

LEHIGH VALLEY DRUG AND ALCOHOL INTAKE UNIT



TIMOTHY R. MUNSCH, LPC, CAC DIPLOMATE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Lehigh Valley Drug and Alcohol Intake Unit Annual Report (July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017)

The Lehigh Valley Drug and Alcohol Intake Unit is a Department of Health, Bureau of Drug and Alcohol, licensed assessment and referral site. The Northampton County, Easton and Bethlehem offices provide adult and adolescent assessments for county consumers. Funding is provided through contracts with Northampton County as well as the Department of Medical Assistance Behavioral Health Care Provider, Magellan Health Care. We also have private insurance agreements with the major insurance providers within Lehigh Valley allowing us to provide assessments to adults and adolescents with Behavioral Health coverage.

Throughout the 2016-2017 fiscal years, The Northampton County, Easton and Bethlehem Offices conducted 2621 assessments, 234 were adolescents and 2387 adults. There were 3730 assessments scheduled with 536 people that did not show up and 561 that cancelled. Alcohol and other Drug Treatment were recommended for 2539 individuals. This is a 6% increase in the number of assessments from last fiscal year. The number of adolescents assessments (234) decreased slightly and the adult population increased over the last fiscal year. The primary drug of choice was alcohol (38%), followed by Marijuana (25%) Opioid (24%), Cocaine (5%) and Stimulants (8%)

The Certified Recovery Support (CRS) service program is in its second year of operation. The program is located at 548 N. New St., Bethlehem, Pa.18018. The CRS staffs are state certified through a series of trainings and a state test to assure compliance. The program is hands on in that these are individuals in long term recovery supporting and assisting those in early recovery. The program is contracted with Northampton County Drug and Alcohol Services for citizens of Northampton County and a contract with Medical Assistance through Magellan Behavioral Health Care for Northampton and Lehigh Counties.

Further initiatives in Northampton County include the collaboration with Northampton County office of Drug and Alcohol Programs in facilitating the Bethlehem Recovery Center, a drop in center for the recovery community. The program utilizes the Peer Recovery model in creating a community recovery atmosphere, providing mutual recovery support by experientially credentialed individuals. This facility is being highly utilized, hosting NA and AA meetings. There is also a young persons AA meeting that is well attended providing a much needed resource for the adolescent and young adult individuals. There is also a women's AA group that has been a welcome addition to the recovering community in Northampton County. Throughout this past fiscal year the Recovery Center has provided multiple services and events, including alcoholathons, karaoke nights, and various other sober activities. The Recovery Center has become known as a safe and sober place for individuals to receive support and resources on their road to recovery.

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April of 2016, Northampton County has also utilized funding to open a drop in center in Easton, located at 117 North Third St., Easton, Pa. The program is called “Change on Third Street”. The initiative is to provide services similar at the Bethlehem Recovery Center focusing on the needs of the recovering community in Easton and the surrounding areas. This program has grown considerably and is well know for the Open Mike night and rock painting. Other recovery organizations have been utilizing the center in various efforts to assist those in recovery.

Lehigh Valley Intake Unit also oversees the TCAP program (Treatment Continuum Alternative to Prison). Through this program individuals have the opportunity to recover and maintain sobriety in lieu of long term incarceration. The program has had several graduates to date, beginning this fiscal year the TCAP participants are now members of the Drug Court Program. This has created additional oversight and structure to assist individuals on their road to recovery.

The Lehigh Valley Drug and Alcohol Intake Unit, Northampton Counties’ Office of Drug and Alcohol Abuse, is governed by Hortensius, LTD. And S Corporation incorporated within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in September, 1986. The President and Chief Stockholder of Hortensius, Ltd. (Timothy R. Munsch LPC, CAADC). Functions professionally, as Executive Director of the Intake Unit.

A full financial report detailing the 2016 – 2017 fiscal year is available by contacting the Lehigh Valley Intake Units main office or through the Lehigh Valley Intake Unit website: www.lvintake.org.