

**Carroll County, Maryland**  
**Strategic Plan for Alcohol and Drug Abuse**  
**For July 2011 to June 2013**

**Vision:** We envision a Carroll County community where everyone has the tools for living a healthy and effective life, free from the disabling effects of mental illness and addictions.

**Mission:** To prevent and reduce the impact of behavioral health and addiction's disorders through increased community awareness, public education, enhanced access to quality treatment and involvement in promoting a healthy lifestyle for the citizens of Carroll County.

**Priorities:**

- a. Promote a system of integrated care where prevention, screening and treatment of substance abuse and mental illness are common practice across the life span.
- b. Educate and assist families in Carroll County to live healthy and drug free lives.

**Goal #1:** Promote a System of Integrated Care Where Prevention, Screening and Treatment of Substance Abuse and Mental Illness are Common Practice Across the Life Span.

**Objective # 1.1:** Collaborate with other agencies and service providers to encourage the development of mechanisms to promote integrated healthcare.

**Strategy # 1.1.A:** The Addictions Bureau and CSA will partner to increase the number of providers that are dual diagnosis capable or dual diagnosis enhanced.

Action Plan: Receive training and consultation on implementation of the Comprehensive Continuous Integrated Systems of Care (CCISC) model and Recovery Oriented Systems of Care model. Utilize the University of Maryland for technical assistance and consultation throughout the process.

**Strategy # 1.1.B:** Conduct outreach to Primary Care Physician providers within the county.

Action Plan: The Addictions Bureau and CSA will provide resource directories and information on recognition of mental health and substance use disorder symptoms and services available for treatment and support to Primary Care Physician offices.

**Strategy # 1.1.C:** Promote screening for depression in pregnant women and appropriate referral to treatment.

Action Plan: The Addiction Bureau and CSA will continue to chair the monthly SART (screening, assessment, referral & treatment) Workgroup meetings and will assist with coordinating timely access to treatment for pregnant women.

**Objective #1.2:** Empower consumers, families and stakeholders with information to best articulate their needs and protect their right to choose.

**Strategy # 1.2.A:** Support and promote the programs provided by NAMI, such as Family to Family and Peer to Peer, as an available resource within the community for consumers and families.

Action Plan: Work closely with NAMI to increase their presence in the mental health community. The CSA will encourage and support the application of the local NAMI chapter president to become a member of the BHAAC and to have regular attendance at the Provider Council meetings.

**Strategy # 1.2.B:** Support and promote the programs offered by DBSA Carroll County, such as weekly support groups and educational seminars, as an available resource in the community for consumers and family members.

Action Plan: The Addictions Bureau and CSA will invite and encourage participation of representatives from DBSA Carroll County to attend the monthly Provider Council meetings hosted by the Addictions Bureau and CSA. CSA staff will provide information and referral information about DBSA's services to the public.

**Objective # 1.3:** Increase knowledge of provider community, schools, courts and other agencies in implementing early screening and assessment tools, and maintain up-to-date referral information for their use.

## **Goal #2: Educate and Assist families in Carroll County to live healthy and drug free lives.**

**Strategy # 1.3.A:** Ensure quick access and continuity of care to individuals with behavioral health needs.

Action Plan: Create updated directories on resources necessary and available to aid in the recovery process, such as housing, transportation, medical care, etc. Distribute the directories to providers, schools, courts, local hospital, MHA facilities, and local human service agencies.

**Strategy # 1.3.B:** Promote mental health screening and services for pre-school children.

Action Plan: Participate in the Annual Head Start Fair to distribute information about early childhood mental health.

**Strategy # 1.3.C:** Work with community partners to increase suicide prevention education and awareness within the community.

Action Plan: The CSA and Substance Abuse Prevention Services will provide consultation to the Carroll County Public Schools regarding the implementation of the Youth Suicide Prevention Grant. The CSA will work together with other agencies and support community efforts to address and implement suicide prevention activities.

**Objective # 1.4:** Collaborate with the local system of care for behavioral health and somatic care to prepare and plan health reform.

**Strategy # 1.4.A:** The Addiction Bureau and CSA will encourage and support implementation efforts in the local community.

Action Plan: The Addiction Bureau and CSA will monitor and distribute resource information from the Maryland Healthcare Reform Coordinating Council and will participate on local planning committees for the health department as well as other agencies as necessary.

**Objective# 2.1:** Collaborate with community mental health and substance abuse providers as well as community agencies to jointly address promotion of healthy nurturing families.

**Strategy 2.1.A:** The Addiction Bureau and the CSA will collaborate to jointly address the prevention of mental illness, promote healthy nurturing families and prevention substance use during the life span.

**Action Plan:** The Addiction Bureau and the CSA will report to the Behavioral Health and Addiction Council their intent to develop a committee to jointly address prevention and promotion of healthy nurturing families.

**Strategy # 2.2.B:** The Addiction Bureau and the CSA will form a workgroup in FY12, which will focus on expanding Prevention and Early Intervention efforts for both substance abuse and mental health.

**Action Plan:** The CSA and Addiction Bureau will do outreach to community providers and ask for participation in the newly formed work group.

**Objective# 2.2:** Collaborate with community providers, schools, local clubs and organizations to develop and implement the Maryland Strategic Prevention Plan

**Strategy 2.2.A:** Advertise and promote the objectives of the MSPF in the community.

**Action Plan:** Work with ADAA and community providers to select a community non-profit who will serve as lead for the Maryland Strategic Prevention (MSPF) initiative.

**Strategy 2.2.B:** Work with the selected non-profit to address the requirements set out in the MSPF.

**Action Plan:** Develop a plan to address under-age drinking in Carroll County consistent with MSPF criteria.