

Thundermist Health Center of Woonsocket

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Director: Maria Montanaro, MSW

HCH Coordinator: Stephanie McCaffrey, MSW

Medical Director: David Bourassa, MD

UDS Number: 011820

Project Description

The Health Care for the Homeless Project of Thundermist Health Center provides health care, case management, educational services, behavioral health/substance abuse counseling, and linkages to mental health and substance abuse agencies for persons who are homeless living in northern Rhode Island and south central Massachusetts.

Services

Direct primary health care is provided by a nurse practitioner in satellite clinics at a local homeless shelter, a shelter serving female survivors of domestic violence and trauma, two substance abuse residential homes, and at the health center. HCH clients may be referred to the health center for prenatal care, WIC, and dental services. Clients have 24 hour access to health center physicians who have full privileges at the local hospital. Substance abuse and mental health screenings are conducted and referrals are made. Education is provided in the areas of health, nutrition, mental health, substance abuse, parenting, and high risk social behaviors. Social services include counseling, case management, and client advocacy. A therapeutic activity program for children and their parents, through a collaboration of local agencies, is available on an as-needed basis. Behavioral health and substance abuse counseling are available onsite at all of our facilities.

Linkages

The program has linkages with Sojourner House, Tri-Hab, "Because He Lives" Soup Kitchen, and Northern RI Community Mental Health Center.

Statistics

Estimated homeless population: 800 Project users: 890

Subcontractor(s):

Psychological Center, Inc.

447 East Main Road

Middletown, RI 02842

Contact: Paul Block

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Travelers Aid of Rhode Island

177 Union Street
Providence, RI 02903
Phone: (401) 521-2255
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Director: Anne M. Nolan
HCH Coordinator: Linda M. Dziobek, RN
Medical Director: Ivan Wolfson, MD

UDS Number: 010470

Project Description

Travelers Aid of Rhode Island is a comprehensive nonprofit human service agency, aiding person who are homeless and other disconnected individuals on their journey toward a better quality of life. Travelers Aid of Rhode Island provides essential life services, referral, and advocacy and is open 24 hours daily, seven days a week.

Services

The program services of Travelers Aid include the Health Care for the Homeless Program. The HCH Program operates a 40-foot mobile medical van visiting shelters in six locations nightly, a freestanding clinic located in the Travelers Aid multi-service center, and a mobile team staffed by a nurse practitioner and outreach worker. The mobile team visits shelters in Kent and Washington Counties. HCH clients have access to medical, dental, women's health, mental health care, substance abuse counseling, crisis intervention, case management, prescription assistance, anonymous and confidential HIV counseling and testing, benefits assistance, housing, shelter, basic needs, legal services, education and job training, and special services for runaway, homeless youth. Offsite services include transitional living programs for homeless families and adolescents. Travelers Aid also operates HELPLine, a 24-hour statewide telephone information and referral service. HELPLine includes special interest hotlines for runaway youth, housing locator, and gamblers' assistance. Travelers Aid publishes a statewide directory of human services and government agencies.

Linkages

Referral for emergency, inpatient, and specialty care is provided through arrangements with local hospitals and community health centers. Mental health counseling and treatment is provided by a local community mental health center. Substance abuse services are provided by local community-based organizations.

Statistics

Estimated homeless population: 5,440 Project users: 1,423