SOAR Dialogue Call June 2023
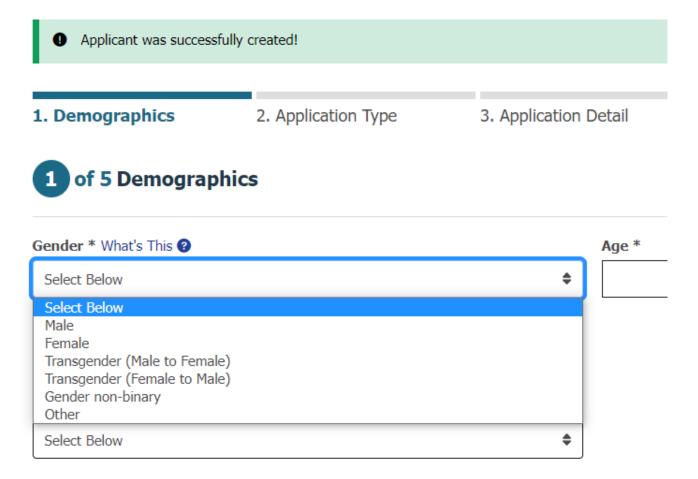
NC COALITION to end HOMELESSNESS

Announcements

Announcements and Reminders

- Catching SSA and DDS doing good initiative

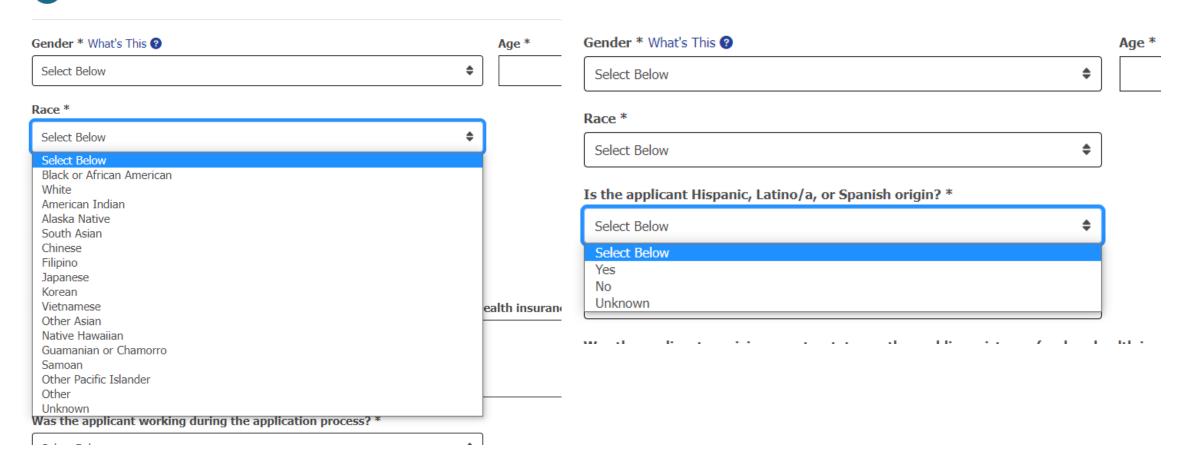- Happy Juneteenth

- Happy Pride Month

- Outcome Reporting Season

Announcements: OAT Demographics Updates

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Gender * What's This ❓

Select Below ⬍

Age *

Race *

Select Below ⬍
Select Below
Black or African American
White
American Indian
Alaska Native
South Asian
Chinese
Filipino
Japanese
Korean
Vietnamese
Other Asian
Native Hawaiian
Guamanian or Chamorro
Samoan
Other Pacific Islander
Other
Unknown

Was the applicant working during the application process? *

Gender * What's This ❓

Select Below ⬍

Age *

Race *

Select Below ⬍

Is the applicant Hispanic, Latino/a, or Spanish origin? *

Select Below ⬍
Select Below
Yes
No
Unknown

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Working with Clients with Psychotic Disorders

Psychosis

- Schizophrenia Spectrum Disorders
  - 3.48% lifetime prevalence of mental illness with psychosis
  - 5-17% general population have ever had psychotic symptoms
- Can also be caused by:
  - Mood disorders
  - Substance use or withdrawal
  - Delirium/medical illness

Symptoms of Psychosis

- ==Hallucinations==
  - Abnormal perceptions in any of the senses
- ==Delusions==
  - Strongly held beliefs
- ==Disorganization==
  - Thought process and/or behavior
- "Negative" Symptoms
  - Difficulty thinking, doing, or emoting
  - Limited speech
  - Limited thought content
  - Apathy
  - Withdrawal
  - ==Catatonia==

Treatment

- Can look like:
  - Medication
  - Therapy
  - Supportive employment/housing
  - Skills training

- It can be effective
  - Recovery at 10 years follow up is 44%
  - 35% of those recovered but not working
  - Longer duration with untreated psychosis and/or unemployment predicts more difficult recovery

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Challenge for SOAR Workers

Challenges

- Typically SOAR clients are less stable by definition
  - Functional impairment is enough to prevent significant work

- Difficult to keep clients engaged

- Psychosis can disrupt rapport/trust

- Though most clients who have psychosis are never violent
  - We want to be aware of boundaries/safety

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Advocate Mindset

- Trauma-Informed Care
  - High rates of trauma and victimization
  - Social stigma and rejection
- Empathy
  - How difficult would it be to concentrate if voices would not leave you alone?
  - How difficult would it be to trust if you regularly faced fear and disgust from strangers?

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Practical Suggestions- Your Ideas

- Developing contact network (friends/family/providers/collateral sources) in first few meetings

- Meet for first time with trusted person or in trusted place

- Bring coffee/food/socks or other offerings for comfort

- Being sensitive to paranoia around technology/leaving room/talking with coworkers

- Options for involuntary treatment?

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Practical Suggestions

- Meeting in familiar, trusted setting
- Meeting with trusted person
- Going at client's pace
- Being aware of warning signs of escalation
- Connect to supportive resources
  - VR
  - Injectable antipsychotics
- Seek supervision/consultation
- Seek training

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Reality

- We may not be able to engage everyone

- We may need support from other providers

- We may need more training/experience

- We may need to wait for clients to be more stable

More Resources

HHRC Webinar

Webinar: Outreach and Housing Support for Individuals with Psychotic Disorders

June 27, 2:00-3:30pm Eastern Time (11:00am-12:30pm PT)

This panel examines outreach and housing support strategies for individuals with psychotic disorders. Practitioners will each share best practices aimed at improving accessibility, stability, and community integration for this population. They will also discuss collaborative efforts among mental health, housing, and community-based professionals.

Speakers:

- **Gordon Shen, PhD, SM,** (Moderator), Assistant Professor of Health Care Management, University of Texas, Houston School of Public Health
- **Ana Turner, MD,** Assistant Professor at the University of Florida Department of Psychiatry
- **Joel Hunt, PA,** Physician Assistant of JPS Health Network in Dallas-Fort Worth
- **Wayne Young, MBA, LPC, FACHE,** CEO at The Harris Center
- **Angela Shumake, MHPS,** Mental Health Peer Support Specialist at The Harris Center
- **Laura Marsh, MD,** Executive Director of the Mental Health Care Line at the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center; Professor at the Departments of Psychiatry and Neurology at Baylor College of Medicine

Attendees are encouraged to view the HHRC Introduction to Psychotic Disorders webinar before this session if they are new to serving individuals experiencing psychosis.

This webinar will be recorded, and ASL interpretation and live captioning will be provided. Certificates of participation will be provided to those who complete a post-event evaluation, but no CEUs are included in this event.

Webinar Registration

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Other Resources

- Sample MSRs: https://soarworks.samhsa.gov/article/sample-medical-summary-reports

- NC DHHS Individual Placement and Support (IPS) Supported Employment Program: https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/vocational-rehabilitation-services/employment-services-people-disabilities/individual-placement-and-support

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Time for Open Questions

Contact NCCEH
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Contact us re: SOAR
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