CFM Grand Rounds
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Our next Grand Rounds will be November 8, 2016 in Hanes 131.
Coordinating Care for Homeless Persons

Donna Biederman, DrPH, MN, RN
Duke University School of Nursing

&

Julia Gamble, MPH, NP
Duke Outpatient Clinic
Learning Objectives

• Describe the homeless population in Durham, NC

• Describe 5 common needs of homeless persons that can be met with care coordination

• List 3 things an individual provider can do to assist with care provision for homeless persons

• List 3 community-based agencies that work to coordinate care for homeless persons

• Make referrals to the Durham Homeless Care Transitions program
Homelessness

• **Defining Homelessness** -
  – **HUD**  (Dept. of Housing & Urban Development)
  – **HHS**  (US Dept. of Health & Human Services)
  – Dept. of Education

• **Enumerating Homeless Persons**
  – Annual Point in Time Count

https://www.nhchc.org/faq/official-definition-homelessness/
Volunteers fan out in Durham, Wake for annual count of homeless
## Homeless Totals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Nationwide</th>
<th>North Carolina</th>
<th>Durham Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>643,067</td>
<td>12,746</td>
<td>535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>649,917</td>
<td>12,157</td>
<td>675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>636,017</td>
<td>12,908</td>
<td>652</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>633,782</td>
<td>13,602</td>
<td>698</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>610,042</td>
<td>12,147</td>
<td>759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>578,424</td>
<td>11,448</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>564,708</td>
<td>10,683</td>
<td>813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>753</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Durham Subpopulations 2015

### Subpopulations – How many ADULTS are (or have):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subpopulation</th>
<th>Emergency / Seasonal</th>
<th>Transitional</th>
<th>Unsheltered</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seriously Mentally III</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substance Use</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV / AIDS</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victims of DV</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Discharges: How many ADULTS were discharged from the following 30 days:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discharge Category</th>
<th>Discharged</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Criminal justice</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavioral health</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care system</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Homelessness in Durham, NC
Health Needs of Homeless Persons

“Life on the streets is brutal and short. The average age of death for homeless people is 30 years less than that of housed people”

Health Needs of Homeless Persons

Homeless Health Issues

• Mental illness
• Substance use
• Tobacco use
• History of interpersonal violence common
• History of trauma to head common
• High ED utilization
• Aging homeless population – median age close to 50
• Multiple comorbid chronic illness common
• Higher prevalence of Tuberculosis
Health Needs of Homeless Persons

- Housing
- Primary Care
- Substance Abuse
- Mental Health
- Transportation
- Connection to family/friends
Health Needs of Homeless Persons

Housing

“Housing comprises more than just physical shelter. Where we live is where our personal, social, and economic lives come together. People who lack stable, secure, adequate housing lack a protected space to maintain physical and psychological well-being—finding themselves consistently in stress-producing environments with consequences for mental health and immunological functioning.”
Health Needs of Homeless Persons

**Primary care**
- Attention to chronic illnesses
  - DM, HTN, COPD/Asthma
- Medications
  - Daily dosing, bid injections
  - Think about formularies and cost ([www.ncmedassist.org](http://www.ncmedassist.org))
- Screening for cognitive impairment
  - MOCA -- [http://www.mocatest.org](http://www.mocatest.org)
- Don’t wait for the “annual physical”
- Attention to infectious disease screening and prevention
  - TB, HIV, Hepatitis C and STIs
  - Vaccines for hep b, pneumonia, flu
- Screening for cancer
  - Mammograms, pap smears
Health Needs of Homeless Persons

Substance Use
- Screen for use (ever)
- Include tobacco
- Assess readiness to reduce or discontinue
- Be prepared to refer – **919-560-7100**
- Consider medication
- Prescribe Naloxone kits
  - Available at Hospital/Cancer Center pharmacy
  - NCHRC - hnamkoong88@gmail.com

Mental Health Treatment
- Screen (PHQ, PC-PTSD)
- Be prepared to refer – **919-560-7100**
- Bridge medications until appointment
Health Needs of Homeless Persons

Transportation

- Bus – 919-485-RIDE
  - Discount pass
- Vans – all scheduled via 919-560-1551
  - Medicaid ACCESS – 919-560-8607
    - Medicaid patients only
    - Medical appointments only
- County ACCESS – 919-560-7978
  - Rides for work, social, medical
- Paratransit
  - Rides for work, social, medical
  - Application completed by health care provider
  - http://godurhamtransit.org/access
What can individual providers do?

• Identify Homelessness
  – Wake Med Epic Screener
    • “Are you currently, or have you been any time in the past 12 months, homeless or “doubling up” (living with another person without paying rent)?”
  – VA Screener
    • “In the past two months, have you been living in stable housing that you own, rent, or stay in as part of a household?”
    • “Are you worried or concerned that in the next two months you may NOT have stable housing that you own, rent, or stay in as part of a household?”
What can individual providers do?

- Document homelessness
  - Use the ICD-10 code Z59.0
  - This way the data can be examined on a population level
- Refer to internal and external supports
- Maximize services at each visit or admission
- Take homelessness into account in formulating discharge plan
  - Is the plan safe given homelessness?
Total # of Patients within EMR Query System

3,251,727

Homeless Patients Within Study Timeframe in Durham Co. with ED/Inpt Encounters

Round 1
- Address: 745
- PADC: 183
- Unduplicated Pts Rnd 1: 889

Round 2
- ICD-9: 655
- Unduplicated Pts Rnd 2: 843
- Case Mgmt: 343

1732

Total Unique Patients Identified

1656
What can individual providers do?

• Support affordable housing
  – Become aware of housing in our community
  – What are options for more?

• Donate or volunteer

• Become a member of organizations that support homeless or housing issues
  – National Healthcare for the Homeless Council
  – North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness
  – People’s Alliance (Durham)
  – Durham CAN
Homeless service agencies in Durham, NC

- Urban Ministries of Durham
  - 412 Liberty Street near library
  - Emergency shelter
    - Adult intake Monday or Thursday
    - Family intake via DSS
  - Meals 365 days a year
  - Food pantry, clothing closet
  - Substance abuse program
  - Resume, interview skills assistance
Homeless service agencies in Durham, NC

• Housing for New Hope
  – Permanent Supportive Housing (3 sites, 64 efficiency apartments)
  – Street outreach – focus on chronically homeless
  – Assertive Engagement – mental health care management for uninsured homeless people
Homeless service agencies in Durham, NC

Williams Square – near Carver and Roxboro
Homeless service agencies in Durham, NC

• Lincoln’s Healthcare for the Homeless Clinic
  – Full service primary care for adults (1/2 day clinic) located on campus of Urban Ministries of Durham
  – A1C machine and microscope on site
  – Substance abuse and social work services
  – Social Security Disability advocacy services
  – Duke Psych resident volunteer clinic in evenings monthly
Durham Homeless Care Transitions

- Nurse care management for homeless individuals with medical problems being discharged from emergency room or hospital
- Partnered with Community Health Worker
- Based in LATCH program of Duke Community and Family Medicine
- Medical respite care also an option with the care management
  - Brief housing to stabilize after a hospitalization or pre/post procedure
  - Generally in sober housing setting
  - Usually limited to maximum of 8 weeks
Durham Homeless Care Transitions

Online Referral Form
Durham Homeless Care Transitions

Cases to discuss? Questions?

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Julia Gamble, MPH, NP
919-358-1385 (cell/text)
Julia.gamble@duke.edu
Literature


- Health status and health care experiences among homeless patients in federally supported health centers: findings from the 2009 patient survey.


- When health insurance is not a factor: national comparison of homeless and nonhomeless US veterans who use Veterans Affairs Emergency Departments.


- Angela A. Aidala, PhD, Michael G. Wilson, PhD, Virginia Shubert, JD, David Gogolishvili, MPH, Jason Globerman, MSc, Sergio Rueda, PhD, Anne K. Bozack, MPH, Maria Caban, PhD, MA, and Sean B. Rourke, PhD. Housing Status, Medical Care, and Health Outcomes Among People Living With HIV/AIDS: A Systematic Review. Am J Public Health RosenhAm J Public Health. 2016 January; 106(1): e1–e23.
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