SMHAs and SSAs and Health Insurance Reform (cont’d)

The goal of the publication was to combine information about the organization, policies, services, and financing of State Mental Health Agencies (SMHAs) and Single State Agencies (SSAs) for substance abuse services (SAMHSA).

The following text is an excerpt from the publication:

**Abbreviations:** BH, behavioral health; MH, mental health; SMHA, state mental health agency; SSA, single state agency; SUD, substance use disorder

**Source:** 2015 State Profiles

**Methods**

**Source of information**
- We compiled information from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) state-specific grant reports and from additional narratives from state policymakers, services, organization, and financing of each state’s SMHA and SSA system contained in state-specific appendices.
- All information was reviewed by SAMHAs and SSAs.
- We provided a crosswalk of terms in the body of the report.
- Most summaries of the organization, services, policies, and financing of each state’s SMHA and SSA system contained in state-specific appendices.

**Focus of 2015 State Mental Health and Substance Abuse Agency Profiles**

1. The organization and structure of SMHAs and SSAs within state government
2. SMHA and SSA activities related to health insurance reform following implementation of the Affordable Care Act
3. Financing of SMHA and SSA systems in FY 2014 and trends over time
4. Services provided by SMHAs and SSAs
5. Consumers served by SMHAs and SSAs
6. SMHA activities in SAMHAs’ eight strategic initiatives

**SMHAs and SSAs and Health Insurance Reform**

- Both SMHAs and SSAs conducted many activities in support of the health insurance reform (see Table 1).
- Most SMHAs and SSAs reported working with state Medicaid agencies on behavioral health benefits.
- Fewer SMHAs and SSAs worked with insurance commissioners on private insurance behavioral health benefits.

**Table 1:** SMHA and SSA Activities to Support Health Insurance Reform

| Activity | SMHA | SSA
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<td>Administrative functions</td>
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<td>Medicaid functions</td>
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<td>Substance Use Disorder Treatment</td>
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**Individuals Served by SMHAs in 2014**

- SMHAs provided MH services to 2.2% of the US Population (7.2 million individuals)
- 44% of adults served had a serious mental illness.
- 79% of children served had a serious emotional disturbance.
- Most care (90%) was received in community-based settings, compared with 2% in state psychiatric hospitals and 8% in other psychiatric inpatient settings.

**Other Characteristics of Individuals Served by SMHAs in 2014**

- 44% of SMHA consumers had Medicaid pay for some or all of their MH services.
- 19% of all MH consumers were competitively employed during the year.
- 6% of consumers with a diagnosis of schizophrenia were competitively employed.
- 2% of adult MH consumers were homeless.

**Individuals Served by SSAs: 2013–2014**

- SSAs served 2.3 million individuals.
- 62% of these individuals were new admissions (1.9 million individuals).
- 8% of SSAs funded recovery support services (but no treatment).