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ADAMHS Evaluates Effectiveness of Residential Treatment

Montgomery County Alcohol, Drug Addiction & Mental Health Services recently conducted an analysis of local alcohol and other drug residential treatment facilities that indicates individuals who receive residential treatment engage in outpatient service at a dramatically higher rate upon leaving the facility, have fewer hospital visits related to substance use and less encounters with the criminal justice system.

The analysis was conducted on local treatment agencies and examined data of 922 patients prior to residential treatment admission and following discharge. The results showed a drastic increase in outpatient claims and a significant reduction in hospital related charges. Hospital related charges were reduced by approximately $1.5M; with 31% of the reduction being specifically related to substance abuse charges. Additionally, patients that received residential treatment had 50% less criminal justice related encounters after discharge.

“This significant reduction in hospital costs and jail contact tells us treatment works, and it places less burden on community systems of care,” said Executive Director Helen Jones-Kelley.

Six areas were used in the analysis:

- Community hospital encounters
- Hospital charges
- Hospital substance abuse encounters
- Substance abuse related charges in a hospital setting
- Outpatient mental health and addiction treatment claims
- Criminal justice encounters

The specific substance abuse programs evaluated in the analysis were residential withdrawal management and treatment through Nova Behavioral Health and Women’s Recovery Center.

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Montgomery County Alcohol, Drug Addiction & Mental Health Services

Helping to promote wellness and recovery that reinforces and sustains healthy individuals, families, and communities that are free from stigma related to mental illness and addictions.