Quality Lives with Recovery Services

Mental illnesses such as schizophrenia, bi-polar disorders, schizoaffective disorders and major depression are neurobiological disorders that respond well to treatment. With recovery-based services, individuals can live quality lives in the community.

The outpatient services offered by the WCS Community Based Mental Health Programs aim to enhance our participants’ motivation in achieving their goals to lead fulfilling and meaningful lives.

Funding for Programs

CSP and TCM services are funded through a combination of United Way support, a contract with the Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division, private donations, and billing medical insurance.

The success of the WCS Community Based Mental Health Programs has been recognized and honored by others:

- Awarded the Professional Service Agency Award by NAMI Wisconsin.
- Highlighted by the National Institute of Justice as a model for other jurisdictions.
- Recognized by the Ford Foundation and John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University for providing innovative programming and new approaches to pressing social needs.

Wisconsin Community Services, Inc. (WCS) is a 501(c) 3 non-profit service agency that has worked with high-risk individuals both inside and outside of the criminal justice system for over 100 years. WCS operates its programs throughout southeastern Wisconsin.

The mission of WCS is to advocate for justice and community safety, providing innovative opportunities for individuals to overcome adversity.

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“Know me as a person. Not by my mental illness. We are your friends, neighbors and family. We improve and recover. We are major contributors to American life. We deserve dignity and respect.”

-SAMHSA
WCS Community Based Mental Health Programs

The WCS Community Based Mental Health Programs hosts participants from the two case management programs, CSP and TCM. These participants find themselves becoming part of a community as they spend time among friends who understand them. Recovering with mental illness often brings many challenges. The Community Based Mental Health Programs provide support, encouragement, and hope for our participants as well as offering numerous services that allows each participant to regain more control in their recovery.

The Community Based Mental Health Programs have been providing quality outpatient mental health services since 1978. The program is licensed by the State of Wisconsin and include case management along with important ancillary services such as benefit acquisition, crisis services, pharmacy services, and support groups.

The mission of the Community Based Mental Health Programs is to provide quality services that promote recovery and empower program participants to become full and equal members of the community.

Case Management Programs

Community Support Program (CSP)
The CSP works with participants with serious and persistent mental illness using the Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) model. ACT is an intensive team-based approach for community mental health service delivery. A multidisciplinary team provides participants time-unlimited services, stage-wise interventions (treatment based on the participant's needs/wants), individual and group therapy, and other interventions to promote health.

A participant gets his blood pressure checked by a Program's nurse.

Targeted Case Management Program (TCM)
The TCM offers clinic-based and community-based case management models to serve their participants. The clinic-based model works closely with the participant to ensure medication adherence, coordination of services utilizing the Clinic providers, and close monitoring of their needs. The clinic-based model also maintains a strong collaboration with the criminal justice system. The community-based model provides their participants with service coordination utilizing community resources, monitoring and guidance to help the participant achieve their goals. The TCM serves a variety of participants engaged in recovery.

Ancillary Services

Peer Support Services
Each program participant has access to a peer support specialist on staff in the programs who offers invaluable first-hand experience to others in their recovery.

Harm Reduction Services
Individual/group counseling specifically designed for individuals with co-occurring mental health and substance abuse.

Support Groups
Promotes healthy living by offering weekly groups on exercise, life skills, art, health/wellness and men’s issues.

Family Support Group
Monthly group provides support and education for family members of the participants in case management of the programs.

Pharmacy
Two licensed pharmacists are on site to dispense medication and educate staff and participants on medication related issues.

Benefit Advocacy & Financial Services
Assists with benefit acquisition, budgeting and direct payment services at no cost to the participant.

Housing
Locates safe and affordable housing utilizing low-income housing programs while also maintaining a large electronic database of local landlords.

“This place is like family. I've come a long way and I'm maintaining a normal life.”
-A program participant

“The quality of our life, the quality of John's life has been enhanced a hundred-fold. We couldn't do it without the program and its staff available 24 hours per day.”
-A participant's family member