and needs of the county/joinder service system (including any health disparities) specific to each of the following special or underserved populations. If the county does not currently serve a particular population, please indicate and note any plans for developing services for that population.

## 5. Individuals transitioning from state hospitals

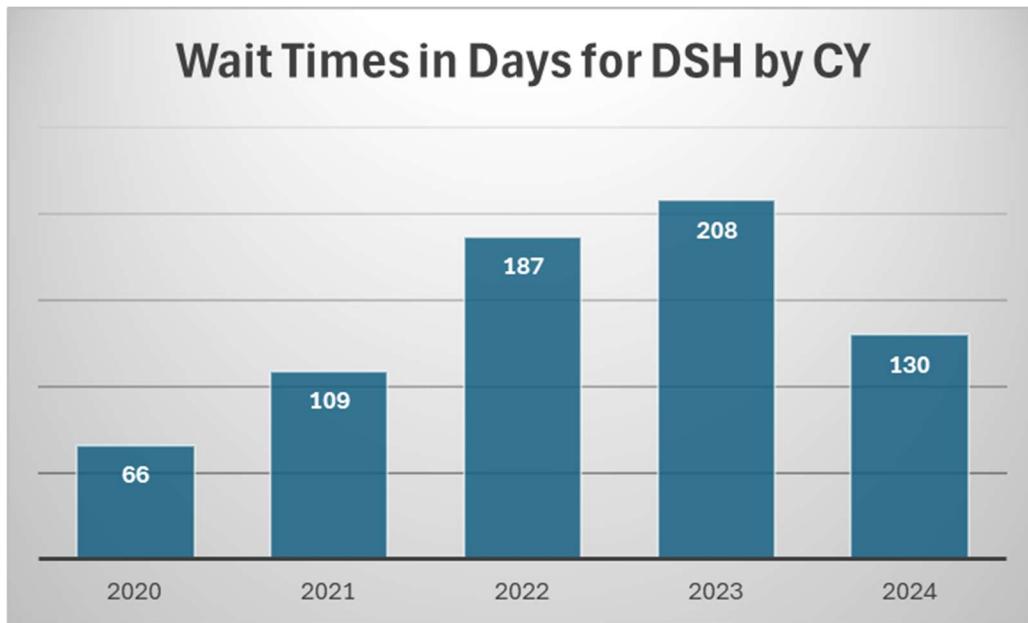
- Strengths: Cumberland and Perry Counties' Mental Health program continues to have a ***strong commitment to community integration***, as evidenced by the many supports available and diversions from state hospital via community services. A well-documented community integration philosophy is a main tenant of our Mission and purpose.

Funded through county base dollars, a ***Base Service Unit (BSU) liaison case manager*** routinely participates in State Hospital and Extended Acute Unit (EAU) team meetings and assists in the coordination of discharge planning. This position is instrumental in providing support to individuals during their hospitalization and assisting them during their transition to the community.

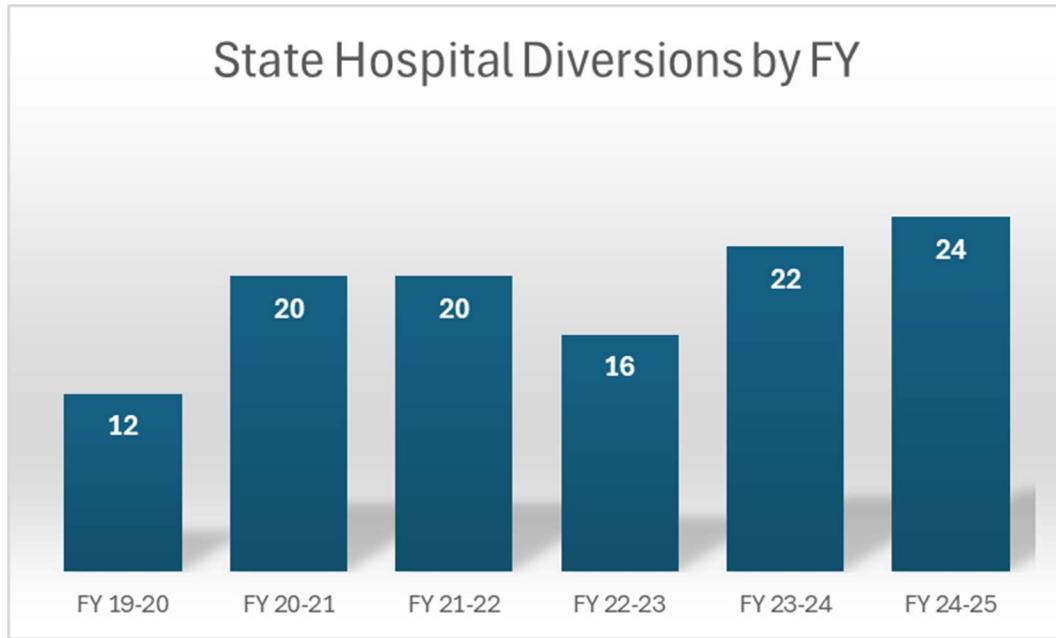
Individuals approaching discharge from the state hospital have a ***Community Support Plan (CSP)*** in place. Individuals being discharged from the state hospital are connected with the support and treatment services recommended in the CSP prior to their discharge. Upon discharge from the state hospital, as well as from Wellspan-Philhaven's EAU, follow-up CSP meetings are held within the community as needed to address concerns and review or update the CSP.

- Needs: There are currently 15 individuals from Cumberland and Perry Counties receiving inpatient treatment at Danville State Hospital. In addition, there was a Cumberland-Perry resident transferred from Torrance Forensic State Hospital to Warren State Hospital due Danville not having any bed availability. The plan for this individual is to transfer to Danville when a bed is available.

We have maintained with four (4) state hospital admissions in 2024. Currently, there are six (6) individuals from Cumberland or Perry County on the state hospital's waiting list. For the first half of 2025, there have been two admissions with an average wait time of 310 days. This is a 110% increase in wait times compared to the previous year, as noted in the chart below. Wait times for state hospital treatment is difficult for the person as well as for cost to the system. The behavioral HealthChoices program has expended millions of dollars to cover the cost of individuals receiving community inpatient treatment while waiting for a state hospital bed to become available.



Through the utilization of our 10 Extended Acute Unit (EAU) beds, we were able to divert 24 individuals from the state hospital in FY 24-25. We are currently at our state hospital bed cap of 15, averaging a bed utilization of 15 for the fiscal year.



The combination of **need for higher levels of care and limited financial resources** has created a lack of flexibility within the county mental health system. Discharge plans from the state hospital often indicate significant personal care needs thus necessitating a specialized community residence (SCR) type setting. Our **SCRs are at capacity** with no ability to expand. To meet the individual's needs, discharge planning within the community remains difficult without

additional funding. Additional needs are structured programs that provide intensive treatment, structure, and supervision. These delays in accessing community residential programs may result in extended hospital stays.

The **Long-Term Structured Residence (LTSR)** licensed October 2020 has consistently been at capacity which highlights the need for additional LTSR beds. In an effort to address the needs of forensic individuals and transition folks from Danville State Hospital, Torrance State Hospital, and Cumberland County Prison, Cumberland-Perry Counties' MH was approved for a regional, 16-bed LTSR with Franklin-Fulton Counties MH Program. The 16-bed facility is being built using forensic American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) lawsuit monies allocated by OMHSAS. The 16-beds would be divided evenly between the two county joiners. The LTSR would give priority to those individuals with forensic involvement/history - specifically individuals who have been deemed incompetent to stand trial, non-restorable. In the event an individual can live in his/her own apartment, with or without added supports, the availability of **safe and affordable housing options** within the counties remains limited, thus presenting another barrier for pending discharges.

Insurance, particularly Medicare, continues to create barriers during discharge planning. Of note are the numbers of Medicare recipients who do not qualify for Medicaid due to family income. This complicated by the small number of providers in Medicare's network creates difficulty with service referrals. Furthermore, as providers limit participation in Medicare, recipients must travel further to receive the services needed. Regardless of funding source, the wait time for a psychiatric appointment is typically between **12-20 weeks**. These lengthy delays with accessing community services continue to significantly impede discharge planning. An individual's stability may be placed at risk due to limited or lack of access to recommended follow-up and support, thus delaying discharge when deemed presently appropriate.

**Certain prescribed medications** may also impact on an individual's discharge process. With the state's efforts to combat the opioid epidemic and the implementation of the prescription drug monitoring program, it continues to be difficult to find physicians willing to prescribe controlled substances. State hospital physicians tend to utilize benzodiazepines in their medication regimen, therefore making it difficult to find a physician within the community willing to continue prescribing this drug routine. Injection medications, although preferred, present another issue with limited providers able to administer the injections. The issue with injections and insurance tends to be concurrent in that a provider may be able to administer the injection, but not in network with the Insurance provider and vice versa. This becomes an even greater barrier for an individual receiving Medicare.

**Psychiatric availability** overall continues to decrease. All our local providers have long wait lists or are not accepting new patients with one highly utilized provider having closed this past fiscal year. Primary Care Physicians (PCP's) are often not willing to prescribe anti-psychotic and neuroleptic medications creating another

barrier for discharge planning. Also, with the aging population, finding a specialized psychiatrist with experience with the geriatric population is challenging.

## 6. Individuals with co-occurring mental health/substance use disorder

- Strengths: Individuals with co-occurring disorders have been identified as an underserved population through managed care data. Several local providers are ***dually licensed to provide mental health and substance use disorder outpatient treatment.***

Through PerformCare's Enhanced Care Management program, county MH representatives meet monthly with PerformCare care managers to review and discuss the needs of those individuals with frequent intensive treatment needs that often include substance use in addition to mental health.

All our mental health programs have frequent ***contact with substance use disorder providers*** and/or the C-P Drug and Alcohol Office when the need is identified. Specifically mental health residential providers will work with individuals to accept referrals for substance use evaluations, and treatment if recommended, sometimes as a condition of continued residential involvement as substance use substantially impacts treatment for mental illness.

Providers are encouraged to participate in *available trainings* to better serve this population. The Substance Use Disorder webinar series provided via Penn State Health Psychiatry Dept Perinatal TiPS care coordination team was shared with providers. In addition, applicable trainings via Drexel University Behavioral Health Education are shared as available educational opportunities to support work with this population.

- Needs: Efforts to have trained ***co-occurring capable and competent providers*** continue but are difficult without combined regulations from the state. In addition, several years ago OMHSAS was supportive of this initiative; however co-occurring capable and co-occurring competent trainings have not been made readily available making it an unrealistic expectation even with dual licensing of programs.

The ***legalization of medical marijuana*** has made it confusing and problematic for many individuals and providers since the efficacy of psychiatric medications can be negatively impacted by its use. Some psychiatry providers have refused to treat individuals who utilize medical marijuana.

## 7. Criminal justice-involved individuals - Counties are encouraged to collaboratively work within the structure of County Criminal Justice Advisory Boards (CJABs) to implement enhanced services for individuals involved with the criminal justice system including diversionary services that prevent further involvement with the criminal justice system as well as reentry services to support successful community reintegration.

- Strengths: Cumberland County has a well-organized **CJAB** that meets monthly. Additionally, this group has applied for a Strategic Planning Grant to set the organization's direction and determine initiatives of the CJAB moving forward. A retreat of stakeholders will occur in October of 2025. The MH Department works closely with both the Cumberland and Perry Counties' jails to divert individuals whose criminal behavior is directly linked to their illness. Perry County has recently started a CJAB and Cumberland and Perry Counties' Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Departments attend.

According to the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Statistics, close to 67% of released prisoners are re-arrested within three years in the US. During those 3 years, 52% will return to prison for either a new crime or parole violation AND the first 6 months accounted for 44% of all recidivism during the 3-year period, with 30% of all releasees re-arrested in those first months.

In June of 2021, community stakeholders, justice systems, and human services met to develop a strategy to successfully support individuals returning from prison or jail to the community. The principal objective of any re-entry initiative is to promote successful offender outcomes, which means assisting not just individuals, but whole communities, so that we may have the capacity to support our returning residents and to keep our neighborhoods safe. Since June of 2021, partnerships have continued to evolve and be well supported. The **Re-Entry Coalition** meets monthly and has provided excellent educational opportunities such as trauma training and monthly education regarding various aspects of the system. There are regular communications regarding employment opportunities for returning citizens and how to promote successful reintegration.

One example of this work is **Tomorrow's Neighbors** which is a 501(c)(3) created by an individual with lived experience with both mental illness and forensic. He identified a need among individuals reentering society from prison and Tomorrow's Neighbors was born. Their mission is to empower returning citizens to stop the cycle of crime by becoming responsible community members. The vision is to significantly reduce the crime and recidivism rates not just within Cumberland and Perry Counties but throughout Pennsylvania. They utilize various services to assist individuals with being successful. They provide cell phones to qualifying returning citizens allowing them to better find work, stay connected with family, and communicate with supervising agencies such as probation and parole. They utilize trained Peer Entry Support Specialists with lived experience to mentor returning citizens. Peer Reentry Support provides emotional support to returning citizens prior to and throughout the reentry process. They also utilize community service opportunities. Community service provides returning citizens with an opportunity to actively contribute to their communities, while making amends for their past

decisions. They have devised an 8-step program to better prepare and equip individuals to successfully reintegrate back into society with the first four steps occurring prior to the offender's release.

Cumberland County is part of the ***National Stepping Up initiative*** and has been identified as an "***Innovator County***." Stepping Up recognizes a county as an innovator when it has demonstrated the capacity to accurately identify people in their jails who have mental illnesses and substance-use disorders, collect, and share data on these individual needs to connect them to treatment services and use that data to inform local policies and practices. We have continued to receive ***technical assistance*** from the Council of State Governments (CSG). This year, our focus has been on capturing good data to measure progress of the Stepping Up initiative. Cumberland and Perry counties were successful in applying for "short term technical assistance" through the Council of State Governments (CSG) who provides leadership to the National Stepping Up Initiative. In January of 2025 data collection started focusing on the 4 key measures. The table below shows the Serious Mentally Ill (SMI) population at the Cumberland County Prison.

<b>2024-25</b>	<b><u>Daily Census</u></b>	<b><u>SMI Census</u></b>	<b><u>SMI %</u></b>
July	345.8	71.7	20.70%
August	366.2	69	18.80%
September	364.4	77.7	21.30%
October	384	93.2	24.30%
November	373.6	92.9	24.90%
December	332.9	74.5	22.40%
January	319.8	63.5	19.90%
February	317.4	63.1	19.90%
March	342.4	73.3	21.40%
April	355.5	83.9	23.60%
May	368	72	19.60%
June	369	76	20.60%
<b>YEAR average</b>	<b>353.3</b>	<b>75.9</b>	<b>21.50%</b>

The ***Regional Long Term Structured Residence (LTSR)*** with neighboring Franklin and Fulton Counties will strengthen the diversionary service options for individuals with serious mental illness who are not competent to stand trial and not restorable. New Visions was the selected provider. As part of the project, funding was also awarded to hire an additional county staff member to provide a focus on forensic needs, including data as it relates to the Stepping Up initiative.

In May of 2024, Cumberland/Perry MH added the position of **Forensic Liaison**. This position serves as a specialist for Mental Health program activities having a leadership role in liaising with the criminal justice system. The Forensic Liaison problemsolves with the courts, jails, collaborates with staff and providers. This position oversees development and maintenance of data driven solutions reducing the number of individuals with serious mental illness who are incarcerated. It is noteworthy that this position is 100% funded through funds appropriated to serve the forensic population awarded in late 2023 from OMHSAS.

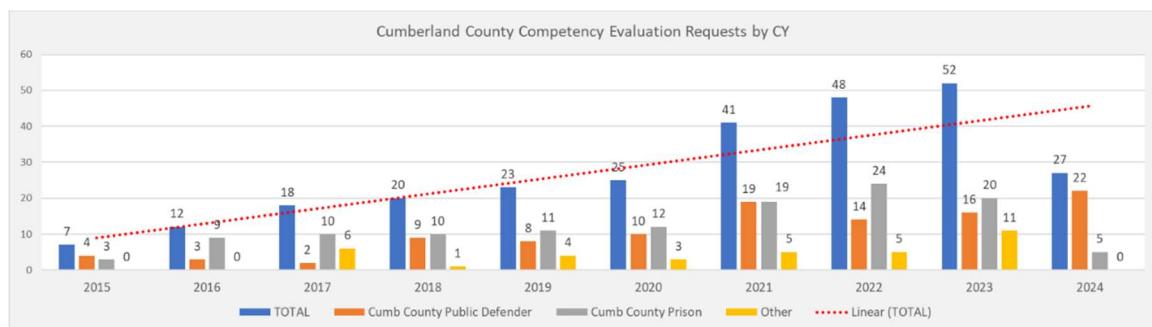
The **Forensic MH Team and TOMS mental health court** have been effective components in supporting individuals with mental illness and criminal charges navigate the criminal justice system. **TOMS Court** has been a strength within Cumberland County. Since inception in 2017, 92 participants have entered the program with 57 individuals successfully graduating from the program. It is estimated that 16,134 prison bed days have not been utilized for a potential cost savings of \$1,791,551.04. Current recidivism rates for graduates with DUI/drug offenses, misdemeanors or felonies within 24 months is at 5.7%. The recidivism rate for non-drug/DUI offenses, misdemeanors and felonies within 24 months of graduation is 9.4%. Currently there are 23 active participants in TOMS Court. In addition, the TOMS court team is in the beginning stages of establishing an advisory board of community stakeholders and has a long-term goal of accreditation.

The **Regional Crisis Walk in Center** provides diversionary opportunities for Law Enforcement when an individual is struggling with their mental illness. Opened in December of 2024, the Walk in Center and Mobile Crisis team serves Cumberland, Perry and Dauphin Counties.

The **Cumberland County Threat Assessment/Threat Management team** has been established by the County as a multi-agency county-based team, comprised of law enforcement, educational resources, social and community support resources, and representatives from the county's mental health program office, to proactively identify individuals on the pathway to violence. Training was hosted a few years ago with the FBI, Education, Probation, JPO, prison, DA's staff, and other stakeholder groups. County MH program staff (CASSP, SAP, Administrator), participated in the training, however, OMHSAS was not part of the leadership of the training. This team collaborates with the Cumberland County DA's office, Cumberland County Children and Youth Agency, Cumberland/Perry Counties' Mental Health, Cumberland County Juvenile Probation and local school districts. The team will also provide cross county collaboration with other county threat assessment teams when an individual has charges in multiple counties, is in the process of moving residence to a new county, or consistently spends time in locations that neighbor Cumberland County.

- Needs: One of the greatest needs is ***fiscal resources*** to create programs to support individuals as they prepare for re-integration from the justice system or programs that are ready to support in lieu of incarceration.

Additionally, there is significant need for ***additional treatment providers*** to support individuals who need either a competency restoration evaluation or treatment services to comply with recommendations from the court. The below chart shows the increase in competency restoration requests since 2015. This increase we believe is significant and speaks to unmet need in our community. It is interesting to note that in 2024, there were fewer competency evaluations completed. We believe this highlights the ongoing difficulties in retaining a qualified workforce to complete the work to serve individuals who have become justice system involved.



As previously stated, to address the needs of forensic individuals and transition folks from Danville State Hospital, Torrance State Hospital, and Cumberland and Perry Counties' Prisons, Cumberland-Perry Counties' MH Office, jointly with Franklin-Fulton Counties' MH Office, submitted a proposal and were recently approved for a regional, 16-bed LTSR. Using forensic monies allocated by OMHSAS, the Regional LTSR will prioritize those individuals with forensic involvement/history - specifically individuals who have been deemed incompetent to stand trial, non-restorable. This ***Regional LTSR*** is expected to be operational by June 2026.

## 8. Veterans - counties are encouraged to collaboratively work with the Veterans' Administration and the PA Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs (DMVA) and county directors of Veterans' Affairs (found at the site):

<https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dmva/pennsylvania-veterans/county-director-of-veterans-affairs.html>

- Strengths: We connect and work closely with our ***local Veterans Affairs offices*** in both Cumberland and Perry Counties to address needs as they arise and to ensure they are aware of all available services and supports in the community that may meet their individuals' needs. Veterans have access to any and all services and

supports that anyone else with a severe mental illness has in our communities. The **Newville Lodge** gives priority to veterans with a mental illness. Perry Housing Partnership also provides a **Veterans Housing program** in Perry County for those veterans who are homeless but is not specific to those with mental illness. Several of our residential programs provide transportation for veterans to the Veterans services at Camp Hill VA, Lebanon VAMC, and Martinsburg WV VAMC. Support Groups are also available through the Carlisle Army War College and the VA Clinics. In addition, during Mental Illness Awareness Week, our counties have supported presentations by veterans regarding the impact of mental illness. Providers are made aware of additional training opportunities as they arise.

- Needs: For individuals in the service, they have had very different life experiences, especially for those who have suffered **trauma** related to their military experience. Community mental health staff have not typically been well equipped to address such needs. Funding for **training specific to military culture** is needed. Waiting lists exist for all services in our communities regardless of payer source. Additionally, the Veteran's Administration no longer provides long term psychiatric treatment to 100% service-connected veterans. This system deficiency has the propensity to increase wait times for individuals needing these services.

## 9. Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender/Questioning/Intersex (LGBTQI)

- Strengths: Individuals in this population have access to all services and supports that anyone else with a severe mental illness has in our communities. We do encourage and expect providers to obtain training in **cultural competence** to improve the provision of services to individuals who identify as LGBTQI. Cultural Competency training has been provided through our managed care entity. LGBTQIA+ Fundamentals training was offered for staff supporting transition age youth and was well attended. Information regarding available training opportunities is shared with all providers. Community support groups, including one for teens, are also available within our county. PerformCare, our managed care provider, offers trainings in **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)** and providers are encouraged to participate. The Health Equity Director at Partnership for Better Health, a local endowment foundation, has been instrumental in providing trainings and discussions in this area, that includes an annual spring "Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging (DEIB) Training". Information on these trainings is provided to our service provider network.

Our CASSP Coordinator continues to **share resources** with various system stakeholders (including CYS, JPO, Education, IBHS, FBMH, D&A, Crisis, SAP, TCM, MCO) as they become available. In the Resource Guide that she created, there is a section specific to LGBTQI supports in our communities. Webinars

provided by PA Care Partnerships such as “Supporting Members of the LGBTQ+ Community” are also distributed to encourage access and participation.

- Needs: Ongoing ***funding for training specific to cultural competence*** is needed. Waiting lists for all services exist in our communities regardless of payer source. We are not aware of any specific services currently provided to this population, other than various community support groups.

#### **10. Racial/Ethnic/Linguistic Minorities (RELM) including individuals with Limited English Proficiency (LEP)**

- Strengths: The CASSP Coordinator created an Immigration and Refugee Resource Guide that has been beneficial for staff and other human service agencies to utilize to assist this population. This guide also provides information on Interpreters and English as a Second Language education. While we are not aware of any special or specific services for this population being provided within Cumberland or Perry Counties, we do require providers to have training and provide services that are culturally competent. BC-Harrisburg provided access to their Bhutanese-Nepali Health Provider Cultural Training series to support better understanding and services provision with the population. Providers are expected to obtain ***interpreter services as needed*** to communicate with all individuals in an efficient and effective manner. Additionally, the county has a contract to provide interpreter services when needed.
- Needs: Ongoing ***funding for training specific to cultural competence*** is needed. Waiting lists for all services exist in our communities. A significant influx of individuals from Nepal and Bhutan have been noted in our counties. Also, due to cultural differences, it has been challenging to engage folks from these regions in mental health supports and services. It seems those with Nepali and/or Bhutanese backgrounds rely heavily on family members for treatments and supports and are often not in agreement with western medicine recommendations.

#### **11. Other populations, not identified in #1-10 above (if any, specify) (including tribal groups, people living with HIV/AIDS or other chronic diseases or impairments, acquired brain injury (ABI), fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD), or any other groups not listed)**

- Strengths: The ***dual diagnosis complex case team*** has been developed within our county and is made up of representatives from C&Y, MH, IDD, and the Cross Systems Coordinator. They review those complicated situations and complete a root cause analysis to determine appropriate services and supports. Further review meetings are often necessary to determine resources within the state and local systems to address these needs. It is a lengthy process with many layers that are needed to determine possible interventions, services, and funding to achieve the

desired outcomes. Representatives from our counties also participate on the related state-wide workgroup.

- Needs: ***Children that have IDD/Autism, especially those aging out of RTF – little to no resources.*** The human service system has ***significant expectations for Mental Health*** to address the needs of this entire population despite other specific agencies and other human service systems not planning or providing services or supports for this population. The expectation seems to be for the mental health system to pick up everything. While MH is able to provide treatment services, other supports are required to better collaborate and support youth to transition into adulthood. A ***braided system of funding and supports*** is necessary to provide the necessary skills-training and prevention strategies for youth, young adults, and families. This needs to include instruction regarding activities of daily living, employment, education, interpersonal skills. While these would be all things that the psychiatric rehab programs would focus on, many individuals with these dual diagnoses do not meet SMI (serious mental illness) criteria, and may also have limitations related to IDD, autism, and lack of family support. Funding and joint planning and development from all the involved systems is necessary.

**c) Recovery-Oriented Systems Transformation (ROST): (Limit of 5 pages)**

- i. ***Previous Year List:***
  - Provide a brief summary of the progress made on your FY 24-25 plan ROST priorities:
    - i. **Priority 1 - Maintain and monitor current services and supports due to potential budget deficits**
      - The budget deficit continues to be a primary topic in all human services and community meetings within the counties as the significant effect of no additional Mental Health funding will negatively impact other services within the counties severely with increased needs for those other services – law enforcement, children and youth services, incarceration, hospitalization, etc.
      - Meetings were also held with our county base funded contracted providers to review the current delivery system and identify any potential areas to reduce costs that would have minimal harmful effect on the individuals being served.
      - One-time funds have been used from OMHSAS and from the behavioral HealthChoices program to help offset deficits for the past few years. Unfortunately, the deficit at the end of FY23-24 had grown to \$846,501 even with additional HealthChoices funds to help offset the deficit. At the beginning of FY24-25, meetings were convened with providers to initiate additional program cuts. Total cuts are approximately 1.9 million dollars year-over-year.

- ii. **Priority 2 - Progression toward Alignment with SAMHSA Best Practice Guidelines for Crisis Intervention for Mobile Crisis**
  - To strengthen the Crisis continuum, Cumberland, Perry, and Dauphin Counties partnered and proposed the development of a Regional Crisis Walk in Center that includes the Mobile Crisis component. Utilizing federal COVID-CMHSBG funds, the proposal was fully approved and funded for over \$13 million dollars to be fully expended by September of 2025. The Emergency Behavioral Health Crisis Walk in Center and accompanying mobile teams, operated by Connections Health Solutions, opened in phases from December of 2024 through mid-January 2025. Monitoring the Walk in Center and its progress remains an important priority for our region.
- iii. **Priority 3 - PULSE Suicide Prevention Initiative in Cumberland and Perry Counties**
  - As previously mentioned under “Strengths”, PULSE continues to seek opportunities to meet community members to create awareness to prevent suicide loss. The number of QPR training has decreased this year with 161 individuals receiving training. The taskforce continues to receive invitations to help support the community following a suicide loss. Partnerships with our 988 team to provide outreach and support have offered some assistance to families and friends of individuals who have passed away due to suicide. The taskforce presently is working on a project to develop resources to share with funeral homes following a suicide loss.
  - Annually we have a team representing PULSE who participates in the Out of Darkness Walk and has done so since the inception in Cumberland County. Each year our team has grown. Last year’s team included crisis staff, loss survivors, County staff, attempt survivors, first responders, and people with lived experience. PULSE representatives have also participated in various other health and resource fairs throughout the year.
  - The “My Ascension” documentary has been a useful tool to encourage conversations with school partners. Important discussions have occurred after these screenings regarding suicide prevention and ways to support those having thoughts of suicide as well as the need for mental health services within the community.

And, if the county had more than three (3) priorities during FY 24-25:

**Priority 4 - Expansion of services to support the forensic population with serious mental illness (SMI)**

- As previously mentioned, Cumberland County is part of the National Stepping Up initiative and has been identified as an Innovator County. In May 2024, using funds from an approved OMHSAS forensic project, Cumberland-Perry Counties’ Mental Health hired a new Forensic Liaison

position who continues to build a network of partnerships that will provide opportunities to strengthen service delivery for those who are justice system involved with a mental illness. Additionally, it is anticipated that data capture will also be strengthened to provide information regarding the outcomes of this important work. Cumberland County received a technical assistance grant from CSG to assist with the start of data collection. The Forensic Liaison participates in weekly team meetings at the prison to further the Stepping Up Initiative. The collection of data around incarcerated individuals with an SMI and noting a reduction of individuals with SMI in the jail will justify advancing this initiative.

- Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Program continues as we work to align with standards and fidelity to obtain certification with CIT International. As part of CIT Certification, we continue to work on strengthening partnerships across the community and aligning with SAMSHA's best practices for crisis.
- As part of the earlier mentioned OMHSAS approved forensic project, New Visions, Inc. was awarded a contract to develop a Regional LTSR with Franklin and Fulton Counties. Property has been secured in Shippensburg, PA, with a projected completion of June 2026. Priority will be given to those individuals with a forensic history and/or deemed incompetent to stand trial, non-restorable.

*ii. Coming Year List:*

- Based on Section b **Strengths and Needs by Populations**, please identify the top three (3) to five (5) ROST priorities the county plans to address in FY 25-26 at current funding levels.
- For each coming year (FY 25-26) ROST priority, please provide:
  - a. A brief narrative description of the priority including action steps for the current fiscal year.
  - b. A timeline to accomplish the ROST priority including approximate dates for progress steps and priority completion in the upcoming fiscal year.
    - Timelines which list only a fiscal or calendar year for completion are not acceptable and will be returned for revision.
  - c. Information on the fiscal and other resources needed to implement the priority. How much the county plans to utilize from state allocations, county funds, grants, HealthChoices, reinvestment funds, other funding and any non-financial resources.
  - d. A plan mechanism for tracking implementation of the priorities.
    - Example: spreadsheet/table listing who, when and outputs/outcomes

**1. (Identify Priority) - Maintain and monitor current services and supports due to continued budget deficits**

Continuing from prior year  New Priority

- a. Narrative including action steps: Our county MH office continues to struggle to meet the needs of our community. The expenses of operations continue to exceed any increase in

allocation. Cumberland County continues to sustain significant population growth, similar or greater than other counties in the central and southeastern tier of the state. This year, program cuts were needed during FY24-25 to attempt to balance the MH budget. Total program cuts during FY24-25 were approximately \$650,000. Effective July 1, 2025, an additional 1.2 million in program cuts were instituted. The obvious concern is how these cuts will negatively impact on the individuals served, their families, contracted service providers, their parts of the human services system, and the community. The priority for funding is to sustain the current infrastructure of community-based services as much as possible. County staff, providers, and stakeholders continue to have discussions on measures to take to decrease costs while maintaining the services needed, despite the lack of any substantial budget increases.

We continue to embrace and support the philosophy of recovery and resiliency and must do so in the most effective and cost-efficient manner possible. Available funding must be addressed to make this mission a reality.

We will continue to regularly discuss all facets of available services and supports (both system and community) at the monthly Community Support Program meetings, in various other community stakeholder meetings, and during internal department meetings. County MH staff routinely review program costs to monitor service areas should potential cuts become necessary.

- b. Timeline (provide a quarterly breakdown of priority; activities, goals, and deliverables): This is an annual goal and ongoing priority. Analysis of fiscal resource and program utilization will continue to occur monthly. The ability to monitor data has continued to improve with the implementation of CPR-Web and other data tracking tools. MH staff reviews monthly claims submissions to determine utilization and any re-allocation necessary during the year. Residential and Crisis Intervention staff meetings occur monthly. As they are the highest budget cost center items, this information is considered in review of allocation needs. Trend analysis occurs monthly in those monthly and other internal meetings. The annual budget for subsequent years will consider this information as well.
- c. Fiscal and Other Resources: Current County base funding of positions, services, and supports are utilized. As previously stated, the current provider budget requests exceed our previous year's allocation. Fiscal discussions will continue with both commissioners' offices as well as OMHSAS.
- d. Tracking Mechanism (example: quarterly and annual goals met; deliverables provided): MH staff will monitor fiscal impact via review of monthly claims submissions, and program utilization. Our MH Team meets twice per month and discusses those trends and findings, and develops potential solution scenarios, which may involve closure of programming should adequate funding not be available. Additionally, this information is shared at the MH.IDD Advisory Board meetings as well as each Counties' Commissioners' meetings.

## **2. (Identify Priority) - Progression toward Alignment with SAMHSA Best Practice Guidelines for Crisis Intervention for Mobile Crisis and Crisis Walk-in Center**

Continuing from prior year  New Priority

- a. Narrative including action steps: We have successfully opened an emergency behavioral health crisis walk in center, urgent care, with accompanying mobile teams. Additionally, Penn State Holy Spirit continues to provide phone crisis, 988 and walk in crisis. While Crisis regulations have yet to be finalized, the services implemented align with SAMHSA's guidelines. Outreach and planning meetings continue to strengthen community awareness and first responder engagement.
- b. Timeline (provide a quarterly breakdown of priority; activities, goals, and deliverables): FY 25-26 priorities include encouraging the community to use the walk in center, monitoring utilization data and program expenses. Quarters 1 and 2 of FY25-26 our expectations are that Connections will obtain contracts with commercial insurances to add additional revenue sources to sustain the program. We are optimistic that crisis regulations will be published by Quarters 3 and 4. Additionally, conversations will continue with numerous other stakeholders to fully support the walk-in center, and to mitigate any barriers.
- c. Fiscal and Other Resources: As stated in last year's plan, funding for this initiative includes the grant of \$13,093,364 in COVID-CMHSBG funds from OMHSAS for start-up implementation and \$5,500,000 in HealthChoices Reinvestment funds to pay for renovations. Revenues and expenses will be monitored monthly.
- d. Tracking Mechanism: (example: quarterly and annual goals met; deliverables provided): Given the structure of the project grant and funding, OMHSAS has a grant management database called "wizhive." There is only one log-in to the grant management system. Dauphin County has access to the system and provides reports for the project working in collaboration with Cumberland and Perry Counties.

### **3. (Identify Priority) - Expansion of services to support the forensic population with serious mental illness (SMI)**

Continuing from prior year  New Priority

- a. Narrative including action steps: *Narrative including action steps:* As previously mentioned Cumberland County is part of the **National Stepping Up initiative** and has been identified as an "**Innovator County**." Stepping Up recognizes a county as an innovator when it has demonstrated the capacity to accurately identify people in their jails who have mental illnesses and substance-use disorders, collect and share data on these individuals' needs to connect them to treatment services, and use that data to inform local policies and practices. In May of 2024, Cumberland & Perry Counties' Mental Health Office added a new Forensic Liaison position. This position has enabled us to progress this initiative. In collaboration with the Cumberland County prison, data collection has commenced, and we will review our progress toward our goal of reducing the number of individuals with SMI in prison. The Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Program continues as we work to align with standards and fidelity to obtain certification. While CIT programs are known for CIT-trained officers, successful programs also focus on improving the crisis response system, advocating for needed services, and strengthening partnerships across the community.

b. Timeline (provide a quarterly breakdown of priority; activities, goals, and deliverables): We have a continued goal of providing 2 CIT trainings per year (May and September). These trainings continue to be evaluated and changed under the guidance of CIT International and quarterly steering committee meetings.

The Forensic Liaison will review monthly data collection around the 4 Key measures and continue to move the Stepping Up initiative forward by determining trends based on analysis.

c. Fiscal and Other Resources: The Forensic Liaison position was included with the proposal for the regional LTSR. The start-up and annualized funding provided by OMHSAS with the goal of serving those individuals who are justice system involved, both in prison and the community, with SMI.

Cumberland/Perry MH continues to use “Community Support Funds” through CABHC to provide the two annual CIT trainings. Without these funds we would struggle to fund this important initiative.

d. Tracking Mechanism (example: quarterly and annual goals met; deliverables provided): Data is collected on CIT trainings and the number of CIT trained individuals is tracked. Data will be tracked in collaboration with the Cumberland County prison monthly to allow analysis of trends and needs. An app has been developed and pushed out to the community through our district attorney’s office. The initial purpose is to aid law enforcement’s awareness of individuals in our community with various conditions. The desire is this app will also be utilized for CIT data and outcomes.

**d) Strengths and Needs by Service Type: (#1-7 below)**

**1. Describe telehealth services in your county (limit of 1 page):**

a. How is telehealth being used to increase access to services?

Each provider has a written policy on the use of telehealth within their specific regulations. It is the provider’s preference in offering telehealth with the individual’s agreement for those specific services based on clinical need. Managed care monitors the service delivery modality.

b. Is the county implementing innovative practices to increase access to telehealth for individuals in the community? (For example, providing technology or designated spaces for telehealth appointments)

No, we are not promoting the use of telehealth as face-to-face services in mental health are the most effective. Some individuals have expressed frustration with telehealth service delivery, especially around feeling that it is less personal, they are less able to really talk with the service provider, not getting as much out of the session or contact and preferring face-to-face services.

c. *What are the obstacles the county encounters in the deployment of telehealth services? (limited access to reliable internet, digital literacy, privacy concerns, and cultural and language barriers).*

Broadband access and individuals' preference for mode of service.

**2. Is the county seeking to have service providers embed trauma informed care initiatives (TIC) into services provided?**

Yes  No

If yes, please describe how this is occurring. If no, indicate any plans to embed TIC in FY 25-26. (Limit of 1 page)

Due to lack of funding, initiatives re: Trauma Informed Care are limited to those available trainings supported and provided by our managed care partners and any other community entity offering such trainings. As previously mentioned, the Trauma Project continues to be implemented within the Cumberland County Juvenile Probation Department. CIT Trainings with law enforcement include de-escalation and much discussion regarding trauma and being trauma informed.

**3. Is the county currently utilizing Cultural and Linguistic Competence (CLC) Training?**

Yes  No

If yes, please describe the CLC training being used, including training content/topics covered, frequency with which training is offered, and vendor utilized (if applicable). If no, counties may include descriptions of plans to implement CLC trainings in FY 25-26. (Limit of 1 page)

PA Care Partnership is used to provide Cultural and Linguistic Competence training. Information is routinely shared. CASSP Coordinator utilizes a large stakeholder distribution list with whom she shares this information.

CIT training includes a module related to Cultural Awareness to increase awareness within the law enforcement sector when interacting with individuals with behavioral health needs.

**4. Are there any Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) efforts that the county has completed to address health inequities?**

Yes  No

If yes, please describe the DEI efforts undertaken. If no, indicate any plans to implement DEI efforts in FY 25-26. (Limit of 1 page)

Cumberland County endorses the following DEI statement: "Cumberland County acknowledges and celebrates the unique characteristics of our residents, employees, and visitors. We identify diversity as a strength and consider it a growing, valuable asset of our community. We thoughtfully offer services and opportunities by understanding the different needs of our residents and actively engaging the underrepresented. Everyone who lives, works, and visits Cumberland County will benefit from our commitment to a welcoming environment." Cumberland County provided DEI training to all county staff, and refresher training is expected annually.

Also, while not directly provided by the C-P MH program, PerformCare, our managed care provider, offers trainings in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) and providers are encouraged to participate. The series covers various topics such as benefits and outcomes of DEI, implicit and explicit bias, health disparities, and implementing a DEI program. The Health Equity Director at Partnership for Better Health, a local endowment foundation, has been instrumental in providing trainings and discussions in this area, that includes an annual spring “Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging (DEIB) Training”. Information on these trainings is provided to our service provider network. Staff share information with providers, families, and individuals about available support groups as well as trainings to address specific needs related to DEI as they become available.

**5. Does the county currently have any suicide prevention initiatives which address all age groups?**

Yes  No

If yes, please describe the initiatives and any age-specific initiatives. If no, counties may describe plans to implement future initiatives in the coming fiscal year. (*Limit of 1 page*)

The Cumberland and Perry Counties’ Suicide Prevention Taskforce PULSE (Preventing Unnecessary Loss through Suicide Education) which started in 2016 continues to meet monthly with the primary purpose to increase awareness and education about suicide. Initiatives are based on the task force priorities of “Providing Support, Education and Outreach”. There has been slow, yet strategic growth in all facets of this very dedicated group. The taskforce is comprised of Crisis Intervention, Student Assistance, persons with lived experience, Veterans, family members, loss survivors, and some participation with attempt survivors.

Currently two Survivors of Suicide (SOS) support groups are held monthly. SOS meetings are held twice per month, year-round, one in Harrisburg and one in New Cumberland. Meetings are open to all family members and friends, age 18+, who have lost a loved one to suicide.

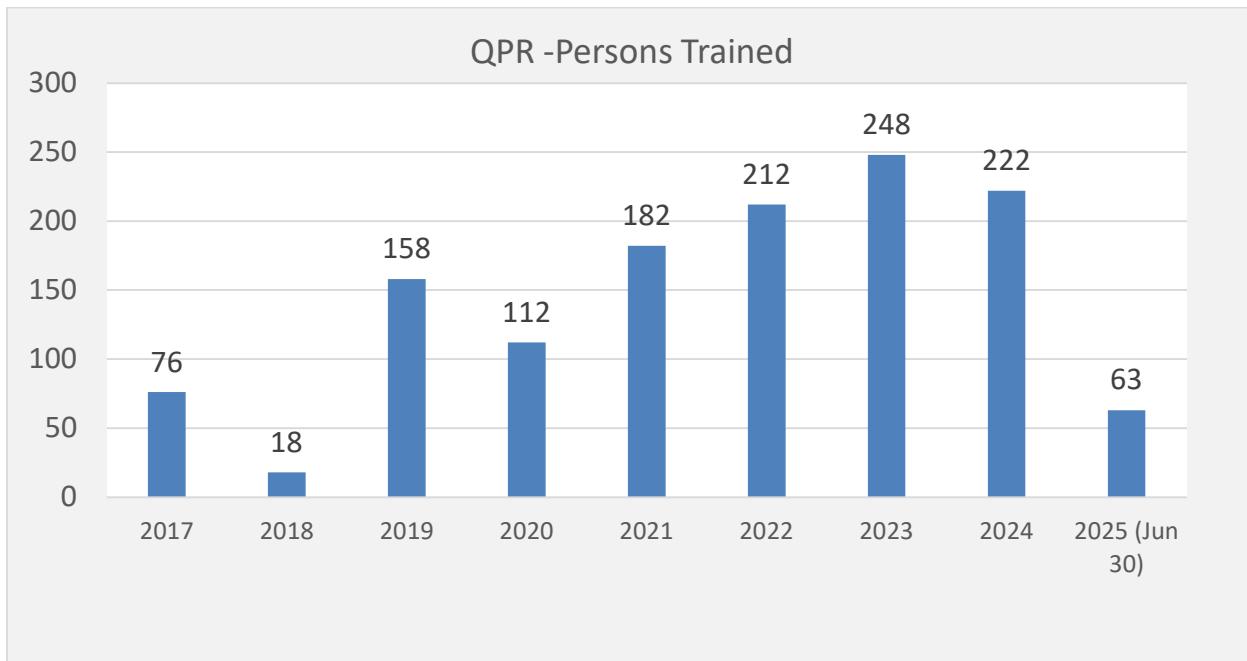
The taskforce is currently working with a community loss survivor who has expressed a desire to facilitate support groups. This individual is dedicated to making suicide prevention a part of his retirement plan. He assists with the facilitation of QPR training and has a podcast (Surviving Loss: Our Journey of Hope). Cal’s Hope is a 501(c)(3) providing scholarships to college students interested in pursuing their education in the human services field. In addition, he has written a book, *Surviving Loss My Journey of Hope*, which was published in September 2023.

The taskforce has continued the focus on providing the Evidence Based Practice of QPR training. While QPR is not intended to be a form of counseling or treatment, it is intended to offer hope through positive action. QPR is also intended to help recognize the warning signs, clues, and suicidal communications of people in trouble and to act vigorously to prevent a possible tragedy.

During the past few years, PULSE has focused on training stakeholders in QPR. We have a total of 9 trainers with diverse backgrounds. We are grateful for the partnership with Cumberland County Human Resources, who co-facilitate trainings with the Cumberland-Perry MH office that is open to all Cumberland County personnel. Additionally, a trainer from the Cumberland County jail provides QPR for Correctional Officers annually as part of their core trainings. We have developed an excellent working relationship with the first responder community - an EMT and a police officer assist to train each of these disciplines in QPR. CIT has suicide prevention as a

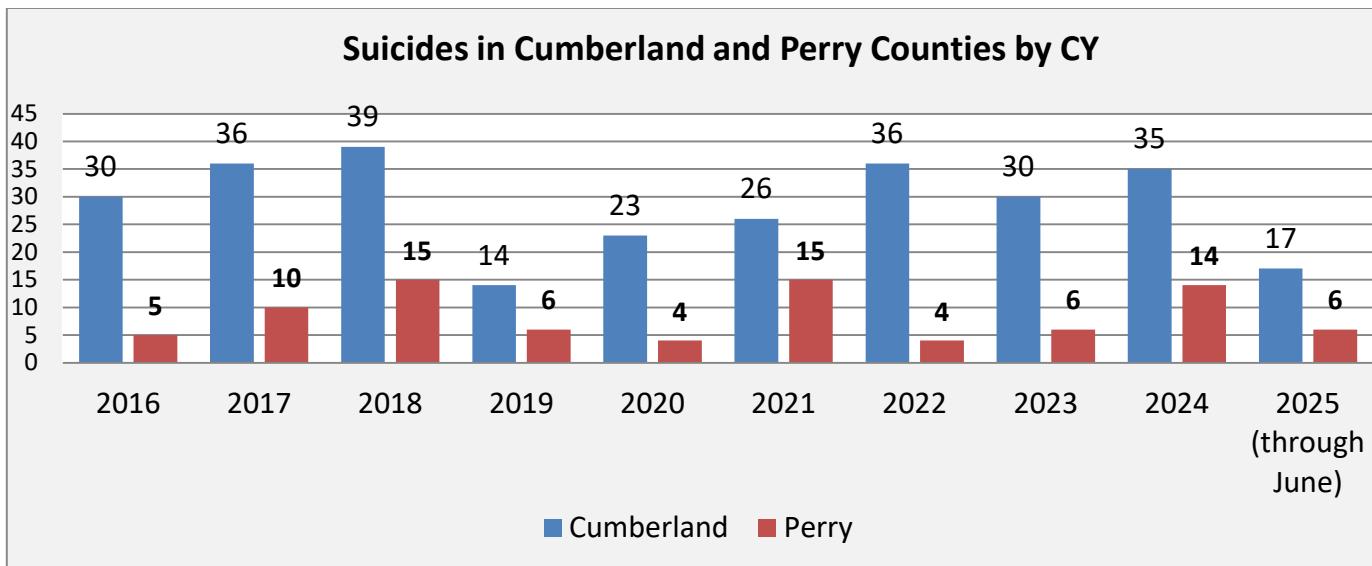
core element of the 40-hour CIT training for law enforcement. We are pleased with both the energy and the support from all our facilitators. These trainings are interactive for the participants using PointSolutions Software and can obtain comprehension/growth of the participants and feedback about the presenters.

During the last fiscal year, 161 members of our community have received QPR training including Cumberland County staff, Cumberland County Prison Staff, Law Enforcement Officers, and multiple Emergency Management Services (EMS) partners. Cumberland County's Human Resources Department is working in strong collaboration with the MH office to ensure county personnel have access to QPR training. As a function of these partnerships, through June 30, 2025, a total of 1,197 individuals have become QPR trained since 2016. The chart below shows the increase in individuals trained in QPR.



The taskforce is working to develop strategies to ensure that suicide prevention is occurring across all demographics in the community. While we are pleased with a growing cross system of representatives, we acknowledge that we still have the need to have a stronger outreach into the aging contingency and need to strengthen our work with the LGBTQ sections of our communities. We are hopeful that with continued outreach and participation in various community events that we will reach these populations.

The chart below shows the number of individuals who have passed due to suicide since 2016. Despite our increased efforts to strengthen training, support, and outreach, suicide continues to negatively impact our communities. CY 2025 is current through June 2025.



## 6. Individuals with Serious Mental Illness (SMI): Employment Support Services

The Employment First Act (Act of Jun. 19, 2018, P.L. 229, No 36 Cl. 35 EMPLOYMENT FIRST ACT ENACTMENT, 2018) requires county agencies to provide services to support competitive integrated employment for individuals with disabilities who are eligible to work under federal or state law. For further information on the Employment First Act, see [Employment-First-Act-three-year-plan.pdf \(pa.gov\)](https://www.pabureau.org/employment-first-act-three-year-plan.pdf)

- a. Please provide the following information for your County MH Office Employment Specialist single point of contact (SPOC).
  - Name: Robin Tolan
  - Email address: [ratolan@cumberlandcountypa.gov](mailto:ratolan@cumberlandcountypa.gov)
  - Phone number: 717-240-6320
- b. Please indicate if the county **Mental Health office** follows the [SAMHSA Supported Employment Evidence Based Practice \(EBP\) Toolkit](https://www.samhsa.gov/evidence-based-practices/employment-supported-practices):
 

Yes  No until 6/30/2025 - this program was closed at the end of FY 24-25 due to county MH program budget deficits

Please complete the following table for all supported employment services provided to **only** individuals with a diagnosis of Serious Mental Illness (SMI), defined as persons age 18 and over, who currently or at any time during the past year, have had a diagnosable mental, behavioral or emotional disorder that is listed in the current DSM that has resulted in functional impairment, which substantially interfere with or limits one or more major life activities.

Previous Year: FY 24-25 County Supported Employment Data for <b>ONLY</b> Individuals with Serious Mental Illness		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please complete all rows and columns below</li> <li>• If data is available, but no individuals were served in a category, list as <b>zero (0)</b></li> <li>• Only if no data available for a category, list as <b>N/A</b> and provide a brief narrative explanation.</li> </ul> <p><i>Include additional information for each population served in the <b>Notes</b> section. (For example, 50% of the Asian population served speaks English as a Second Language, or number served for ages 14-21 includes juvenile justice population).</i></p>		<b>Notes</b>
<b>Data Categories</b>	<b>County MH Office Response</b>	
i. Total Number Served	74	
ii. # served ages 14 up to 21	0	
iii. # served ages 21 up to 65	74	
iv. # of male individuals served	36	
v. # of female individuals served	37	
vi. # of non-binary individuals served	1	
vii. # of Non-Hispanic White served	66	
viii. # of Hispanic and Latino served	1	
ix. # of Black or African American served	3	
x. # of Asian served	1	
xi. # of Native Americans and Alaska Natives served	0	
xii. # of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders served	0	
xiii. # of multiracial (two or more races) individuals served	3	
xiv. # of individuals served who have more than one disability	15	
xv. # of individuals served working part-time (30 hrs. or less per wk.)	40	Total 57/74 worked in that year
xvi. # of individuals served working full-time (over 30 hrs. per wk.)	17	
xvii. # of individuals served with lowest hourly wage (i.e.: minimum wage)	4	
xviii. # of individuals served with highest hourly wage	2	
xix. # of individuals served who are receiving employer offered benefits (i.e., insurance, retirement, paid leave)	17	

## 7. Supportive Housing:

a. Please provide the following information for the County MH Office Housing Specialist/point of contact (SPOC).

Name: Robin Tolan
Email address: <a href="mailto:ratolan@cumberlandcountypa.gov">ratolan@cumberlandcountypa.gov</a>
Phone number: 717-240-6320

b. Please indicate if the county **Mental Health office** follows the [\*\*SAMHSA Permanent Supportive Housing Evidence-Based Practices\*\*](#) toolkit:

Yes  No

DHS' five-year housing strategy, [\*\*Supporting Pennsylvanians Through Housing\*\*](#) is a comprehensive plan to connect Pennsylvanians to affordable, integrated and supportive housing. This comprehensive strategy aligns with the Office of Mental Health and Substance

Abuse Services (OMHSAS) planning efforts, and OMHSAS is an integral partner in its implementation.

Supportive housing is a successful, cost-effective combination of affordable housing with services that helps people live more stable, productive lives. Supportive housing works well for people who face the most complex challenges—individuals and families who have very low incomes and serious, persistent issues that may include substance use, mental illness, and HIV/AIDS; and may also be, or at risk of, experiencing homelessness.

c. **Supportive Housing Activity to include:**

- *Community Hospital Integration Projects Program funding (CHIPP)*
- *Reinvestment*
- *County Base funded*
- *Other funded and unfunded, planned housing projects*

i. Please identify the following for all housing projects operationalized in SFY 24-25 and 25-26 in each of the tables below:

- Project Name
- Year of Implementation
- Funding Source(s)

ii. Next, enter amounts expended for the previous state fiscal year (SFY 24-25), as well as projected amounts for SFY 25-26. If this data isn't available because it's a new program implemented in SFY 25-26, do not enter any collected data.

- Please note: Data from projects initiated and reported in the chart for SFY 25-26 will be collected in next year's planning documents.

1. Capital Projects for Behavioral Health				Check box <input type="checkbox"/> if available in the county and complete the section.					
<p><b>Capital financing is used to create targeted permanent supportive housing units (apartments) for consumers, typically, for a 15–30-year period. Integrated housing takes into consideration individuals with disabilities being in units (apartments) where people from the general population also live (i.e., an apartment building or apartment complex).</b></p>									
1. Project Name	2. Year of Implementation	3. Funding Sources by Type (Including grants, federal, state & local sources)	4. Total Amount for SFY 24-25 (only County MH/ID dedicated funds)	5. Projected Amount for SFY 25-26 (only County MH/ID dedicated funds)	6. Actual or Estimated Number Served in SFY 24-25	7. Projected Number to be Served in SFY 25-26	8. Number of Targeted BH Units	9. Term of Targeted BH Units (e.g., 30 years)	
Enola Chapel	2008	LIHTC, HOME	0	0	6	6	6	30 Years	
		FHB							
		Health Choices Reinvestment (HC-R)							
Townhomes at Factory Square	2018	LIHTC	0	0	8-PBV	3-811 units	3-811 units	30 Years	
		PBV				8-PBV	8-PBV		
Flats at Factory Square	2019	LIHTC	0	0	8-PBV	3-811 units	3-811 units	30 Years	
		PBV				8-PBV	8-PBV		
Permanent Supportive	2008	SHP, Continuum	0	0	54	54	54	Annual Award	

Cumberland County Human Services Block Grant Plan  
FY 2025-2026

Housing/Shelter Plus Care-Consolidated	2011 2024	of Care (CoC)						
Brethren House	2009	HC-R	0	0	5	5	5	30 Years
Shepherd's Crossing	2015	HC-R	0	0	4	4	4	30 Years
Perry County Veterans	2010	SHP, HOME	0	0	5	5	5	30 Years
Warren House	2007	PBV	0	0	5	5	5	30 Years
Citrus Grove	2024	HC-R PBV	0	0	0	2 – 811 units 8 PBV	2 – 811 units 8 PBV	30 Years
Harbour Village	2024	HC-R PBV	0	0	0	2 – 811 units 8 PBV	2 – 811 units 8 PBV	30 Years
Totals			0	0	95	121	121	
Notes:								

<b>2. Bridge Rental Subsidy Program for Behavioral Health</b>				Check box <input type="checkbox"/> if available in the county and complete the section.					
<b>Short-term tenant-based rental subsidies, intended to be a “bridge” to more permanent housing subsidy such as Housing Choice Vouchers.</b>									
1. Project Name	2. Year of Implementation	3. Funding Sources by Type (include grants, federal, state & local sources)	4. Total \$ Amount for SFY 24-25	5. Projected \$ Amount for SFY 25-26	6. Actual or Estimated Number Served in SFY 24-25	7. Projected Number to be Served in SFY 25-26	8. Number of Bridge Subsidies in SFY	9. Average Monthly Subsidy Amount in SFY 24-25	10. Number of Individuals Transitioned to another Subsidy in SFY 24-25
Cumb. Co. Rapid rehousing Program	2005	Federal	\$174,028	\$193,186	20	20	20	\$900	0
Perry County Rapid Rehousing Program	2001	Federal	\$213,641	\$213,641	13	13	13	\$1,100	2
Housing Support Funds (aka Bridge Funding)	2024	HC-R	\$98,982	\$47,385	9	11	7	\$500	3
Totals			\$486,651	\$454,212	42	44	40	\$2,500	5
Notes:									

3. Master Leasing (ML) Program for Behavioral Health				Check box <input type="checkbox"/> if available in the county and complete the section.					
Leasing units from private owners and then subleasing and subsidizing these units to consumers.									
1. Project Name	2. Year of Implementation	3. Funding Source by Type (include grants, federal, state & local sources)	4. Total \$ Amount for SFY 24-25	5. Projected \$ Amount for SFY 25-26	6. Actual or Estimated Number Served in SFY 24-25	7. Projected Number to be Served in SFY 25-26	8. Number of Owners/Projects Currently Leasing	9. Number of Units Assisted with Master Leasing in SFY 24-25	10. Average Subsidy Amount in SFY 24-25
Totals									
Notes:	N/A – Service Not provide in Cumberland or Perry County								

<b>4. Housing Clearinghouse for Behavioral Health</b>				Check box <input type="checkbox"/> if available in the county and complete the section.					
<b>An agency that coordinates and manages permanent supportive housing opportunities.</b>									
1. Project Name	2. Year of Implementation	3. Funding Source by Type (include grants, federal, state & local sources)	4. <i>Total \$ Amount for SFY 24-25</i>	5. Projected \$ Amount for SFY 25-26	6. Actual or Estimated Number Served in SFY 24-25			7. Projected Number to be Served in SFY 25-26	8. Number of Staff FTEs in SFY 24-25
Totals									
Notes:	N/A – Service not provided in Cumberland or Perry County								

5. Housing Support Services (HSS) for Behavioral Health				Check box <input type="checkbox"/> if available in the county and complete the section.				
<b>HSS are used to assist consumers in transitions to supportive housing or services needed to assist individuals in sustaining their housing after move-in.</b>								
1. Project Name	2. Year of Implementation	3. Funding Sources by Type (include grants, federal, state & local sources)	4. Total \$ Amount for SFY 24-25	5. Projected \$ Amount for SFY 25-26	6. Actual or Estimated Number Served in SFY 24-25		7. Projected Number to be Served in SFY 25-26	8. Number of Staff FTEs in SFY 24-25
Supported Living-2 Providers	2000	County Base Funds	\$708,649	\$575,719	121		85	5
CCHRA Homeless & Special Needs Case Management Staff	2001	County Base Funding	\$165,726	\$82,863	100		110	2.5 FTE
Totals			\$874,375	\$658,582				
Notes:								

<b>6. Housing Contingency Funds for Behavioral Health</b>				Check box <input type="checkbox"/> if available in the county and complete the section.					
<b>Flexible funds for one-time and emergency costs such as security deposits for apartment or utilities, utility hook-up fees, furnishings, and other allowable costs.</b>									
1. Project Name	2. Year of Implementation	3. Funding Sources by Type (include grants, federal, state & local sources)	4. <i>Total</i> \$ Amount for SFY 24-25	5. Projected \$ Amount for SFY 25-26	6. Actual or Estimated Number Served in SFY 24-25			7. Projected Number to be Served in SFY 25-26	8. Average Contingency Amount per person
Totals									
Notes:	N/A service not provided in Cumberland or Perry County								

7. Other: Identify the Program for Behavioral Health			Check box <input type="checkbox"/> if available in the county and complete the section.				
<p><b>Project Based Operating Assistance (PBOA)</b> is a partnership program with the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency in which the county provides operating or rental assistance to specific units then leased to eligible persons; <b>Fairweather Lodge (FWL)</b> is an Evidenced-Based Practice where individuals with serious mental illness choose to live together in the same home, work together and share responsibility for daily living and wellness; <b>CRR Conversion</b> (as described in the CRR Conversion Protocol), <b>other</b>.</p>							
1. Project Name (include type of project such as PBOA, FWL, CRR Conversion, etc.)	2. Year of Implementation	3. Funding Sources by Type (include grants, federal, state & local sources)	4. Total \$ Amount for SFY 24-25	5. Projected \$ Amount for SFY 25-26	6. Actual or Estimated Number Served in SFY 24-25		7. Projected Number to be Served in SFY 25-26
Fairweather Lodges – 4 sites  2 Lodge Coordinators	2007	HCV  County Base	\$33,770	\$0	23		18-Slots Available
Long-Term Structured Residence	2020	CHIPP, Olmstead, Reinvestment, County Base	\$1,825,913	\$1,833,508	19		16-Slots Available
Totals			\$1,859,683	\$1,833,508	42		34
Notes:							

**e) Certified Peer Specialist Employment Survey:**

Certified Peer Specialist (CPS) is defined as:

An individual with lived mental health recovery experience who has received the Department approved peer services training and certified by the Pennsylvania Certification Board.

**In the table below, please include CPSs employed in any mental health service in the county/joinder including, but not limited to:**

- case management
- inpatient settings
- psychiatric rehabilitation centers
- intensive outpatient programs
- drop-in centers
- HealthChoices peer support programs
- consumer-run organizations
- residential settings
- ACT or Forensic ACT teams

<b>County MH Office CPS Single Point of Contact (SPOC)</b>	<p>Name: Robin Tolan</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:ratolan@cumberlandcountypa.gov">ratolan@cumberlandcountypa.gov</a></p> <p>Phone number: 717-240-6320</p>
<b>Total Number of CPSs Employed</b>	14 (1 in Common Ground, 12 in 2 Peer Support providers; 1 in ACT/CTT)
<b>Average number of individuals served (ex: 15 persons per peer, per week)</b>	14 individuals per CPS/week: 50 on average per week
<b>Number of CPS working full-time (30 hours or more)</b>	2
<b>Number of CPS working part-time (under 30 hours)</b>	12
<b>Hourly Wage (low and high), seek data from providers as needed</b>	\$15-17.60
<b>Benefits, such as health insurance, leave days, etc. (Yes or No), seek data from providers as needed</b>	Yes
<b>Number of New Peers Trained in CY 2024</b>	4

**f) Existing County Mental Health Services**

Please indicate all currently available services and the funding source(s) utilized.

Services by Category	Currently Offered	Funding Source (Check all that apply)
Outpatient Mental Health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Psychiatric Inpatient Hospitalization	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Partial Hospitalization - Adult	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Partial Hospitalization - Child/Youth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Family-Based Mental Health Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) or Community Treatment Team (CTT)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Children's Evidence-Based Practices	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Crisis Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Telephone Crisis Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Walk-in Crisis Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Mobile Crisis Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Crisis Residential Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Crisis In-Home Support Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Emergency Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Targeted Case Management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Administrative Management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Transitional and Community Integration Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Community Employment/Employment-Related Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Community Residential Rehabilitation Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Psychiatric Rehabilitation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Children's Psychosocial Rehabilitation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Adult Developmental Training	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Facility-Based Vocational Rehabilitation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Social Rehabilitation Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Administrator's Office	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Housing Support Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Family Support Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Peer Support Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Consumer-Driven Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Community Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Mobile Mental Health Treatment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Behavioral Health Rehabilitation Services for Children and Adolescents	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Inpatient Drug & Alcohol (Detoxification and Rehabilitation)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Outpatient Drug & Alcohol Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Methadone Maintenance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Clozapine Support Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment
Additional Services (Specify – add rows as needed)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> HC <input type="checkbox"/> Reinvestment

Note: HC= HealthChoices

**g) Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) Survey**

(Below: if answering Yes (Y) to #1. Service available, please answer questions #2-7) <u>Evidence-Based Practice</u>	1. Is the service available in the County/ Joinder? (Y/N)	2. Current number served in the County/ Joinder (Approx.)	3. What fidelity measure is used?	4. Who measures fidelity? (agency, county, MCO, or state)	5. How often is fidelity measured?	6. Is SAMHSA EBP Toolkit used as an implementation guide? (Y/N)	7. Is staff specifically trained to implement the EBP? (Y/N)	8. Additional Information and Comments
Assertive Community Treatment	Y	32	TMACT	MCO	Annually	Y	Y	Modified ACT Program- follows CTT guidelines
Supportive Housing	Y	82	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Supported Employment	Y	65	SAMHSA EPB toolkit	Agency	Every 2 years	Y	Y	Include # Employed=31 Monthly Average 34
Integrated Treatment for Co-occurring Disorders (Mental Health/SUD)	Y	Not Tracked	<u>None Available</u>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	3 MH OP Providers are dually licensed (MH&DA&)
Illness Management/ Recovery	N	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Psych Rehab offers the Wellness Self-Management Toolkit
Medication Management (MedTEAM)	N	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Medication Clinics are offered to support medication packing and monitoring
Therapeutic Foster Care	Y	0	Approved Service Description	MCO monitors <u>model</u> via QA activities	Annually	Unknown	Y	CRR-ITP
Multisystemic Therapy	Y	42	MST Services, Inc.	MST Services, Inc.	Annually	Unknown	Y	Also provided through CYS/JPO Needs Based Funding
Functional Family Therapy	Y	10	FFT Guidelines	Provider & FFT Consultant	Annually	Y	Y	
Family Psycho-Education	Y	Not Fully Tracked	None	N/A	N/A	N	N/A	Various support groups & trainings in the community; NAMI C-P also provides Family-to-Family; Peer-to-Peer; Family & Peer Support Groups

SAMHSA's EBP toolkits: [https://www.samhsa.gov/libraries/evidence-based-practices-resource-center?f%5B0%5D=resource\\_type%3A20361](https://www.samhsa.gov/libraries/evidence-based-practices-resource-center?f%5B0%5D=resource_type%3A20361)

**h) Additional EBP, Recovery-Oriented and Promising Practices Survey:**

- Please include both county and HealthChoices funded services.
- Include CPS services provided to all age groups in total, including those in the age break outs for TAY and OAs.

(Below: if answering yes to #1. **service provided**, please answer questions #2 and 3)

Recovery-Oriented and Promising Practices	1. Service Provided (Yes/No)	2. Current Number Served (Approximate)	3. Additional Information and Comments
Consumer/Family Satisfaction Team	Y	483	HealthChoices Managed Care Contract
Compeer	N	N/A	
Fairweather Lodge	Y	14 slots	4 Lodges
MA Funded Certified Peer Specialist (CPS)- Total**	Y	33	
CPS Services for Transition Age Youth (TAY)	Y	8	
CPS Services for Older Adults (OAs)	Y	3	
Other Funded CPS- Total** COUNTY BASE FUNDED	Y	19	County Funded CPS + Numerous embedded Soc Rehab and Supported Apartment Programs (contact is not tracked or counted)
CPS Services for TAY	Y	0	
CPS Services for OAs	Y	0	Contract with County Office of Aging – no referrals
Dialectical Behavioral Therapy	Y	Unknown, Not Tracked	Many therapists provide this therapy as an OP service, but the specific modality is not tracked
Mobile Medication	Y	52	Mobile Psychiatric Nursing
Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP)	Y	Unknown, Not Tracked	WRAP is offered in all services, but the completion of a WRAP is not tracked
High Fidelity Wrap Around	N	N/A	CASSP offers joint planning teams
Shared Decision Making	Y	52	Common Ground via Peer Support at Merakey
Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services (including clubhouse)	Y	101	1 Psych Rehab agency provides service in 4 locations across 2 counties
Self-Directed Care	Y	52	Same as Common Ground – shared decision-making
Supported Education	Y	4	Offered via CAPSTONE program only – see below
Treatment of Depression in OAs	Y	200	Psychiatrist & Social Worker with Geriatric specialty
Consumer-Operated Services	Y	N/A	Community Support Program (CSP)
Parent Child Interaction Therapy	Y	3	
Sanctuary	N	Unknown	C-P residents have access to residential providers outside of our counties that are sanctuary certified
Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy	Y	Unknown; Not Tracked	Provided as OP Therapy
Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR)	Y	Unknown; Not Tracked	
First Episode Psychosis Coordinated Specialty Care	Y	12	via CAPSTONE with Dauphin County's SAMHSA grant for FEP

**Reference:** Please see SAMHSA's National Registry of Evidenced-Based Practices and Programs for more information on some of the practices: [Resource Center | SAMHSA](#)

**i) Involuntary Mental Health Treatment**

1. During CY 2024, did the County/Joinder offer *Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT)* Services under PA Act 106 of 2018?  
 No, chose to opt-out for all of CY 2024  
 Yes, AOT services were provided from: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ after a request was made to rescind the opt-out statement  
 Yes, AOT services were available for all of CY 2024
2. If the County/Joinder chose to provide AOT, list all outpatient services that were provided in the County/Joinder for all or a portion of CY 2024 (check all that apply):  
 Community psychiatric supportive treatment  
 ACT  
 Medications  
 Individual or group therapy  
 Peer support services  
 Financial services  
 Housing or supervised living arrangements  
 Alcohol or substance abuse treatment when the treatment is for a co-occurring condition for a person with a primary diagnosis of mental illness  
 Other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_
3. If the County/Joinder chose to opt-out of providing AOT services for all or a portion of CY 2024:
  - a. Provide the number of written petitions for AOT services received during the opt-out period. \_\_\_\_\_ 0
  - b. Provide the number of individuals the county identified who would have met the criteria for AOT under Section 301(c) of the Mental Health Procedures Act (MHPA) (50 P.S. § 7301(c)). \_\_\_\_\_ 0
4. Please complete the following chart as follows:
  - a. Rows I through IV fill in the number
    - i. **AOT services column:**
      - 1) Available in your county, BUT if no one has been served in the year, enter 0.
      - 2) Not available in your county, enter N/A.
    - ii. **Involuntary Outpatient Treatment (IOT) services column:** if no one has been served in the last year, enter 0.

b. Row V fill in the administrative costs of AOT and IOT

	AOT	IOT
I. Number of individuals subject to involuntary treatment in CY 2024	N/A	43
II. Number of involuntary inpatient hospitalizations following an IOT or AOT for CY 2024	N/A	14
III. Number of AOT modification hearings in CY 2024	N/A	
IV. Number of 180-day extended orders in CY 2024	N/A	27
V. Total administrative costs (including but not limited to court fees, costs associated with law enforcement, staffing, etc.) for providing involuntary services in CY 2024	N/A	\$250,000

**i) Consolidated Community Reporting Initiative Data reporting**

DHS requires the County/Joinder to submit a separate record, or "pseudo claim," each time an individual has an encounter with a provider. An encounter is a service provided to an individual. This would include, but not be limited to, a professional contact between an individual and a provider and will result in more than one encounter if more than one service is rendered. For services provided by County/Joinder contractors and subcontractors, it is the responsibility of the County/Joinder to take appropriate action to provide the DHS with accurate and complete encounter data. DHS' point of contact for encounter data will be the County/Joinder and no other subcontractors or providers. It is the responsibility of the County/Joinder to take appropriate action to provide DHS with accurate and complete data for payments made by County/Joinder to its subcontractors or providers. DHS will evaluate the validity through edits and audits in PROMISe, timeliness, and completeness through routine monitoring reports based on submitted encounter data. (Pennsylvania General Assembly, (1966). *Mental Health and Intellectual Disability Act of 1966*, P.L. 96, No. 6 Section 305. <http://www.legis.state.pa.us/wu01/li/li/us/pdf/1966/3/006..pdf>)

File	Description	Data Format/Transfer Mode	Due Date	Reporting Document
837 Health Care Claim: Professional Encounters v5010	Data submitted for each time an individual has an encounter with a provider. Format/data based on HIPAA compliant 837P format	ASCII files via SFTP	Due within 90 days of the county/joinder accepting payment responsibility; or within 180 calendar days of the encounter	HIPAA implementation guide and addenda. PROMISe™ Companion Guides

❖ Have all available claims paid by the county/joinder during CY 2024 been reported to the state as an encounter?  Yes  No

While 95% of pseudo claims have been submitted successfully, there are several base-funded services that are not enrolled or validated, and we continue to try to work with the provider and the state to achieve this. It would also be helpful if the county program could have access to this information related to provider enrollment to support providers in completing the enrollment process appropriately. In addition, some county-funded services are not trackable via consumer data if the

people being served are not open in HCSIS – such as information and referral situations which is a BSU requirement and regulatory expectation.

**k) Categorical State Base Funding (to be completed by all counties)**

Please provide a brief narrative as to the services that would be expanded or new programs that would be implemented with increased base funding in FY 25-26: N/A-we are a Block Grant joinder

This year, Cumberland and Perry Counties MH Program made the difficult decision to make cuts in programs. Even with cutting over \$650,000 from the FY24-25 budget and requesting that providers leave certain vacant positions unfilled, the projected deficit remains approximately \$300,000. If funding were expanded, our staff and community providers would develop/expand the following:

- Expand crisis services to include longer term stabilization (up to 14 days) and mobile teams' capabilities.
- Develop database to track CIT calls with law enforcement which includes tracking people open/identified in county systems and outcomes (hospital, jail, treatment, etc.)
- Expand residential services for individuals with SMI (Personal Care, Supportive Living)
- Expand work with redevelopment authority to create affordable housing options for community
- Expand treatment services at jails and social work
- Expand services (preventative) for children and adolescents
- Expand support to reentry task force and returning members to our communities
- Expand administrative case management (caseload sizes need to be decreased so people receive quality/effective services)
- Complete market analysis on salaries for workforce
- Develop standing residency program to increase number of psychiatric physicians to meet community needs
- Create database to track Stepping Up Initiative (Innovator County)
- Use data system to analyze recidivism at the jail; measure of reduction of people with SMI at the jails
- Increase EBP (*evidence-based practices*) of support groups (suicide loss, family support groups)
- Create stronger preventative trauma awareness training for families
- Focus on cultural awareness training for underserved populations
- Develop/use social emotional curriculums including teaching coping mechanisms
- Evaluate the satisfaction of people with county funded services
- Re-institute secondary student assistance and expand the service to maximize the use of the program.
- Develop stronger outcome tracking for all county funded programs.
- Expand ACT (*Assertive Community Team*) to be full team

**m) Federal Grant Funding (to be completed by all counties, where appropriate). Please limit response to no more than one page for each question.**

- **CMHSBG – Non-Categorical (70167): Please describe the services to be rendered with these funds for the expected FY 25-26 allocation:** N/A
- **CMHSBG – General Training (70167): Please describe the plans to use any carryover funds from FY 24-25:**

For FY 24-25, Cumberland-Perry Mental Health received an initial allocation of \$26,500 which was used to provide a CIT symposium for Cumberland-Perry & Dauphin Counties to provide guidance and instruction on regionalization. We made the request our FY 23-24 dollars of \$30,646 be reappropriated which brought our total General Training to \$57,146. We used \$30,000 for the symposium, leaving \$27,146. We request these funds be carried over to FY 25-26 as we have already received permission from OMHSAS to use these funds towards attending the CIT International Conference.

- **Social Service Block Grant (70135): Please describe the services to be rendered with these funds for the expected FY 25-26 allocation:** N/A
- **KEEP EMPOWERING YOUTH - PARTNERS, PROVIDERS, LIVED EXPERIENCE KEY-PPLE (71022) - Please describe the project milestones you expect to achieve with these funds and plans to use any carryover funds from FY 24-25.** N/A

**SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERVICES** (Limit of 10 pages for entire section)

This section should describe the entire substance use service system available to all county residents *regardless* of funding sources.

Please provide the following information for FY 24-25:

The **Cumberland-Perry Drug and Alcohol Commission** (the Commission) has the lead responsibility for planning and administering a continuum of substance use prevention, intervention, treatment, case management, and recovery support services for all eligible Cumberland and Perry County residents. Through a longstanding joinder agreement between the Boards of County Commissioners in Cumberland County and Perry County, the Commission operates as a department of Cumberland County government and as one part of a broad system of county human services. The Commission serves as the Single County Authority (SCA) for Cumberland and Perry Counties in fulfillment of state contracts and regulations.

A 2025 Needs Assessment for the area identified priorities in substance use. Focus on prevention for youth is vaping, marijuana use and alcohol use. High risk factors for the community are laws and norms favorable toward substance use, low perceived risk of substance use, friend's use of drugs, poor family management and support.

The Cumberland-Perry Drug and Alcohol Commission provides Prevention, Student Assistance Programming, and casemanagment services for adults.

**1. Waiting List Information:** If Waiting List data is not reported, please provide a brief narrative explanation.

Waiting lists to access substance use disorder (SUD) treatment are a product of two factors: limited, capped funding to pay for treatment; and limited capacity of treatment providers.

For the last several fiscal years the Commission has been fortunate to not experience system-wide waiting lists for any level of care due to limited SCA treatment funding. This was due in large part to the positive impact of Medical Assistance (MA) Expansion. In recent years, the lack of staffing for providers has impacted waiting and treatment availability lists the most.

Since MA Expansion has been implemented Commission funding has been available for all levels of SUD care throughout the full fiscal year. In 2025 the proposal to eliminate MA Eligibility and decrease Medical Assistance at the Federal level is a major concern. In Cumberland County over 10,000 are on Medicaid because of Medicaid Expansion. With the potential Medicaid reductions, it's estimated that over 4500 would lose Medicaid from Cumberland County. Perry County has over 1800 on it because of Medicaid expansion. Almost 800 people are expected to lose their Medicaid with the proposed changes. (6/2025) As the funder of the last resort, the Commission is expecting an increased demand for services.

Since 2017 the Commission has also received some additional federal funding – State Targeted Response (STR) and State Opioid Response (SOR) – designed to combat the nationwide opioid epidemic. This additional funding has helped us to address the increased demand for SUD case management, treatment, and recovery support services.

The limited capacity of treatment providers has been an issue for people receiving services. Currently, we do not have actual waiting lists for clients at any level of care. The Commission has contracted with many different providers for residential services throughout the state, which helps. This has resulted in rarely having to wait for a bed due to the multiple options available.

The waiting times listed in the chart below are general estimations based on our Case Management Unit's experience. It should be considered that the reason for a wait time is not always due to bed availability within our provider network. Clients for various reasons may need a bed date arranged far in advance, so that an admission date matches up with a court sentencing date or a prison release date.

Services	# of Individuals*	Wait Time (days)**
Withdrawal Management	0	0-3
Medically-Managed Intensive Inpatient Services	0	1-7
Opioid Treatment Services (OTS)	0	0-3
Clinically-Managed, High-Intensity Residential Services	0	1-5
Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP) Services	0	1-5
Outpatient Services	0	1-10
Other (specify)	0	1-5

\*Average weekly number of individuals

\*\*Average weekly wait time per person

The detox beds estimate of 0 to 3-days can be misleading. Most times, we find that we can get a person into detox immediately (same day). If a bed at one facility is not available, the case manager will move to another provider. Over the years access to detox services has improved. This is due to three factors. First, there has been an increase in the number of non-hospital detox beds throughout the state and within south-central Pennsylvania. Second, the Commission has increased the number of providers for residential that we contract with. Third, an increase in access to Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) services has eliminated the need for some individuals with opioid use disorders their treatment and recovery with a detox.

Access to hospital-based services (medically managed intensive inpatient) is our most significant capacity issue. Our SCA does maintain detox and rehab contracts with Eagleville Hospital and Avenues Recovery Medical Center. Fortunately, it is a small percentage of our SCA-funded clients who require hospital-based care. At times, we will refer the individual to a local hospital to address acute medical needs.

Capacity issues at the outpatient level are caused by a significant problem with staff vacancies. Recruitment and retention of qualified professionals for treatment positions is an ongoing challenge for the drug and alcohol field. During recent years some of the Commission's outpatient providers have reported to the SCA (per contract requirements) capacity limitations due to staff turnover. Occasionally, a given provider has reached the point where they were temporarily unable to accept new admissions. Some outpatient centers when down staff are not able to make the requirement of seeing a client within seven days.

Another concern is the decrease in outpatient providers in the Cumberland and Perry Area. Perry County only has one substance use provider that contracts with the SCA. In 2025 two local outpatient providers closed in Cumberland County. One was a Methadone clinic and the other had IOP and OP groups.

The Commission provides monitoring to all outpatient providers yearly and seeks funding opportunities to support increasing training and services to be provided within the county. Three outpatient providers have been able in the past couple years to add Certified Recovery Specialists to their clinics through CABHC reinvestment funds to support client ongoing care needs.

**2. Overdose Survivors' Data:** Please describe below the SCA plan for offering overdose survivors direct referral to treatment for FY 24-25.

As one of our local responses to the opioid health crisis the Commission has developed a warm handoff program to provide outreach services with overdose survivors who receive medical care in the emergency departments of the four hospitals located in our two-county service area. A full description of this program and the data that has been gathered is presented below in the subsection entitled "County Warm Handoff Process."

In addition to our SCA's warm handoff program, the Commission's Case Management Unit has identified overdose survivors as a priority population for admission to SCA-funded substance use

disorder treatment. We define an “overdose” as a situation in which an individual is in a state requiring emergency medical intervention because of the use of alcohol or other drugs. Clients may be identified as members of this priority group in at least two ways: The client is referred by medical personnel or local emergency room staff or the client self-reports the experience of ingesting an amount of any substance to the degree that some level of intervention had to be provided by another person to prevent unconsciousness.

It is the philosophy of the Commission that the client’s own perception and self-report that they experienced an overdose is what is most important. Overdose experience can be used therapeutically as motivation to embrace treatment and recovery goals.

Overdose deaths have gone down in Cumberland and Perry County. This coincides with national data that overdose deaths decreased by almost 27% in 2024. Theories why fentanyl deaths are plummeting are numerous including increased, widespread access to naloxone, less potent fentanyl, cocktails of street drugs appear less dangerous, better public health service including access to MAT, the lessening impact of social isolation due to COVID, people are savvier with harm reduction and using street drugs more skillfully and using test strips. Of the overdose deaths, Fentanyl locally still causes most of the deaths, however other drugs are playing a more and more significant role. Alcohol deaths by overdose are not measured in the data.

Presented below is data for 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 fiscal years:

	<b># of Overdose Survivors</b>	<b># Referred to Treatment</b>	<b>Referral method(s)</b>	<b># Refused Treatment</b>
FY 22-23	36	36	Case management to Treatment Provider	1
FY 23-24	51	49	Case management to Treatment Provider	0
FY 24-25	16	16	Case Management to Treatment Provider	0

The number of overdose survivors significantly dropped in 2024 at the Commission. This could be that clients are not reporting an overdose or minimizing it. Some people don’t count it as an overdose if they are revived but don’t go to a hospital. It could also be that more people are overdosing on stimulants like national data suggests but not counting it as an overdose as it is not as clear on the symptoms of overdose for stimulants and naloxone wasn’t used.

3. **Levels of Care (LOC):** Please provide the following information for the county’s contracted providers.

The Commission’s network of providers covers the full continuum of licensed substance use disorder treatment. The levels of care from least intensive to most intensive are as follows: Outpatient, Intensive Outpatient, Partial Hospitalization, Clinically Managed Low-Intensity

Residential Services (Halfway House), Withdrawal Management, Clinically Managed Medium-Intensity Residential Services, Clinically Managed High-Intensity Residential Services, Medically Monitored Intensive Inpatient Services, Medically Monitored High-Intensity Inpatient Services, and Medically Managed Intensive Inpatient Services. All our contracted treatment providers accommodate medication-assisted treatment. Two of our outpatient contractors provide methadone maintenance services. All the Commission's contracted providers are also approved Medical Assistance providers in the network of PerformCare, our regional HealthChoices behavioral health managed care organization.

<b>LOC American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) Criteria</b>	<b># of Providers</b>	<b># of Providers Located In-County</b>	<b># of Co-Occurring/Enhanced Programs</b>
4 WM	2	0	1
4	2	0	1
3.7 WM	20 (One is Adol)	0	0
3.7	3	0	3
3.5	31 (Three are Adol)	0	5
3.1	9	0	0
2.5	2	0	0
2.1	4	4	0
1	8	6	0 (Two provide adolescent services)

There are no licensed inpatient SUD treatment providers located within Cumberland or Perry Counties that accept public-funded clients. As a result, the Commission contracts with multiple providers around the state. This gives us a couple of advantages. First, when there is a shortage of available beds, with a wider network of providers, we have a much greater chance of finding an open slot. Second, with our broader network of providers we are better able to match the unique clinical needs of any given client with a provider that can offer a specialized treatment regimen.

Two outpatient providers closed early 2025. The Commission is working with other providers to support increasing services including encouraging an IOP in Perry County. One provider added virtual IOP group, so other providers are encouraged to refer clients there for group services and maintain the client locally for individual services.

**4. Treatment Services Needed in County:** Please provide a brief overview of the services needed in the county for FY 25-26 in sections a, b, and c below.

- a. Provide a brief overview of the services needed in the county to afford access to appropriate clinical treatment services:
- b. Provide an overview of any expansion or enhancement plans for existing providers:

- c. Provide an overview of any use of HealthChoices reinvestment funds to develop new services:

Fiscal year 2024-2025 was challenging for Commission-funded SUD treatment services. As of April 1, 2023, on a rolling basis current MA recipients were required to renew their coverage by providing updated information and reapplying yearly. By April 2024 more than 10,000 Cumberland and Perry County residents were no longer eligible for MA. This has increased the demand for SCA-funded SUD treatment services and strained the capacity of our capped funding.

Since 2018-19 fiscal year with federal funding support, medication-assisted treatment (MAT) continues to expand in accessibility in both Cumberland and Perry Counties. The Opioid Trust fund supports continued funding for MAT within the community that is not dependent on Federal and State funds.

Recent lawsuits have determined that if an offender who is admitted to prison is currently receiving any of the three forms of FDA-approved of MAT for opioid use disorders (naltrexone or Vivitrol, buprenorphine or Suboxone, or methadone) it is the prison's responsibility to continue the inmate on that same type of MAT during their incarceration. Since inmates are not currently eligible for Medical Assistance or commercial insurance benefits, County Commissioners are understandably perceiving this new requirement as an additional unfunded mandate. Both the Cumberland County Prison and the Perry County Prison provide MAT maintenance services to inmates who meet criteria and Cumberland County Prison also offers MAT induction (starting an inmate on MAT who does not come into the prison on MAT).

Both Cumberland and Perry Counties receive and use funds from the Pennsylvania Opioid Misuse and Addiction Abatement Trust to help offset the cost of these programs. Both Counties had already been operating prison Vivitrol programs with PCCD grant funding. When the grant funding expired, the programs continued with settlement funding. Both programs also include Certified Recovery Support services for program participants while in prison and upon discharge. Both Counties also allocated opioid settlement funds to cover the cost of continuing inmates on the other two forms of MAT for opioid use disorders – buprenorphine and methadone – while in county prison. Recovery support services during and after incarceration are also included with these costs.

All the Commission's inpatient contracts cover the cost of MAT medication provided during a client's treatment episode. In addition, the Commission has contracts with Positive Recovery Solutions and Hamilton Health to cover the cost of Vivitrol injections for uninsured county residents. Finally, the Commission maintains contracts with two methadone providers. Previously there were three providers but one provider in Mechanicsburg closed in 2024. Methadone providers recently started providing buprenorphine services for uninsured county residents. Both providers are contracted to deliver methadone to the prisons for people on methadone there. A third methadone provider will be contracted with in 2025.

In recent years the Commission has taken steps to help address the outpatient treatment capacity issue noted above. We have also increased our SCA outpatient rates to help providers address the challenges of staff recruitment and retention.

We will continue to consider the addition of other services and providers to our network as needs and gaps are identified, but any future expansion would be contingent upon our ability to access additional funding that is sustainable.

There have been three recent drug and alcohol related reinvestment projects for our Capital Area Behavioral HealthChoices program involving outpatient services in our two-county area. The first project has provided seed money for Perry Human Services, PA Counseling Services Carlisle, and Gaudenzia West Shore to embed a Certified Recovery Specialist recovery support program as a complement to their outpatient SUD treatment services. A second reinvestment project implemented in 2023-24 provided specialized training for Gaudenzia West Shore Outpatient to implement the evidence-based strategy of Contingency Management with adults. Monitoring of both programs is in place and early results suggest that both influence keeping people in treatment and recovery longer. In May 2025 a third reinvestment project was started through the Harbor in Shippensburg. Anchored Recovery Services provides two peer recovery specialists to the Cumberland and Perry County communities. This service plans to move into other counties to support people in recovery. Services started in April 2025 with this new program. Due to a budget deficit with CABHC in 2024 and another anticipated in 2025, no new reinvestment projects for the community have been funded.

5. **Access to and Use of Narcan in County:** Please describe the entities that have access to Narcan, any training or education done by the SCA and coordination with other agencies to provide Narcan.

Listed in the table below is overdose fatality data from the Cumberland and Perry County Coroners for the ten-year period of 2014 through 2024. The Cumberland County Coroner reports that since 2020 most of these overdose deaths have been linked to fentanyl. There are other drugs involved that cause overdose. Like national data the stimulants and hallucinogens are rising in overdose deaths. Alcohol is not tracked as overdose death in Cumberland and Perry County.

Drug Overdose Fatalities											
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cumberland County	35	41	66	86	52	46	68	51	39	39	28
Perry County	6	3	10	12	16	10	15	15	13	4	5

Our local opioid overdose response effort is multifaceted. One particularly strong component that is having a positive impact is the collective efforts of Emergency Medical Services (EMS), local and state police, and concerned family members to administer naloxone to those who overdose on opiates.

All 16 municipal police departments and the State Police in Cumberland County have been trained and equipped to administer naloxone to community members who experience an opiate overdose. There is only one local police department in Perry County, in Marysville. For most of Perry County, police coverage is provided by the Newport Barracks of the PA State Police. The State Police are also equipped with naloxone. In addition, staff from the Perry County Sheriff's Office and Perry County Probation have also been trained and supplied with naloxone.

The Perry County Emergency Management Agency has also taken a leading role in the implementation of a new program that will ensure first responders will have naloxone leave behind bags that include information on where to obtain help, and offer local EMS agencies additional training on SUD, compassion fatigue, and enhancing communication skills when interacting with individuals or their families who have experienced an opioid overdose. This new program is being funded through the Opioid Trust.

With the support of both sets of County Commissioners, the Commission assumed the responsibility of receiving and distributing free naloxone in mid-May 2024 as a newly branded “Recognized Entity” for our two-county area. Since taking over these duties over 1500 boxes of 4 mg internasal naloxone have been handed out to a variety of individuals and organizations within the two counties.

The Commission has also widely publicized the option for any individual to obtain naloxone from their pharmacy using the PA Physician General’s standing order. The Commission has also provided technical assistance to local school districts looking to implement naloxone policies and access naloxone supplies. During the 2023-24 school year, Commission student assistance staff assisted school nurses in obtaining updated supplies of spray Narcan to replace expired products. In 2025, Cumberland County enacted a policy in which individuals working in Human Services departments can receive training and carry naloxone, and placed naloxone in all county buildings. The Commission also contracts with the RASE Project which uses Certified Recovery Specialists to provide Naloxone training and distribution of harm reduction supplies to the community.

**6. County Warm Handoff Process:** Please provide a brief overview of the current warm handoff protocols established by the county including challenges with implementing warm handoff process.

The Commission contracts with Just for Today (JFT) Recovery and Veterans Services to serve as the provider agency for Cumberland-Perry warm handoff outreach services. The provide services on a 24/7 basis for the four hospital emergency departments located within our two-county service area. JFT began providing warm handoff services in mid-December 2018. They currently serve at UPMC Pinnacle Carlisle Hospital, and UPMC Pinnacle West Hospital. Penn State Health Holy Spirit Medical Center, and Penn State Health Hampden Medical Center. This initiative continues to be very well received by patients and hospital staff. JFT has built positive working relationships with the emergency department personnel.

JFT utilizes Certified Recovery Specialists (CRSs) to provide outreach services to individuals and family members. The service was initially designed as an intervention for overdose survivors. However, at the request of the hospitals the program has been expanded to include anyone who presents at the emergency room with any type of substance use disorder issue.

Once a patient with a drug or alcohol related issue is medically stabilized, emergency room personnel encourage them to speak with a CRS from JFT for a brief intervention and referral to substance use disorder treatment. If the patient agrees, the emergency department personnel call JFT’s on-call system and an outreach worker is dispatched.

The JFT outreach worker meets with the patient in the emergency room or throughout the hospital and uses motivational interviewing techniques to encourage him or her to pursue SUD treatment. The JFT staff can refer people directly to treatment and provide many referrals a year. They also collaborate with the Commission. JFT staff work with all patients they encounter regardless of insurance status or county of residence.

Warm handoff activity is reported monthly to DDAP. However, the data set does not include tracking participants through the completion of treatment. Here is the data that has been gathered for the 66-month period from December 2018 through the end of May 2025.

**a. Warm Handoff Data:**

# of Individuals Contacted	1,917
# of Individuals who Entered Treatment	1,172
# of individuals who have Completed Treatment	Unknown

## **INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY SERVICES**

The Office of Developmental Programs (ODP), in partnership with the county programs, is committed to enabling individuals with an intellectual disability and autism live rich and fulfilling lives in their community. It is important to also afford the families and other stakeholders access to the information and support needed to help be positive members of the individuals' teams.

This year, we are asking the county to focus more in depth on the areas of the Plan that will help us achieve the goal of an Everyday Life for all individuals.

With that in mind, please describe the continuum of services to registered individuals with an intellectual disability and autism within the county. In a narrative format, please include the strategies that will be utilized for all individuals registered with the county, regardless of the funding stream. In completing the chart below regarding estimated numbers of individuals, please include only individuals for whom Base or HSBG funds have been or will be expended. Appendix C should reflect only Base or HSBG funds except for the Administration category. Administrative expenditures should be included for both base and HSBG and waiver administrative funds.

*\*Please note that under Person-Directed Supports (PDS), individuals served means the individual used Vendor Fiscal/Employer Agent (VF/EA) or Agency with Choice (AWC) for at least one service during the fiscal year. The percentage of total individuals served represents all funding streams. The percentage might not add to 100 percent if individuals are receiving services in more than one category.*

## **DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SERVICES IN CUMBERLAND AND PERRY COUNTIES**

Cumberland-Perry Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Services believes that individuals with disabilities should be able to receive the services and supports they need in their home communities. Cumberland-Perry IDD is fortunate to be able to offer individuals with disabilities and their families who live within the two-county joinder an extensive selection of quality services and supports. These services/supports include supports coordination services, community residential services, supported employment/job training services, adult developmental services, family support services, transportation services and recreation/socialization services.

The services and supports provided by the Cumberland-Perry IDD Program are guided by the principles of Self-Determination and Everyday Lives. Individuals with developmental disabilities need to have choice and control in all aspects of their lives. They need to be afforded the opportunity to make decisions about the supports and services they receive. Services and supports need to be provided in a way that enhances client choice, growth, and development, and as much independence as possible. Services and supports also need to be provided in a way that enhances a person's dignity and self-worth. Hence an individual's services are designed for a continuum of growth and development.

The Cumberland-Perry IDD program houses both the Administrative Entity (AE) for IDD services and one of the Supports Coordination Organizations (SCO) for IDD services in Cumberland and Perry counties. The AE is comprised of the IDD director and five program specialists. Three of the program specialists serve as quality managers and oversee the Qualification and Monitoring of Providers, the AE QA&I Process, ISP Approval and Authorization Process, the Independent Monitoring for Quality process, and the Incident Management process. The other two program specialists serve as the Intake Specialist, the Waiver Capacity Manager, the Complex Case Specialist and the Public Relations Specialist. The AE contracts with the Advocacy Alliance and the Alliance for Nonprofit Resources, Inc. (ANR) to complete Certified Investigations as part of our Incident Management process. The Cumberland- Perry SCO is comprised of the SCO director, a program specialist, three supports coordination supervisors and fifteen (15) supports coordinators.

Cumberland/Perry IDD's PUNS Waiting List as of May 28, 2025, indicates that we had 100 individuals in the Emergency category, 110 individuals in the Critical category and 76 individuals in the Planning category. The most frequently requested services by our consumers per the PUNS data are Supported Employment, , Home and Community Supports and Transportation.

The 2024-2027 Quality Management Plan for Cumberland and Perry Counties supports the principles of Self Determination and Everyday Lives. Our Quality Management Team includes individuals with IDD, family members, providers, community advocates, and County staff. These team members worked together to develop our quality management goals for 2024-2027. Cumberland-Perry's 2024-2027 quality management goals are as follows:

1. Increase the number of individuals who are living in either an Unlicensed Residential or Supported Living home by 10%.
2. Increase the number of individuals who are competitively employed by 5%.
3. Decrease the number of restraints of individuals by 20%.

#### **Individuals Served**

	<i>Estimated Number of Individuals served in FY 24-25</i>	<i>Percent of total Number of Individuals Served</i>	<i>Projected Number of Individuals to be Served in FY 25-26</i>	<i>Percent of total Number of Individuals Served</i>
Supported Employment	12	9%	15	11%
Pre-Vocational	0	-	0	-
Community participation	11	9%	15	11%

Base-Funded Supports Coordination	128	100%	136	100%
Residential (6400)/unlicensed	4	3%	4	3%
Lifesharing (6500)/unlicensed	0	-	0	-
PDS/AWC	1	1%	1	1%
PDS/VF	0	-	0	-
Family Driven Family Support Services	52	41%	52	38%
Assistive Technology	0	-	0	-
Remote Supports	0	-	0	-

**Supported Employment:** “Employment First” is the policy of all Commonwealth executive branch agencies under the jurisdiction of the governor. ODP is strongly committed to competitive integrated employment for all.

- Please describe the services that are currently available in the county such as discovery, customized employment, and other services.
- Please identify changes in the county practices that are proposed for the current year that will support growth in this area and ways that ODP may assist the county in establishing employment growth activities.
- Please add specifics regarding the Employment Pilot if the county is a participant.

Real jobs should be the first priority and preferred outcome for individuals with disabilities. Many people with intellectual disabilities and/or autism are successfully working in a variety of real jobs, plus receiving the support they need to be successful at work. Cumberland-Perry IDD Services is working collaboratively with Dauphin County ID Services to support individuals with IDD in all three counties in their search for competitive employment through the Employment First initiative. The Employment First initiative is focusing on educating individuals and families, the schools, and employers about the need to start the planning process early because the most appropriate outcome for individuals with intellectual disabilities/Autism after graduation from high school is competitive employment or post-secondary education.

As part of our efforts to promote competitive employment as the most appropriate outcome for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities/Autism, Cumberland-Perry IDD started an adult Project SEARCH program in December 2017. Project SEARCH is a collaboration between a business partner, a job coaching agency, the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, and the national Project Search program. Project SEARCH is a unique business led program that facilitates a combination of classroom instruction, career exploration and job skills training through strategically designed internships. The program provides real-life work experiences to help young folks with intellectual and developmental disabilities make successful transitions to a productive adult life. The goal for each intern is to obtain employment in their community upon completion of the program. Individuals who participate in Project Search programs are very likely to become competitively employed at the end of their program. The Cumberland-Perry Project SEARCH Program is for students graduating from high school through adulthood. Cumberland County is the business partner and is providing the internships in

various County departments such as the MH.IDD Office, the Tax Assessment Office, the Commissioners' Office/Mailroom, the Treasurer's Office, the Children and Youth Office, the County transportation department and the library. Goodwill Keystone Area provides the classroom instruction and the job coaching. Individuals interested in attending the Project SEARCH program are chosen to participate following a face-to-face interview and a skills assessment.

During the first two years of the program, we had nine individuals participate in the Project Search program and, upon graduation, eight of them had a competitive job. Nine individuals were selected to participate in our third class and were expected to graduate in June 2020. This timeline was disrupted by the COVID 19 pandemic. However, several of the participants were able to secure competitive employment and the remainder of the class chose to receive supported employment services with OVR. In 2021, four individuals graduated from Project Search with three individuals having a competitive job upon graduation. In 2022, our fifth class of six individuals completed the program with five individuals finding a competitive job in the community before or shortly after graduation. In 2023, our sixth class of four individuals completed the program with two individuals finding a competitive job in the community before or shortly after graduation. Our seventh class of five individuals graduated from the program in May of 2024 with two of the five having a competitive job upon graduation and two additional individuals gaining a competitive job after graduation. Our 8<sup>th</sup> class of three interns graduated the program in May of 2025. One individual was employed in a competitive job upon graduation while the other two individuals are actively seeking a competitive job in their communities. Our 9<sup>th</sup> class of five interns will begin the program in September of 2025.

As of March 31, 2025, 205 or 25% of the working age individuals registered with us are working competitively with 74 of these individuals receiving some type of employment support services to maintain their jobs. Another 21 individuals are currently receiving job finding services through an employment provider. Cumberland-Perry historically has approximately twenty (20) individuals graduating from high school each year. In keeping with our Employment First focus, the supports coordinators encourage the high school graduates to seek competitive employment or pursue a post-secondary education opportunity upon graduation. Cumberland-Perry strongly believes that students introduced to career exploration earlier in school are more likely to choose work upon graduation. In 2025, we continued to see a significant increase in the number of students graduating from high school who chose competitive employment instead of a day program. Today, seventy-five percent (75%) of our graduates are looking at an employment outcome. Nine years ago, only twenty-five percent (25%) of our graduates were looking at an employment outcome. Supports coordinators continue to discuss competitive employment with individuals and families as being the first option for all individuals with intellectual disabilities/Autism. Job coaching/job finding supports will be provided for those individuals who choose to pursue competitive employment. Supports coordinators also discuss discovery and customized employment options with individuals and families when discussing competitive employment. The SCO currently has "Employment" success stories, issues, and conversation starters as a standing agenda item for every staff meeting.

Over the past years, as part of Disability Employment Awareness Month, we have recognized local employers in Cumberland County who embrace employing individuals with intellectual disabilities/Autism. Some of those employers have been Syncereon, Carlisle Family YMCA, Giant Food Stores, various school district food service departments, Anile's Ristorante & Pizzeria, Target, and Mount Asbury Retreat Center. During the luncheon, these employers were each presented with a Certificate of Special Recognition for earning the Business Champion Award for their commitment to hiring individuals with intellectual disabilities/Autism in Cumberland County. Cumberland-Perry IDD views employment as a priority for individuals with intellectual disabilities/Autism and works with area

businesses to assist those with special needs in finding employment. For the past few years, Cumberland/Perry has not been able to host the Business Champions recognition event in October as we have done in prior years. However, we look forward to hosting the Business Champions recognition event again in 2025 as planning for this event is taking place now.

Supports coordinators continue to participate in trainings to increase their knowledge of the employment process as well as the resources that are available to assist individuals and families considering competitive employment opportunities. Providers continue to seek accreditation in order to be able to offer employment services to individuals with disabilities as per the new service definitions of the Consolidated, Community Living, and Person/Family Directed Support waivers.

The main barrier to the achievement of a competitive job continues to be lack of transportation options to meet the needs of individuals seeking competitive employment. Transportation costs have also become a barrier which at times are over \$120 per day to get an individual to and from employment. More individuals are looking into Transportation – Mileage reimbursement to help alleviate some of these issues, but this is not an option for everyone. A new option to utilize ride sharing providers paid through an individual's waiver has been helpful to individuals. We urge our Supported Employment providers to consider location of employment and an individual's ability to be able to safely get to their employment as one of the first considerations when they begin a job search.

In 2025, a large Transition Fair held at Penn State- Middletown was also made available to students with disabilities attending high school in Cumberland, Dauphin, and Perry counties and their families that featured workshops on competitive employment, post-secondary education, IDD Waivers, OVR Services, supported living, social media safety, and healthy relationships. A large vendor area was also available to those who attended the Transition Fair. Almost 200 students, parents, teachers, school aides and providers attended the fair. It was a great success! We received a lot of positive feedback about our Transition Fair.

A new Community Participation Support program opened in Cumberland County in January 2023. Vista, a provider of Autism services located in Hershey, PA, opened a new Community Participation Support program. The new program is located at 3400 Market Street, Camp Hill. This is the site of the former Good Shepard School that did not reopen after the pandemic. This program is at capacity and currently has a waiting list. The goal is for individuals with Autism to have a meaningful day and to increase independence, confidence, and over-all quality of life through skill development and growth. Participants in this program will spend at least 50% of their day integrated into the community rather than in a licensed setting. This program operates most often in small groups with ratios of 1 or 2 staff and 2 to 3 individuals. Program goals for this program include: expanding community safety skills, developing natural supports in the community, increasing the ability to access resources in the community and increasing vocational skills.

Lastly, eleven years ago, post-secondary education opportunities did not exist for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Cumberland-Perry IDD Services decided to join into a partnership with parents and other professionals in Central Pennsylvania to support The DREAM Partnership. The DREAM Partnership has worked to establish a network of colleges across Pennsylvania that will provide educational opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities through a liberal arts focused certificate program that will ultimately lead to competitive employment and independent living. Going to college is and always has been connected to greater rates of employment and higher wages. When students with intellectual disabilities go to college, positive impacts emerge for everyone involved. Arcadia College in Southeastern PA was the first college

to join The DREAM Partnership in PA. In September 2015, Millersville University opened an inclusive post-secondary education program with residential options for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Two (2) individuals from Cumberland County participated in the Millersville University program in 2015. Currently, several individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities from Cumberland County are taking classes at Penn State-Harrisburg. Other colleges/universities that have joined the DREAM Partnership and are offering post-secondary education opportunities for individuals with intellectual disabilities/Autism include Mercyhurst College, East Stroudsburg University, Slippery Rock University, Temple University, West Chester, Duquesne, Drexel University and Penn State-Lehigh Valley. The DREAM Partnership continues to grow each year and most recently, Messiah University in Cumberland County began offering a program.

### **Supports Coordination:**

- Please describe how the county will assist the supports coordination organization (SCO) to engage individuals and families to explore the communities of practice/supporting families model using the life course tools to link individuals to resources available in the community.
- Please describe how the county will assist supports coordinators to effectively engage and plan for individuals on the waiting list.
- Please describe the collaborative efforts the county will utilize to assist SCOs with promoting self-direction.

Cumberland-Perry has 128 individuals who do not qualify for medical assistance funding and can only be served utilizing the Base funding that we receive. Base funded supports coordination is provided to individuals registered with us who reside in their own home or in their family's home, the state centers, or in the nursing homes.

Cumberland-Perry has three (3) SCOs for families to choose from now for supports coordination services – the Cumberland-Perry SCO; the Center for Community Resources SCO (CCR); and the Expert Community Care Management SCO (ECCM).

The Cumberland-Perry SCO is located in Carlisle, PA. During initial and annual meetings with families, Supports Coordinators use the LifeCourse Planning Portfolio to support individuals and families to develop a vision for their life and to discuss the supports that can help them reach their goals. The Supports Coordinators engage the individual and their family in conversations to explore natural supports that are available to anyone in the community. All SCO staff have had training on the Lifecourse Framework and Person-Centered Planning so that they can have these conversations with individuals and families starting from an early age.

The Cumberland-Perry IDD Program recognizes that client advocacy is a major part of the Supports Coordinator's role within the service system. Supports Coordinators are encouraged to use conversation starters as well as employment/independent living success stories when talking with individuals and families about futures planning and residential options. The SCO Quality Management plan has goals that focus on competitive employment and independent living, and there continues to be progress across those areas. Cumberland-Perry SCO has developed first year and annual training plans for the Supports Coordinators that support working with individuals with complex needs across the lifespan. Supports Coordinators work proactively to identify any supports needs and address health or safety risks, while also supporting individuals to live an everyday life. The Supports Coordination staff are available to discuss problem areas and assist in facilitating a resolution to the individual/family's concerns.

The Center for Community Resources SCO (CCR) began offering supports coordination services to Cumberland and Perry County individuals in September 2024. CCR's main office is located in Butler, PA. CCR has supervisory staff and SCs in our geographical area who support Cumberland and Perry County individuals. CCR has been in operation for over 20 years. CCR uses a person-centered approach and team process to assist individuals and their families develop a service plan. CCR assists in the selection of qualified providers and then monitors the services that are being provided to make sure that the chosen providers and the service plan are meeting the individual's needs. CCR strives to meet the individual's needs in the least restrictive manner by promoting employment, supported/independent living opportunities, remote services and assistive technology whenever it is possible to do so. CCR also promotes the LifeCourse principles to the individuals and families and engages with the individual and families in the use of the LifeCourse tools. CCR also responds to and assesses emergency situations to ensure appropriate actions are taken to protect the individual's health and welfare.

The Expert Community Care Management SCO (ECCM) is our newest SCO in Cumberland and Perry counties. ECCM began working in Cumberland and Perry counties in June 2024. ECCM's main office is located in Erie, PA. ECCM has an office in Harrisburg, PA, and supervisory staff and SCs in our geographical area who can support our Cumberland and Perry County individuals. ECCM strives to help individuals achieve a more meaningful and productive life. Following the Everyday Lives approach, ECCM supports coordinators help individuals navigate their way through a system designed to meet their needs in a community setting, often in their own homes. Supports coordinators work with individuals and families to identify desired life goals and then work to find service providers to achieve these outcomes. ECCM creates an annual service plan to monitor progress to those goals and ensure that clients are receiving the best quality service.

Cumberland-Perry IDD Services is excited to be able to provide choice in supports coordination services to individuals with intellectual disabilities and Autism in our two counties.

### **Lifesharing and Supported Living:**

- Please describe how the county will support the growth of Lifesharing and Supported Living as an option.
- Please describe the barriers to the growth of Lifesharing and Supported Living in the county.
- Please describe the actions the county found to be successful in expanding Lifesharing and Supported Living in the county despite the barriers.
- Please explain how ODP can be of assistance to the county in expanding and growing Lifesharing and Supported Living as an option in the county.

Our Lifesharing programs have had their "ups and downs." We currently have five (5) individuals living in a Lifesharing home and our PUNS numbers indicate that individuals and their families have little interest in Lifesharing at this time. Recruitment of Lifesharing families (the families who want to take individuals into their homes and care for them as a member of their family) has been very difficult. Lack of knowledge regarding Lifesharing is another barrier as well.

Our Lifesharing point person continues to attend the statewide Lifesharing subcommittee meetings and trainings. Supports coordinators continue to discuss Lifesharing as a residential option with individuals, families, and teams at ISP meetings. A Lifesharing brochure was created and is distributed to interested individuals and families by the supports coordinators. We

anticipate that the use of the Lifesharing video at team meetings will help increase the knowledge of Lifesharing as well.

It is our expectation that providers utilize many different methods to recruit potential Lifesharing families (word of mouth, current staff, advertising, church flyers, community newsletters, etc.). We also plan to do more education, i.e., attending community events and having a Lifesharing booth at these events to help educate the general public about Lifesharing. The statewide Lifesharing subcommittee has a video that can be shared with families interested in becoming Lifesharing providers. In addition, we anticipate that the expanded service definitions related to who can provide Lifesharing services will assist us in being able to provide additional Lifesharing opportunities.

With respect to supported living or independent living, a number of years ago, our family advisory group advocated strongly for the provision of more independent living/apartment-type living opportunities as a more cost-effective residential option. Individuals and their families, as well as the supports coordination unit, have also indicated that there is significant interest in this type of living arrangement, however, families have real concerns about their son/daughter having the necessary skills to live independently in the community.

In response to this concern, we opened a program, The Pathways Academy: Transition to Independent Living Program, in March 2014 in Cumberland County. The Pathways Academy assists those individuals with the ability to achieve a greater level of independence to live in their own apartment in their chosen community. The Pathways Academy program is an intensive, curriculum-based, 12–18-month residential program that teaches an individual the skills needed to live with minimal support in the community. When an individual has mastered targeted living skills and is ready to live independently, he/she will “graduate” from The Pathways Academy and move into a supported living opportunity in the community. During the summer of 2015, the first Pathways Academy class “graduated” from the program and moved into apartments in their home communities. Each of these individuals receives individualized community habilitation supports. Individuals graduating from the Pathways Academy are using Section 8 housing vouchers to supplement their rent. When the Section 8 vouchers are not available to the individual, Cumberland-Perry IDD Services has created a special funding stream with the assistance of the Cumberland County Housing Authority to supplement an individual’s rent until the Section 8 vouchers become available. Twenty-eight (28) individuals have graduated from the Pathways Academy to date and have been successfully living in their own apartments with supports in the community. A new Pathways class will begin in September 2025.

In addition, we currently have six providers who offer Supported Living services to individuals with IDD. We have a total of twenty-one (21) individuals who are living in Supported Living apartments and an additional ten (10) individuals living in unlicensed residential settings.

In 2022, we also developed a new service for individuals and their families interested in independent living. Our Independent Living Specialist is a family support service option available to all individuals and families registered with Cumberland-Perry IDD Services who wish to explore independent living as an opportunity for their son/daughter/family member. Cumberland-Perry IDD Services places an increased emphasis on family engagement and the development of a “strengths-based” approach to service delivery by contracting with a social worker to work with individuals and families around issues pertaining to the transition to adult services which includes independent living. Historically, both schools and social service agencies have focused on the

needs of the student/consumer with special needs. While there is no question that the needs of the individual are paramount, it also is important to address the needs of the families who care for individuals with special needs. Thus, by supporting the family as well as the individual during the transition process, such as transitioning from high school into the world of adult services or transitioning from living at home to living in an apartment, positive outcomes can be achieved. The Independent Living Specialist will provide a variety of independent living services, including an Independent Living Assessment, geared toward promoting self-help, equal access, peer role modeling, and personal growth and empowerment, all of which will lead to opportunities for successful independence in the community.

### **Cross-Systems Communications and Training:**

- Please describe how the county will use funding, whether it is HSBG or Base funding, to increase the capacity of the county's community providers to more fully support individuals with multisystem needs, and complex medical needs.
- Please describe how the county will support effective communication and collaboration with local school districts in order to engage individuals and families at an early age and promote the life course/supporting families paradigm.
- Please describe how the county will communicate and collaborate with local children and youth agencies, the Area Agency on Aging, and the mental health system to enable individuals and families to access community resources, as well as formalized services and supports through ODP.

Cumberland-Perry IDD Services collaborates with other human service agencies in Cumberland and Perry counties via participation on the Cumberland County CASSP Team, the Perry County CASSP Team, and the Human Services Policy Team. In addition, a cross systems team that includes Children and Youth, Mental Health, and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities has been meeting regularly to ensure that the needs of children and youth who are open in multiple county systems are being adequately addressed. We refer to this group as our Complex Case Team.

Cumberland/Perry's Complex Case Team participated in a discussion facilitated by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) regarding children, youth, and young adults with complex needs and their families to improve the services provided by all family and youth serving systems across PA. This group identified strengths and gaps in our current system of care for youth with complex needs, identified root cause issues with gaps, and developed recommendations for strengthening those gap areas to reduce silos and meet the needs of youth with complex needs more effectively. The goal is to have a strength-based, family-focused system in which families have prompt access to a continuum of services that support stability, safety and wellness within the family and the community.

### **Mental Health and Intellectual Disabilities/Autism**

In 2016, a community needs assessment was completed for individuals with intellectual disabilities who also have mental health needs and are living at home with their family or in a community home with a provider. This assessment found that families and providers recognize that there is need for enhanced supports/services for individuals who are dually diagnosed. Enhanced supports/services identified in the needs assessment included a local MH/IDD treatment team, a specialized day program, and training and education for both IDD and MH staff on dual diagnosis topics.

The Cumberland/Perry AE has a Program Specialist who attended the Capacity Building Institute and who now serves as our Complex Case Specialist. Her responsibilities include participating in the County Complex Case Team of 3 and the State-led Complex Case Team meetings, attending planning meetings for individuals getting ready to transition from RTF's, approved private schools, or prisons, and serving as a resource for the supports coordinators when they are supporting dually diagnosed individuals.

In response to the needs that were identified in the community needs assessment that was discussed above, Cumberland- Perry MH services and IDD services have worked together to offer trainings for providers, families, MH staff, and IDD staff on dual diagnosis and trauma-informed care topics. Cumberland/Perry IDD Services also identified dual diagnosis training for our residential providers as one of our Quality Management goals for 2023. However, providers were not able to send their staff to these trainings because of the staffing crisis. Thus, we replaced this goal and plan to re-establish this training goal for our providers at a later date.

In addition, the Capital Area Behavioral Health Collaborative (CABHC) and Cumberland-Perry MH/IDD mobilized an MH/IDD Behavioral Support Program in Cumberland and Perry counties. The Community Services Group (CSG) is the provider. Using a multidimensional holistic approach, CSG's mobile MH/ID behavioral interventions are specifically designed to deliver direct behavioral assessment and treatment-oriented intervention services in collaboration with other mental health and intellectual disability services. To date, the individuals who are being referred to CSG's mobile team live with their families as well as in community homes supported by our providers.

#### Children and Youth and Intellectual Disabilities/Autism

For the past several years, we have seen an increasing number of children/adolescents with intellectual disabilities and autism being abandoned by their families. More specifically, these children/adolescents are displaying significant behavioral challenges in the home environment and their families are seeking placement for them through the mental health system, i.e., RTF placements. Then, when the child/adolescent is recommended for discharge from an RTF, the family is refusing to take them home. Children and Youth then becomes involved because the child/adolescent is being abandoned. However, the Children and Youth system is not equipped with the resources to provide care for these children/adolescents with significant disabilities. At the current time, a staff person from Children & Youth, MH and IDD (our "Team of 3" as we refer to them) are working together to provide the best plan of care possible for each of these children/adolescents such as identifying providers who can provide care, identifying funding for such cases, providing training on disabilities for providers, etc. Our "Team of 3" meets monthly as well as on an as-needed basis. The "Team of 3" also meet with the Directors from CYS, MH and IDD on a quarterly basis to keep the communication lines open and share any issues that have come up.

#### Aging Issues and Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Individuals with developmental disabilities are healthier and are living longer than they have in the past due to medical technology and advances in the health field. Currently, 10% of our IDD population, or between 90 to 100 individuals, are 60 - 85+ years old or older. Residential providers and day program providers as well as family caregivers encounter numerous issues on a daily basis related to supporting aging individuals with intellectual disabilities/Autism. There is a growing population of older individuals in our system requiring services for the transition from

vocational to non-vocational settings, i.e., adult day services. A significant number of these people will need specialized programming offering structured activities and supervision during the day. In addition, group homes that were once accessible for these individuals are no longer accessible. Increasing medical needs make it difficult for residential providers to provide appropriate care. Providers projected crisis level proportions for the elderly IDD population in both residential and day programs a few years ago and we are now experiencing some of those issues, i.e., individuals wanting to be supported at home during the day instead of going out to day program; issues with mobility; declining health issues; etc.

One of our residential providers renovated one of their community homes that they closed during the pandemic into a home that has been specifically designed for individuals with dementia. They partnered with the Cumberland County Housing Authority and our office to do this. This home has a fully accessible bathroom as well as a fully accessible kitchen. It has an open floor plan with appropriate lighting and color contrasts to aid in supporting individuals with ID who also have dementia. Technology has also been added to this home to assist in ensuring the safety of the individuals who will reside in this home. Having a home that has been developed specifically for the needs of individuals with IDD who also have dementia will assist providers in caring for them instead of having to place these individuals in a skilled nursing facility.

For eleven years, our Aging/IDD County Team composed of representatives from both the Cumberland County Aging and Community Services Office and the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Office, advocates from the ARC, and providers of service for senior citizens and individuals with intellectual disabilities/Autism met on a bi-monthly basis in order to discuss the emerging needs of this population. Prior to the pandemic, emphasis was placed on cross systems training via a series of Lunch and Learns for the staff working in Aging and Community Services and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities as well as service provider staff who support individuals with intellectual disabilities/Autism who are aging. In addition, our work group developed a Later Life Planning training course for individuals with IDD. This training has been presented to approximately 75 individuals with IDD, 50 years old and older, since its inception in 2012. We hope to be able to offer the Later Life Planning training course to additional individuals with IDD in the future. The work group also developed and piloted a senior center mentoring program for individuals with IDD in order to assist them in successfully assimilating into community based senior center programs. During the pandemic our Aging/IDD County Team did not meet, but we were able to resume meeting again in 2025 And our Lunch and Learn trainings began again in April of 2025 with a session on End-of-Life Planning and Guardianship. A session on Mental Health in the Aging Population is scheduled for June of 2025. Our Aging and IDD departments will continue to fund the trainings and other activities of this workgroup.

#### Collaboration with Local School Districts

Transition Coordinators from our local school districts in Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry counties are part of our Employment First work group that meets once a quarter throughout the year. Our Employment First initiative focuses on educating individuals and families, the schools, and employers about the need to start the planning process for transition from high school into adult services early on during the transition process and not wait until the senior year. Transition Coordinators from our local school districts are also included on the planning teams for the educational workshops that we have for students and their families to come and learn about transition from high school into adult services, competitive employment, independent living, and post-secondary education. In addition, transition coordinators are included on the planning team for the annual Transition Fair that is held for students who are graduating and their families.

In keeping with our Employment First focus, the supports coordination unit works with our individuals' IEP teams to encourage our transition age students to seek competitive employment or pursue a post-secondary education opportunity upon graduation.

Staff from Cumberland-Perry IDD Services attend the local school districts' Transition Coordinators' meetings held once a month at the Capital Area Intermediate Unit. Our staff also assist with the planning of the Buskey Awards luncheon for students with disabilities graduating from high school who have excelled in areas related to employment, post-secondary education, and independent living during their school years.

### **Emergency Supports:**

- Please describe how individuals in an emergency situation will be supported in the community (regardless of availability of county funding or waiver capacity).
- Please provide details on the county's emergency response plan including:
  - Does the county reserve any base or HSBG funds to meet emergency needs?
  - What is the county's emergency plan in the event an individual needs emergency services, residential or otherwise, whether within or outside of normal working hours?
  - Does the county provide mobile crisis services?
  - If the county does provide mobile crisis services, have the staff been trained to work with individuals who have an ID and/or autism diagnosis?
  - Do staff who work as part of the mobile crisis team have a background in ID and/or autism?
  - Is training available for staff who are part of the mobile crisis team?
  - If the county does not have a mobile crisis team, what is the county's plan to create one within the county's infrastructure?
- Please submit the county 24-hour emergency crisis plan as required under the Mental Health and Intellectual Disabilities Act of 1966.

#### On-call Procedures/24-Hour Emergency Response Plan

Cumberland-Perry MH/IDD contracts with an answering service that responds to calls that are made to the office before and after normal working hours. The answering service will field the call and then transfer the call to the on-call MH Delegate. If the call is related to an individual with IDD who has an open case with us, the on-call MH Delegate will refer the call to the IDD Director or the SCO Director so that appropriate action can be taken. The IDD Director or the SCO Director will ask for assistance from the Incident Manager, SC and/or our IDD providers in order to ensure the health and safety of the individual.

#### Funding for Emergency Needs

At the beginning of the fiscal year, Cumberland-Perry IDD Services reserves \$125,000 out of its Base funding for emergencies that may arise over the course of the fiscal year. Each quarter thereafter (October, January, April), these encumbered funds are reviewed for usage and, if funds have not been used, a decision is made on how much of these funds can be released for use by other consumers.

### Meeting Unanticipated Emergency Need

Throughout the course of a year, our office typically receives three to four calls requesting emergency services for individuals who are registered with us as well as for those individuals who are not registered with us. An Unanticipated Emergency must meet the following criteria:

An individual is at immediate risk to his/her health and welfare due to illness or death of a caretaker;

An individual living independently experiences a sudden loss of his/her home (for example, due to fire or natural disaster); or

An individual loses the care of a relative or caregiver without advance warning or planning.

The AE will immediately review available service resources within both Cumberland and Perry counties as well as the individual's waiver enrollment status before taking action. The AE will also determine if there are any family members to whom we can reach out for assistance. If waiver capacity exists and the individual meets the criteria for entry into the waiver, waiver capacity will be used to meet the needs of the individual. If waiver capacity does not exist at the time of the emergency, the AE will then evaluate the status of our Base funding to see if it can be utilized to meet the emergency needs of the individual.

If we determine that there are no natural or local resources (i.e., Waiver Capacity or Base funding) available to address the emergency, we will contact the Waiver Capacity Manager at the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) to review the situation and request assistance from ODP via the Unanticipated Emergency process.

Please note that every effort is made to meet the individual's emergency needs within the individual's home county. However, if capacity does not exist within Cumberland and Perry counties, potential services in another geographical area may be warranted.

**Administrative Funding:** ODP has engaged the PA Family Network to provide support and training in the community. The PA Family Network will be providing individuals who are person-centered trainers.

- Please describe the county's interaction with PA Family Network to utilize the network trainers with individuals, families, providers, and county staff.
- Please describe other strategies the county will utilize at the local level to provide discovery and navigation services (information, education, skill building) and connecting and networking services (peer support) for individuals and families.
- Please describe the kinds of support the county needs from ODP to accomplish the above.
- Please describe how the county will engage with the Health Care Quality Units (HCQUs) to improve the quality of life for individuals in the county's program. The function of the HCQUs is to enhance the health and wellness of individuals with an intellectual disability or autism through collaboration with providers, counties, Supports Coordinators/Targeted Support Managers and health care providers, as outlined in ODP Bulletin 00-18-03, Health Care Quality Units.
- Please describe how the county will use the data generated by the HCQU as part of the Quality Management Plan process.
- Please describe how the county will engage the local Independent Monitoring for Quality (IM4Q) Program to improve the quality of life for individuals and families. The IM4Q provides ODP with data on the quality of services to consumers, as required in the county's Administrative Entity Operating Agreement.

- Please describe how the county will support local providers to increase their competency and capacity to support individuals who present with higher levels of need related to aging, physical health, behavioral health, communication, and other reasons.
- Please describe how ODP can assist the county's support efforts of local providers.
- Please describe what risk management approaches the county will utilize to ensure a high quality of life for individuals and families.
- Please describe how the county will interact with individuals, families, providers, advocates and the community at large in relation to risk management activities.
- Please describe how ODP can assist the county in interacting with stakeholders in relation to risk management activities.
- Please describe how the county will utilize the county housing coordinator for people with autism and intellectual disabilities.
- Please describe how the county will engage providers of service in the development of an Emergency Preparedness Plan.

#### Working with Individuals and Families

Cumberland-Perry IDD Services believes that keeping individuals and families informed about what's happening in the IDD system, both statewide and locally, and including them in the planning process is vital to providing quality supports and services to them.

#### Supporting Families Initiative

Cumberland-Perry, Dauphin, Lebanon, and Lancaster County IDD programs are working together as one of the Regional Collaboratives and were awarded one of the regional grants from the Department of Human Services when it launched its Supporting Families Initiative in January 2017. In October 2017, Cumberland-Perry and Dauphin convened an event that brought together key family leaders from Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry counties to help us identify the community and system resources that families in this area of Central PA feel they need in order to support their family member throughout the lifespan. Family members served as the conveners and note takers for this event. An independent consultant served as the facilitator. The PA Family Network provided information to individuals and families on Supporting Families throughout the Lifespan during a morning session. Cumberland-Perry and Dauphin then offered informational/discussion sessions for individuals with disabilities and their families on the topics that were generated at this event. Lebanon and Lancaster County IDD programs held a similar event for the families in their geographical area. Cumberland-Perry IDD Services supports the PA Family Network and has asked them to share the Supporting Families throughout the Lifespan information to our MH/IDD Advisory Board, our Early Intervention staff and families, and our IDD staff and families. The LifeCourse information and tools are distributed to families by the Intake Specialists, the supports coordination unit, and at special events, i.e. our annual Transition Fair. In addition, the new program specialist for the SCO will provide direct support to individuals and families about the LifeCourse and assist them with completing the LifeCourse worksheets.

#### IDD Family Advisory Task Force

Twenty (20) years ago, Cumberland-Perry Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Services convened an IDD Family Advisory Task Force to study the increasing lack of available living arrangements for adults with intellectual disabilities in Cumberland-Perry Counties. The IDD Family Advisory Task Force was comprised of parents, service providers, advocates, and community service organizations. The initial purpose of the Family Advisory Task Force was to identify strengths and weaknesses of IDD residential services in Cumberland and Perry Counties

and to create a Strategic Plan, entitled the Networked Neighborhood strategy, that addressed the planning, construction, and continued support of living arrangements for adults with intellectual disabilities.

Over the past Eighteen (18) years, the purpose of the IDD Family Advisory Task Force evolved from focusing on just residential services to focusing on all services and supports that individuals with intellectual disabilities/Autism and their families need.

The Networked Neighborhood Strategy was born from the concerns and recommendations of individuals and families. This strategy was based on a current analysis of information regarding individuals and system resources plus projections of future needs. The Networked Neighborhood Strategy is an overall strategy for the development of local services and supports. It includes a spectrum of natural and community resources, plus IDD-funded services and supports, involving both expansion of capacity and rebalancing of existing resources. We continue to embrace The Networked Neighborhood Strategy in our planning for services and supports today. The projected outcomes for the Networked Neighborhood Strategy include:

- IDD will apply the Networked Neighborhood Strategy to all system expansion and improvement efforts.
- Consumers will have the options and opportunities to live in less restrictive, yet appropriate, living arrangements.
- Consumers will have opportunities to experience services and supports of greater variety that are in their neighborhood and closer to home.

IDD Family Advisory Task Force members (family members and other stakeholders) meet with state legislators from Cumberland and Perry counties on at least an annual basis to discuss service and support options that are more cost effective so that additional individuals who are currently on the Waiting List can be served.

Our consumer/family/provider advisory group (IDD Family Advisory Task Force) was instrumental in helping us identify areas of our service delivery system that need to be improved; family members are great teachers. This advisory group met the first Wednesday evening of each month. During the pandemic, this group met virtually several times. This group is currently not meeting, but there is a plan to reconvene our consumer/family/provider advisory group in the future. The County sees great value in this approach as a means of enhancing communication and helping individuals and families identify, express, and process the myriad of feelings that are common to individuals with IDD and their families.

#### Additional Supports for Individuals and Families

Individuals and families are encouraged to participate in webinars and other online trainings that focus on competitive employment, supported living, and community participation topics. Several years ago, Cumberland-Perry and Dauphin County IDD Services expanded the Early Intervention "Community Links" website, [www.community-links.net](http://www.community-links.net), which is an informational/community participation-type website, to include a school-age portal and an adult portal. The Community Links website contains many, many resources for families who are looking for community supports, formal government supports, and education about a myriad of topics.

As we talk with consumers and families about the supports that they need, it has become clear to us that most families want to keep their sons or daughters or loved ones with them in their home

as long as possible. But, in order to do this, families need assistance. Respite care was discussed numerous times in our conversations with consumers and families.

Several years ago, a respite focus group formed as a sub-group of the IDD Task Force and assessed the respite needs of consumers and families in Cumberland and Perry counties. The respite focus group developed an array of respite options to attempt to meet the respite needs identified by the families such as a 4-hour evening respite option in two different communities in Cumberland and Perry counties, one to two times a month. Families are encouraged to utilize this service as often as they can.

In addition, the IDD Task Force and the County felt that it was important that planned overnight respite capacity be added as a service/support for families to utilize. Cumberland/Perry contracts with a provider who operates two respite homes in Cumberland County in order to increase overnight respite capacity for families. Another provider operates an overnight respite location in western Cumberland County.

Cumberland/Perry IDD services also support individuals and families by offering an array of summer camps and therapeutic activities for them to choose to participate in.

#### IM4Q Program

The Cumberland-Perry AE is responsible for overseeing the Independent Monitoring for Quality (IM4Q) program. IM4Q is ODP's independent, statewide system to monitor the satisfaction and outcomes of individuals with IDD and their families. Local IM4Q surveys offer the supports coordination organization an independent view of an individual's quality of life. Our local IM4Q team completes interviews with individuals who were randomly selected in the different samples. The interview team, made up of two independent IM4Q interviewers, develops "considerations". Local IM4Q program "considerations" are to be viewed as a helpful perspective to what everyone wants – an Everyday Life for the people we support. In fiscal year 2024-2025, there were 55 independent surveys completed by The Advocacy Alliance , our IM4Q provider for Cumberland-Perry IDD Services.

#### Engagement with the HCQU

The Cumberland-Perry AE serves as the lead county for the Southcentral Pennsylvania Health Care Quality Unit. The counties comprising the Southcentral Pennsylvania Health Care Quality Unit are Cumberland-Perry, Dauphin, Lebanon, Lancaster, Franklin/Fulton, and York/Adams. Health Care Quality Units (HCQUs) were developed as part of the strategy to address both health and safety needs and the need to build community capacity and competency around health issues for people with intellectual disabilities/Autism. HCQUs are units comprised of nurses, clinicians, and others with expertise in the area of health care and intellectual disabilities/Autism. They provide training and technical assistance to stakeholders in the field including supports coordinators, provider staff, and families in order to help improve the understanding of the health issues and needs of individuals with intellectual disabilities/Autism. The ultimate goal of the HCQU is to assure that the individuals served by each county IDD program are as healthy as they can be so that each individual can fully participate in community life. The HCQU has done individual chart reviews for providers in order to advise them about providing on-going care for individuals. The HCQU has also attended individuals' hospital discharge planning meetings and provided training to the SCO and provider staff on a variety of topics relevant to individuals with intellectual disabilities/Autism throughout the year. A HCQU representative serves on our Aging/IDD County Team, our Quality Management team, and our Human Rights Committee.

The HCQU has also spent a considerable amount of time providing trainings to providers, individuals, families, AE, and SCO staff on the Fatal 5 (aspiration, bowel obstruction, dehydration, seizures, and infection/sepsis). These conditions present a high risk to individuals with intellectual disabilities/Autism. The trainings assist in gaining an understanding of the conditions, the risk factors associated with the conditions, and strategies for preventing or minimizing these health concerns.

The HCQU serves as the regional lead for implementation of the Health Risk Screening Tool (HRST). The HRST implementation will initially screen all individuals with intellectual disabilities/Autism who are residing in a residential placement. The HRST is a web-based screening instrument designed to detect health destabilization **EARLY** and **PREVENT** preventable illness, health related events and even death. It is a reliable, field-tested screening tool that consists of 22 rating items, divided into five health categories. Each of the 22 items consists of questions answered by the Rater. When fully answered, the HRST assigns a numeric degree of health risk to the person called a Health Care Level (HCL). The scale ranges from 1 (low risk) to 6 (high risk). There are also designated areas within the online program for diagnosis and medication entry.

The HCQU continues to expand their on-line training offerings utilizing an interactive training platform to increase their ability to offer trainings to more individuals and families. This training platform was especially helpful during the COVID-19 pandemic when the ability to participate in face-to-face trainings was restricted. The HCQU regularly provides training on a variety of health-related topics to providers and County staff at the bi-monthly Cumberland/Perry/Dauphin Provider Forums.

#### Supporting Local Providers to Increase their Competency and Capacity to Support Individuals with Higher Level Needs

As was discussed earlier, the Capital Area Behavioral Health Collaborative (CABHC) and Cumberland-Perry MH/IDD mobilized an MH/IDD Behavioral Support Program in Cumberland and Perry counties to assist providers and families in supporting individuals who have significant mental health and behavior challenges. In addition, the HCQU provides training and technical assistance to providers in order to help improve their understanding of the health issues and needs of individuals with intellectual disabilities/Autism. The HCQU has done individual chart reviews for providers in order to advise them about providing on-going care for individuals with higher level needs. They have also attended individuals' hospital discharge planning meetings and provided training to the SCO and provider staff on a variety of topics relevant to individuals with intellectual disabilities/Autism throughout the year.

Over the past several years, an emphasis has been placed on assisting providers become more knowledgeable about the Fatal 5 health risks - aspiration, bowel obstruction, dehydration, seizures, and infection/sepsis - that many individuals with ID/Autism experience during their life. If these five health risks are not identified and cared for in the proper manner, individuals could die. Cumberland/Perry had all residential providers complete a survey where the providers were to identify all the individuals whom they support who had any of the Fatal 5 health risks and then evaluate how well they (the provider) was doing in supporting these individuals. Staff training was found to be a big need and the HCQU developed specific trainings for each of these five health risks that could be presented to the staff. Completing the survey also helped to raise providers' awareness as to how many individuals they support actually have a Fatal 5 health risk.

Providers need to be able to have consistent, well-trained staff to support individuals who present with higher levels of need related to physical health, behavioral health, aging issues, and communication needs. One of the most challenging issues that our providers face right now is staff retention. Staff turnover rates are high due to low pay and few or no benefits being offered to the staff. Staff turnover impacts the quality of a program and raises families' concerns for their sons and daughters' well-being. Wages at distribution centers, and even Sheetz, are higher than some providers are able to pay. With the high level of responsibility staff are expected to assume in supporting individuals with disabilities, whether the person's need is high or not, low hourly wages and no benefits make it very difficult for providers to retain staff. During the pandemic, two of our residential providers had to close a total of four homes and move the consumers to other available vacancies in other homes that they own/rent due to staffing deficits. The County continues to educate our legislators about the direct care staffing crisis which includes advocating for increased funding for direct care staff wages.

In July of 2021, Cumberland/Perry IDD Services implemented a new Quality Management goal that focused on developing a complex care curriculum for residential providers. This curriculum would have allowed residential providers to receive training in Dual Diagnosis, Trauma Informed Care and Autism. These intensive trainings would have allowed our residential providers to become more confident and capable of providing care to individuals with complex needs. These types of services are definitely needed in our counties as providers who are qualified and willing to serve complex individuals are very difficult to find in our counties, and we end up having to send individuals with complex needs out of county for services. This goal was discontinued in July of 2023 due to lack of participation by providers. While we still feel this is a very worthwhile goal, we realize that our providers are continuing to experience a severe staffing crisis and do not have the ability to participate in extra training (above and beyond the required annual training that a provider must provide for their staff) at this time. We will continue to provide information on these trainings to providers and will revisit this goal at a later date.

Cumberland/Perry AE staff are prepared to support our providers in any way that we can when providers agree to support individuals with higher levels of need. The AE staff are available for planning purposes and assistance in developing the ISP and/or behavior plan, providing guidance in the interpretation of the ODP regulations as well as providing Base funding for services when appropriate. We want the individual and the provider to be able to develop a relationship where both the individual and the provider feel confident and are able to realize success.

In addition, Cumberland/Perry MH/IDD and Dauphin County ID/A facilitate a provider forum on a bi-monthly basis for all IDD/Autism providers who provide services to individuals with intellectual disabilities and Autism in Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry counties. Some of the presentations this past year have included various health-related topics presented by the HCQU, the new STAT Waiver Service for individuals with IDD and presentations on Assistive Technology and Remote Supports.

#### Risk Management and Incident Management

Cumberland-Perry IDD Services facilitates a Human Rights Committee/Risk Management team meeting every three months. The Human Rights Committee/Risk Management Team convenes to review incident patterns, trends, analyses, emergent issues, impact of improvement activities and recommendations based on recent findings for individuals who are registered with Cumberland-Perry IDD Services. The Human Rights Committee/Risk Management Team reviews

the following agenda items as they relate to the Risk Management process: 1. Quarterly data for related incidents of Restraints, Rights Violations, etc.; 2. Review of spreadsheet (data collection of Restrictive Plans); 3. ISP Behavior Support Plan information; 4. Review of Restrictive Plans; and 5. Specific issues/concerns of individuals and/or providers as the issues relate to the Risk Management process.

Incident management reviews are completed by the Incident Managers. The Incident Managers evaluate the data, trends, and best practices to provide quality assurance and identify quality improvement needs. The Incident Managers are available to discuss information regarding overall incident management data summaries and trends with any ID/Autism provider who requests this information. Providers are also required to implement their own Quality Improvement and Risk Management committees. In addition, the AE will assist in facilitating communications between providers and other agencies to discuss “best practice” programs and techniques as interest and needs arise.

All newly hired supports coordination staff receive initial training in incident management policies via the ODP required Supports Coordinator Organization training. The County AE Incident Managers supplement this training and are available for technical assistance during initial and ongoing training needs for the Supports Coordination Organization.

The Cumberland-Perry AE and our providers recognize that in order to move the ID/Autism system of care toward improved services and outcomes for those we support, the analysis of accurate and meaningful data is necessary and collaboration amongst all entities caring for an individual must occur.

#### IDD and the County Housing Office

Cumberland-Perry IDD Services has an agreement with our local housing office that individuals with intellectual disabilities and autism seeking a Section 8 housing voucher will receive priority placement on the Section 8 housing voucher waiting list along with individuals who are homeless and individuals experiencing domestic violence. This arrangement has assisted individuals with IDD to receive a Section 8 housing voucher in a timelier manner.

Cumberland-Perry IDD Services also maintains a contract with our local housing office to provide rental assistance that matches the Section 8 housing voucher assistance in order to assist the individuals transitioning from the Pathways Academy program into independent living at the end of the program. This special funding is also available to assist other individuals who are transitioning into independent living. More specifically, this special funding program is available to individuals transitioning to independent living when the Section 8 vouchers are “frozen” and not being distributed to counties. Rental assistance funding has been used to promote independent living and prevent individuals with ID/Autism from experiencing homelessness when Section 8 vouchers are not immediately available. ID/Autism staff work collaboratively with the Housing Authority Special Needs Case Manager to identify and facilitate housing options for these individuals.

ID/Autism staff participate on the Community Partnership for Change Team (formerly the Local Housing Options Team) to work with human service providers to address issues related to housing and homelessness.

In addition, ID/Autism staff participate in the local 811 Project Rental Assistance Pilot. The 811 Project Rental Assistance is a pilot program funded by the U.S. HUD Bureau to provide extremely low-income people with disabilities/Autism access to affordable, integrated, and accessible housing. The program prioritizes individuals who are currently institutionalized, at-risk of institutionalization, or living in congregate care settings.

#### Emergency Preparedness Plan

All ID/Autism residential and day program providers are asked to update their disaster preparedness plans on an annual basis by the Cumberland County Emergency Management Program. ID/Autism providers are then instructed to forward their updated disaster preparedness plan to the Cumberland County Emergency Management Office where it is kept on file. Providers are instructed to train their staff on the plan.

Several years ago, each ID/Autism residential and day program provider received a Disaster Planning Handbook to assist them in writing their disaster preparedness plans. In addition, weather radios were provided to all residential and day program providers who needed one.

In the fall of 2017, the Cumberland County Emergency Management team offered a day-long refresher training on disaster preparedness for all MH/IDD residential and day program providers.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, all of our providers implemented their Emergency Plans immediately. Our providers were amazing during the pandemic. Both management staff and DSP staff “rose to the occasion” offering care that complied with both the CDC and the Pennsylvania Department of Health’s guidelines. This high level of care kept our individuals safe from contracting the coronavirus while managing the individuals’ other support needs at the same time. All of our providers, management staff, SCO staff and DSP staff, are to be commended for a job well done!

#### **Participant Directed Services (PDS):**

- Please describe how the county will promote PDS (AWC, VF/EA) including challenges and solutions.
- Please describe how the county will support the provision of training to SCOs, individuals and families on self-direction.
- Are there ways that ODP can assist the county in promoting or increasing self-direction?

The Cumberland-Perry Supports Coordination Organization (SCO) promotes PDS services to individuals and families when they meet with individuals and families to do the ISP. The SCO also suggests PDS services to individuals and families who need to “stretch” their budgets as the Person/Family Directed Support Waiver and Community Living Waiver both have caps.

PDS services are effective when working with individuals and families who already have reliable staff that they can count on to provide the services. However, individuals utilizing both the Agency with Choice and/or the Vendor/Fiscal model of PDS have difficulties finding and retaining direct care staff. More and more families are becoming discouraged with using PDS services because they cannot find qualified direct support staff to provide the services that they need. Other families feel overwhelmed with all the employment paperwork that they must complete and keep track of for their direct care staff. Families now have access to multiple Supports Brokers in

Cumberland/Perry counties to assist with employment functions related to PDS. Supports Brokers can assist families to alleviate some of this burden.

**Community for All:** ODP has provided the county with the data regarding the number of individuals receiving services in congregate settings.

- Please describe how the county will enable individuals in congregate settings to return to the community.

For individuals residing in a nursing home who wish to return to the community to live, we utilize our Nursing Home Transitions Team (a sub-committee of our Aging/IDD County Team) to assist the individuals with this transition process prior to the pandemic. Our Nursing Home Transitions Team includes representatives from the Cumberland-Perry IDD office, the Cumberland- Perry SCO organization, the Cumberland County Office of Aging, and an advocacy organization. Our Nursing Home Transition Team also works diligently to put supports in place so that aging individuals with ID/Autism who are living independently in the community can continue to do so. Our Nursing Home Transitions Team has not been active since the pandemic. We are looking forward to the Nursing Home Transitions Team becoming active again in the coming year.

Cumberland-Perry has approximately 18 individuals who are living at state centers or other ICF/MRs. Whenever we learn that a Cumberland/Perry individual living at a state center or other ICF/MR wants to return to the community to live, we work with the individual, his/her team at the state center/other ICF, his/her supports coordinator, and providers across the state to develop a plan that will allow this individual the opportunity to move back to the community to live.

**Technology:** ODP supports the use of assistive technology and remote supports in order for individuals to achieve their goals and live more independently.

- Please describe how the county will enable individuals to access technology as a means to support greater independence.

In July of 2023, we implemented a new Quality Management goal to increase independent living opportunities for individuals. The ability of providers to use assistive technology and remote supports to provide services that allow the individual to become more independent, in turn, allows providers the flexibility needed to increase independent living services for additional individuals who would like to live independently in the community.

Our Pathways Academy program began using technology in the Pathways home back in 2014 when the program began. The Pathways home utilizes independent living technology throughout the house...sensors on the doors, sensors on the stove, water sensors in the bathrooms, medication dispensers, use of iPads to communicate with staff, etc.

In addition, to assist with ensuring the safety of individuals with intellectual disabilities who want to live independently in the community, we offer an array of independent living technologies that include devices that will proactively notify caregivers and loved ones of changes in an individual's lifestyle patterns. These innovative technologies include an array of sensors, GIS devices, environmental controls, and medication dispensers all monitored via a secure website. With the use of these independent living devices, a new model for monitoring individuals to provide the maximum level of independence in a cost effective and efficient manner has been created.

Cumberland-Perry IDD Services supports pairing technology with direct care to maximize each person's independence resulting in an enhanced quality of life for individuals with intellectual disabilities/Autism. Cumberland-Perry IDD Services plans to continue to expand the use of independent living technology with more providers who support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities living in their own apartments/homes during the 2025-2026 fiscal year. Some providers are currently credentialing their staff in the use of independent living technology so that they can expand the use of independent living technology in their supported living programs.

## **HOMELESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SERVICES**

DHS encourages Homeless Assistance Program (HAP) partners to participate in their Continuum of Care (CoC). Continuums of Care are regional or local planning bodies that coordinate housing and services funding for families and individuals experiencing homelessness. Please describe the continuum of services to individuals and families within the county who are experiencing homelessness or facing eviction. An individual or family is facing eviction if they have received either written or verbal notification from the landlord that they will lose their housing unless some type of payment is received.

### **Bridge Housing Services:**

- Please describe the bridge housing services offered. Include achievements and improvements in services to families at risk or experiencing homelessness, as well as unmet needs and gaps.

James Wilson Safe Harbour is the site of the Bridge Housing Program in Carlisle. Coordinating services between the Homeless Assistance Program (HAP) and Safe Harbour continues to be routine in nature as a valuable referral resource to many of our clients achieving independent and self-sufficient living. The program provides three levels of housing services: (1) Bridge Housing; (2) Single Room Occupancy (SRO); and (3) Decentralized Housing (Scattered Site Initiative). Eligible clients must meet low-income criteria and have a history of residence in Cumberland County.

The Bridge Housing portion is a transitional service that allows individuals and families temporary housing within a supportive living environment while they prepare to live independently. Residents are eligible for participation in this service for up to eighteen months. Any additional time must be approved by the County HAP Coordinator via a waiver request and approval from the PA Department of Human Services.

The Single Room Occupancy (SRO) service provides supportive long-term affordable housing for the "chronic low income" single adult for whom there is no affordable rental unit on the open market. The service is available to an individual with the ability to pay a "program fee" but with minimal or no rehabilitative potential for independent living. These residents need extensive "intervention" to direct and focus their lives. Residents participate in this service approximately 12-18 months before more permanent and stable housing is obtained. In some circumstances, the SRO service is utilized to provide housing for individuals beyond the one-year allowed through Bridge Housing with approval. Clients interested in entering the program are referred by social service, health, or community organizations as well as walk-ins. After completing an application for admission and meeting eligibility criteria, clients enter the program and participate in a number of activities offered to disrupt the cycle of homelessness. The focus is centered on directing the resident's life, so they do not continue to live from "crisis to crisis".

- How does the county evaluate the efficacy of bridge housing services? Please provide a brief summary of bridge housing services results.

Each program is required to fulfill contractual requirements and is monitored annually. The fiscal officer maintains accurate administrative records which are reported to PA Dept. of Human Services, Office of Social Programs on a yearly basis. Aging and Community Services receives copies of their audited financial statements for review. Most recent reviews yielded no significant findings with financial or contractual requirements.

- Please describe any proposed changes to bridge housing services for FY 25-26.

Aging and Community Services is exploring two new Bridge Housing opportunities:

Tomorrow's Neighbors empowers returning citizens to stop the cycle of crime by becoming responsible community members. Bridge housing program to expand senior reentry housing.

Blue Mountain Escape is dedicated to creating an environment that encourages sobriety and healthy living, while assisting with housing, employment opportunities, mentoring and fellowship. Bridge housing program to help clients achieve independent and self-sufficient residence. However, if there are decreases in our allocations or continued level funding, we would determine where budgetary cuts would be necessary.

- If bridge housing services are not offered, please provide an explanation of why services are not offered. N/A

### **Case Management:**

- Please describe the case management services offered. Include achievements and improvements in services to families at risk or experiencing homelessness, as well as unmet needs and gaps.

Case management services are offered through our Homeless Assistance Program (HAP) through Maranatha and our Rental Assistance Program. Case management services may include self-sufficiency goal planning for housing as well as related services. Sustainability planning, budgeting skills, monthly goal planning, job preparation, and researching for additional referrals that can provide a source of support for the client are all very important parts of this component. Once the intake and eligibility for a program has been completed, the case manager seeks to establish a rapport with the client which will keep an open line of communication between both parties. The case manager does this in order to assist the client in learning to become independent and also to see that the client has a say in how they want to better their current situation. The case manager establishes linkages with other agencies known to serve families and individuals and becomes aware, as confidentiality allows, of service plans within other agencies, so as not to establish goals that could cause a conflict in assisting the client.

- How does the county evaluate the efficacy of case management services? Please provide a brief summary of case management services results.

Director of Cumberland County Aging and Community Services is responsible for dispensing all Homeless Assistance Program (HAP) monies. Billing reimbursement requests for these programs are given to the fiscal officer to review, who in turn sends to the County Controller's office for payment. The fiscal officer maintains accurate administrative records which are reported to PA Dept. of Human Services on a yearly basis. Monitoring of these Homeless Assistance Programs is completed by the planner and fiscal officer yearly. Most recent reviews yielded no findings with financial or contractual requirements.

- Please describe any proposed changes to case management services for FY 25-26.

Aging and Community Services has no substantial change to services planned at this time. However, if there are decreases in our allocations or continued level funding, we would determine where budgetary cuts would be necessary.

- If case management services are not offered, please provide an explanation of why services are not offered. N/A

#### **Rental Assistance:**

- Please describe the rental assistance services offered. Include achievements and improvements in services to families experiencing or at risk for homelessness, as well as unmet needs and gaps.

Rental Assistance Program activities include but are not limited to:

- Intake and assessment
- Goal setting – sustainability planning
- Budgeting
- Case Management
- Development of a client-centered service plan
- Regular Case Management Meetings to follow up to track client's progress in completing self-directed and program objectives
- Coordination with the referring agency in sharing information and results
- Referral to other agencies as needed
- Negotiation with landlords to establish realistic payment plans based on the client's financial situation.
- Working with landlords and tenants to foster trusting relationships.

Disbursements of Rental Assistance funds are based on certain eligibility requirements. Unmet needs and gaps include lack of affordable housing, transportation issues, high childcare costs, and increases in fiscal insecurity due to below living wage incomes, debt, and medical concerns.

- How does the county evaluate the efficacy of rental assistance services? Please provide a brief summary of rental assistance services results.

Through monitoring and staff performance reviews. Director of Cumberland County Aging and Community Services is responsible for dispensing all Homeless Assistance Program (HAP) monies. Billing reimbursement requests for these programs are given to the fiscal officer for

review, who in turn sends them to the County Controller's office for payment. Bi-weekly checks are dispersed directly to the landlords of Rental Assistance Program applicants who are eligible to receive payments. The fiscal officer maintains accurate administrative records which are reported to PA Dept. of Human Services on a yearly basis. Monitoring of these Homeless Assistance Programs is completed by the planner and fiscal officer yearly. Most recent reviews yielded no findings with financial or contractual requirements.

- Please describe any proposed changes to rental assistance services for FY 25-26.  
Aging and Community Services plans to increase maximum allowance from \$1,000 to \$1,500 for an adult only household and \$1,500 to \$2,000 for households with children. However, if there are decreases in our allocations or continued level funding, we would determine where budgetary cuts would be necessary. The need for increased funding for rental assistance and case management is evident.
- If rental assistance services are not offered, please provide an explanation of why services are not offered. N/A

## **Emergency Shelter:**

- Please describe the emergency shelter services offered. Include achievements and improvements in services to families at risk or experiencing homelessness, as well as unmet needs and gaps.

**Domestic Violence Services** If the emergency shelter client is found to be in a domestic violence situation, they are then referred for shelter through the Domestic Violence Services portion of the Emergency Shelter program. These referrals may come from an individual call, Crisis Intervention, or state/local police departments. Additionally, they may be given additional shelter services in an appropriate Domestic Violence Shelter for up to a total of 30 days. If a male is a DVS victim, the residents will vote for the male to be housed at the shelter or go to a hotel/motel. If the shelter is full, HAP allocated hotel/motel funds are utilized.

**Community C.A.R.E.S.** (previously Carlisle CARES) provides temporary over-night shelter at local legion on a rotating basis throughout the year. Homeless get a cot and are housed from 9PM to 6AM. No case management services are given to shelter only status. If a client wants case management services, they must register through the CARES Resource Center and get on a waiting list. This is also the walk-in location for the new Coordinated Entry service to streamline homeless support services. Residents can also call 211 and ask for Coordinated Entry. The process begins with an assessment. If the person meets the requirements for the process, they will be placed on a waiting list based upon their assessment scores and need in relation to others who have taken it, rather than the previous first come, first serve process. Those who do not meet the requirements are given appropriate referrals.

Individuals who are 60 years of age or older and at imminent risk if they return to their residence can receive emergency, short-term placement in a motel/hotel utilizing HAP funds, or in other short-term placements such as Nursing Facilities, Personal Care Homes, or Domiciliary Care Homes which will be billed to the older adult. This emergency shelter placement would continue until the risk is eliminated or until appropriate long-term arrangements are finalized in conjunction with the Cumberland County Office of Aging and Community Services. The assessment and care plan process will include arranging for any necessary in-home services when it is safe for the consumer to return to their residence. If this is not a viable solution, then additional consultations and referrals may be necessary to assist the consumer with relocation to another safe living arrangement.

An emergency family shelter, Community CARES Family Shelter, is open in the Shippensburg area of the county, meeting a need for a shelter in that area of the county. The shelter allows for individual family rooms of up to ten families or up to 35 people per night, more than half children, and provides for basic needs. They will be provided with weekly case management to develop a family plan and are collaborating with local organizations to provide more intensive services and resources. Also, the shelter has partnered with Wellspan to provide two beds for those recovering from a major health incident. Stay is up to 30 days.

Unmet needs and gaps include lack of enough transitional shelters for women and children, no transitional housing or programs for individuals leaving correctional facilities. Shelters aren't always equipped to handle medical/physical needs or older adults.

- How does the county evaluate the efficacy of emergency shelter services? Please provide a brief summary of emergency shelter services results.

Each program is required to fulfill contractual requirements and is monitored annually. Aging and Community Services receives copies of their audited financial statements for review. Most recent reviews yielded no findings with financial or contractual requirements.

- Please describe any proposed changes to emergency shelter services for FY 25-26.

Aging and Community Services has no substantial change to services planned at this time. However, if there are decreases in our allocations or continued level funding, we would determine where budgetary cuts would be necessary.

- If emergency shelter services are not offered, please provide an explanation of why services are not offered. N/A

### **Innovative Supportive Housing Services:**

- Please describe the other housing supports services offered. Include achievements and improvements in services to families experiencing or at risk for homelessness, as well as unmet needs and gaps.

Cumberland County Homeless Assistance Programs consist of Emergency Shelter, Rental Assistance, Bridge Housing and Case Management Services. Each component of this program is an important part of our clearinghouse process. From the moment a homeless or near homeless household is identified for one of the components, the clearinghouse process begins. Additionally, the coordinated entry process was implemented in Cumberland County, which provides assessments in person or through 211 to get those that qualify on the list for needed housing services and makes appropriate referrals.

Additionally, Cumberland County Aging & Community Services was awarded a grant to have an Elder Cottage Housing Opportunity (ECHO) in partnership with New Visions, the PA Department of Aging, PHARE grant through PA Housing Finance Agency, and PA Association of Area Agencies on Aging. Applications continue to be received and reviewed.

- How does the county evaluate the efficacy of other housing supports services? Please provide a brief summary of other housing supports services results. N/A
- Please describe any proposed changes to other housing supports services for FY 25-26.

None planned at this time. Funding, consumer feedback, and assessment of needs within the county may impact how services are delivered. Success of the first ECHO cottage may result in applying for additional funding for more cottages.

- If other housing supports services are not offered, please provide an explanation of why services are not offered. N/A

### **Homeless Management Information Systems:**

DHS encourages counties and HAP partners to participate in their Continuum of Care (CoC) and for eligible providers to collect and track client-level data and services in their CoC's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). HMIS tracks and analyzes the characteristics and service needs of people at-risk or experiencing homelessness.

Please describe the county's utilization of HMIS to include how HAP providers enter data and enrollments into HMIS for any or all components of the program.

- If the HAP provider does not utilize HMIS, describe how the provider collects client-level data and data on the provision of housing services. Is this data provided to the CoC that coordinates housing and services funding for families and individuals experiencing homelessness?

The Rental Assistance Program, Case Management through Rental Assistance, and all county shelters, excluding the Domestic Violence Shelter for Cumberland and Perry County, are using the HMIS system. In addition, the Cumberland County Housing and Redevelopment Authority and New Hope Ministries utilize HMIS.

- Describe any change the county has identified in the service needs of families or individuals experiencing homelessness over the past program year.

## **HUMAN SERVICES AND SUPPORTS/ HUMAN SERVICES DEVELOPMENT FUND (HSDF)**

Please use the fields and dropdowns to describe how the county intends to utilize HSDF funds on allowable expenditures for the following categories. (Please refer to the HSDF Instructions and Requirements for more detail.)

***Dropdown menu may be viewed by clicking on “Please choose an item.” Under each service category.***

Copy and paste the template for each service offered under each categorical, ensuring each service aligns with the service category when utilizing Adult, Aging, Children and Youth, or Generic Services.

**Adult Services:** Please provide the following:

Program Name: Transportation (\$100)

Description of Services: Activities which enable individuals to travel to and from community facilities to receive social and medical service. The service is provided only if there is no other appropriate person or resource available to transport the individual.

Service Category: Transportation - Activities which enable individuals to travel to and from community facilities to receive social and medical service, or otherwise promote independent living. The service is provided only if there are no other appropriate resources.

**Aging Services:** Please provide the following:

Program Name: Personal Care (\$100)

Description of Services: Non-medical care that is provided in the home to eligible clients in order to keep the client in their home. Services include bathing, dressing, grooming, feeding, personal laundry, etc.

Service Category: Personal Assistance Service- Includes assistance with ADL's and IADL's, such as feeding, ambulation, bathing, shaving, dressing, transfer activities, meal preparation, and assistance with self-administration of medications by a non-agency provider.

**Aging Services:** Please provide the following:

Program Name: Care Management (\$100)

Description of Services: Care Management for individuals 60 and over. These programs provide basic non-medical support in the home to allow the individual to continue to live in the community.

Service Category: Care Management - Care Management activities through the Area Agencies on Aging serve as a coordinative link between the identification of consumer needs and the timely provision of services to meet those needs by utilizing all available resources.

**Aging Services:** Please provide the following:

Program Name: Intake/Investigation (\$100)

Description of Services: Protective Services for individuals 60 or older who are in need of intervention due to abuse, neglect, exploitation, or abandonment.

Service Category: Protective Services - Older Adult Protective Services provides for the investigation and intervention for older persons who are at risk of being abused, neglected, exploited or abandoned.

**Aging Services:** Please provide the following:

Program Name: Home Delivered Meals

Description of Services: Provide meals to homebound individuals 60 or older in their own homes.

Service Category: Home-Delivered Meals - Provides meals, which are prepared in a central location, to homebound individuals in their own homes.

**Generic Services:** Please provide the following:

Program Name: Information and Referral (\$4,860)

Description of Services: Contact Helpline is a 24-hour, 7 day-a-week, listening, health and human service information and referral service. They maintain a database of referral agencies, organizations, and programs servicing Pennsylvania residents of Cumberland and surrounding Counties.

Service Category: Information & Referral - The direct provision of information about social and other human services, to all persons requesting it, before intake procedures are initiated. The term also includes referrals to other community resources and follow-up.

Please indicate which client populations will be served (must select at least **two**):

Adult     Aging     CYS     SUD     MH     ID     HAP

**Specialized Services:** Please provide the following: (Limit 1 paragraph per service description)

Program Name: Cumberland Cares for Families (\$146,590; \$73,000 or which is provided by Cumberland County Children & Youth Services)

*Description of Services:* Cumberland Cares for Families is family focused providing in-home education and support for children 0-5 years old and their families. Emphasis is on safety and healthy development of the child while supporting the family through needs assessments, parenting skills building, behavioral techniques modeling, community information and referrals. The immediate unique needs of the family are addressed while assuring a safe and secure home environment. Topics discussed with families include, post-partum depression, parenting education, child development, sibling rivalry, healthy baby medical care and immunizations, care of a sick child, nutrition, children's health insurance, toy safety, family planning, budgeting, drug and alcohol use, transportation, and domestic violence, abuse, and neglect.

**Interagency Coordination:** (Limit of 1 page)

If the county utilizes funds for Interagency Coordination, please describe how the funding will be utilized by the county for planning and management activities designed to improve the effectiveness of categorical county human services. The narrative should explain both:

- how the funds will be spent (e.g., salaries, paying for needs assessments, and other allowable costs).
- how the activities will impact and improve the human services delivery system.

Services are improved through the process of communication and collaboration with multiple agencies, both County and non-county and through interagency projects and workgroups. A portion of the coordination funds supports the salary of the Homeless Assistance Program Supervisor. The Homeless Assistance Program supervisor/staff have active relationships and initiated relationships within the following groups to encourage cross-system collaboration within the human services system: ACT 33 Core Team, Community CARES Shelter, Housing Coalition of Cumberland County (Landlord Engagement Action Team), Carlisle, Shippensburg, and West Shore Emergency Needs groups, Christ Among Neighbors, Neighbors in Christ, Salvation Army of the Greater Harrisburg Area, Family Promise of South Central PA, New Visions, RASE Project, JFT Recovery, One80 Ministries, Project Lamplight, Cumberland County HRA - HCV, Cumberland County CASSP Core Team, Cumberland/Perry Domestic Violence, Family Promise Shelter, Help Ministries, Maranatha, New Hope Ministries, New Life Community Church, Merakey, Project Share, PA 211 CONTACT Helpline, POSC Core Team, Salvation Army of Carlisle, Safe Harbour, Blue Mountain Escape, Samaritan Fellowship, Todd Baird Lindsey Foundation, Tri County Community Action, United Way, Cumberland County MH/IDD/EI, and

Cumberland County Reentry Coalition. There is communication and open working relationships with all organizations in the 2025 Cumberland County Guide to Human Services. Additionally, in 2025, HAP has partnership agreements with Cumberland County Reentry Coalition and Housing Coalition of Cumberland County Landlord Engagement Program.

Additionally, the Rental Assistance Program Supervisor is responsible for the supervision of the Cumberland CARES program, which is a position partially funded through Cumberland County Children and Youth and requires coordination with Children and Youth and other agencies that can provide assistance to new mothers and young children.

A portion of the Cumberland County Aging and Community Services Director's salary is also paid through these funds to support her involvement in multiple groups that involve county and non-county agencies. These groups include Pennsylvania Association of County Human Services Administrators (PACHSA), Human Services Policy Team, and Pennsylvania Association of Area Agencies on Aging.

Additionally, our ECHO Housing includes interagency coordination. ECHO Housing is a small temporary cottage placed on the property of a family member or friend with the land available. They maintain their independence but have nearby supports as a housing solution and alternative to placement in a PCH or NF or living with the family. This is done in partnership with New Visions (a MH provider), the PA Department of Aging, PHARE grant through PA Housing Finance Agency, and PA Association of Area Agencies on Aging.

#### **Other HSDF Expenditures – Non-Block Grant Counties Only**

If the county plans to utilize HSDF funds for Mental Health, Intellectual Disabilities, Homeless Assistance, or Substance Use Disorder services, please provide a brief description of the use and complete the chart below.

Only HSDF-allowable cost centers are included in the dropdowns.

Category	Allowable Cost Center Utilized
Mental Health	
Intellectual Disabilities	
Homeless Assistance	
Substance Use Disorder	

***Note: Please refer to Planned Expenditures directions at the top of Appendix C-2 for reporting instructions (applicable to non-block grant counties only).***

**APPENDIX C-1 : BLOCK GRANT COUNTIES**  
**HUMAN SERVICES PROPOSED BUDGET AND INDIVIDUALS TO BE SERVED**

County: Cumberland	1. ESTIMATED INDIVIDUALS SERVED	2. HSBG ALLOCATION (STATE & FEDERAL)	3. HSBG PLANNED EXPENDITURES (STATE & FEDERAL)	4. NON-BLOCK GRANT EXPENDITURES	5. COUNTY MATCH	6. OTHER PLANNED EXPENDITURES
<b>MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES</b>						
ACT and CTT	20		\$ 138,075			
Administrative Management	929		\$ 793,831		\$ 71,268	
Administrator's Office			\$ 494,448		\$ 54,939	\$ 232,620
Adult Developmental Training						
Children's Evidence-Based Practices						
Children's Psychosocial Rehabilitation						
Community Employment						
Community Residential Services	105		\$ 5,682,805	\$ 605,000	\$ 85,417	
Community Services	901		\$ 621,839		\$ 69,093	\$ 66,262
Consumer-Driven Services						
Emergency Services	231		\$ 58,478		\$ 6,499	
Facility Based Vocational Rehabilitation						
Family Based Mental Health Services	1		\$ 6,000			
Family Support Services	92		\$ 142,322		\$ 15,814	
Housing Support Services	106		\$ 673,484		\$ 42,729	
Mental Health Crisis Intervention	6,006		\$ 724,425	\$ 796,126		
Other						
Outpatient	2		\$ 7,832		\$ 870	
Partial Hospitalization	2		\$ 5,000			
Peer Support Services						
Psychiatric Inpatient Hospitalization	1		\$ 200,000			
Psychiatric Rehabilitation						
Social Rehabilitation Services	205		\$ 559,948		\$ 51,550	
Targeted Case Management	138		\$ 241,648			
Transitional and Community Integration	30		\$ 93,788			
<b>TOTAL MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES</b>	<b>8,769</b>	<b>\$ 10,443,923</b>	<b>\$ 10,443,923</b>	<b>\$ 1,401,126</b>	<b>\$ 398,179</b>	<b>\$ 298,882</b>
<b>INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES SERVICES</b>						
Administrator's Office			\$ 1,230,284		\$ 24,386	\$ 649,420
Case Management	100		\$ 421,700		\$ 14,429	
Community-Based Services	48		\$ 531,084	\$ 161,018	\$ 59,009	
Community Residential Services	6		\$ 809,530			
Other						
<b>TOTAL INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES SERVICES</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>\$ 2,992,598</b>	<b>\$ 2,992,598</b>	<b>\$ 161,018</b>	<b>\$ 97,824</b>	<b>\$ 649,420</b>

**APPENDIX C-1 : BLOCK GRANT COUNTIES**  
**HUMAN SERVICES PROPOSED BUDGET AND INDIVIDUALS TO BE SERVED**

County:	1. ESTIMATED INDIVIDUALS SERVED	2. HSBG ALLOCATION (STATE & FEDERAL)	3. HSBG PLANNED EXPENDITURES (STATE & FEDERAL)	4. NON-BLOCK GRANT EXPENDITURES	5. COUNTY MATCH	6. OTHER PLANNED EXPENDITURES
<b>HOMELESS ASSISTANCE SERVICES</b>						
Bridge Housing	26		\$ 60,000			
Case Management	2,639		\$ 176,473			
Rental Assistance	95		\$ 71,726			\$ 300
Emergency Shelter	732		\$ 36,000			
Innovative Supportive Housing Services			\$ -			
Administration			\$ 38,244			\$ 5,952
<b>TOTAL HOMELESS ASSISTANCE SERVICES</b>	<b>3,492</b>	<b>\$ 382,443</b>	<b>\$ 382,443</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 6,252</b>
<b>SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERVICES</b>						
Case/Care Management	10		\$ 29,426			
Inpatient Hospital			\$ 256,561			
Inpatient Non-Hospital	71		\$ 45,000			
Medication Assisted Therapy	7		\$ 7,000			
Other Intervention	15		\$ 46,000			
Outpatient/Intensive Outpatient	20		\$ 2,500			
Partial Hospitalization	1		\$ 30,000			
Prevention	30		\$ 57,148			
Recovery Support Services	20		\$ 24,000			
Administration						
<b>TOTAL SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERVICES</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>\$ 497,635</b>	<b>\$ 497,635</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>HUMAN SERVICES DEVELOPMENT FUND</b>						
Adult Services	-		\$ -			
Aging Services	115		\$ 500			
Children and Youth Services	-		\$ -			
Generic Services	16,147		\$ 4,860			
Specialized Services	64		\$ 86,976			\$ 59,614
Interagency Coordination			\$ 23,933			
Administration			\$ 12,918			\$ 37,151
<b>TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES DEVELOPMENT FUND</b>	<b>16,326</b>	<b>\$ 129,187</b>	<b>\$ 129,187</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 96,765</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>28,915</b>	<b>\$ 14,445,786</b>	<b>\$ 14,445,786</b>	<b>\$ 1,562,144</b>	<b>\$ 496,003</b>	<b>\$ 1,051,319</b>