

A HEALTHCARE INVESTMENT: BETTER VALUE FOR THE DOLLAR

Efficient use of our healthcare dollars is more important than ever. What is a good healthcare investment? It is one that ensures services are accessible and have good outcomes.

People with serious mental health and/or substance use conditions often need help from several public service systems (e.g. healthcare, employment, social services, etc.) in order to get better. Navigating these systems is difficult. **The DMHAS General Assistance Intensive Case Management (GAICM) program** guides people in the General Assistance Behavioral Health Program to treatment settings and community supports that suit their specific needs. The GAICM “recovery specialist” provides intensive case management services and often serves as a single point of contact for the individual while coordinating care with other service systems involved in the person’s recovery. The result? **BETTER VALUE FOR THE DOLLAR SPENT—people get better—taxpayers save money.**

GAICM GOALS

- ✘ Reduce the number of costly acute care admissions.
- ✘ Connect people with treatment and recovery support services that help sustain recovery and develop a stable lifestyle.

To achieve these goals, recovery specialists work closely with individuals to develop a recovery plan that is used as the map, monitoring progress along the way and working through any bumps in the road that may occur.

OTHER SUPPORT SERVICES

- ✘ GAICM staff work with emergency rooms at 14 hospitals, in the Alternative to Hospitalization program, to safely direct people out of the emergency room and into treatment that better suits their needs. In FY '08, ATH created a **net savings of over \$1 million.**
- ✘ GAICM staff work with the Department of Correction to help coordinate support services for inmates *before* they are released.

MORE PEOPLE SERVED!

Over **2,100 individuals** received **53,000 hours** of case management services in FY08.

PEOPLE GOT BETTER!

91% of these individuals gained stability and improved their functioning while connected to GAICM.

COSTS WENT DOWN!

Acute care admissions **decreased by 61%** for individuals assigned to GAICM resulting in approx. **\$1.5 million** less spent annually on acute care services.

MORE GOOD NEWS!

868 of 1497 individuals (58%) reported stable housing at the time of their discharge from GAICM.



Average Acute Episodes Per Client
12 mos Before & After GAICM

