



## **Addiction-Related Initiatives**

In October 2016, Marshall University announced the formation of a substance use recovery coalition to find holistic solutions to the addiction problem and its negative effects on our region.

### **Marshall Recovery Center for Families (MRCFF)**

Funded through a new grant from the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources' Ryan Brown Addiction Prevention and Recovery Fund, MRCFF will provide trauma-informed residential treatment services that offer intensive, clinically-managed residential care and support for pregnant and postpartum women and their children.

### **Healthy Connections**

Bridges the relationship between Marshall University and the City of Huntington to unite local efforts in order to make a great impact. To date, Healthy Connections includes more than 25 groups, including Marshall University, its Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine and Marshall Health and 20 different community agencies. Healthy Connections has recently been awarded two grants. The Sisters of St. Joseph Health and Wellness Foundation and the West Virginia Perinatal Partnership have provided funding for two family navigators. A significant piece of Healthy Connections is River Valley CARES (Center for Addiction Research, Education and Support), a project creating a continuum of care for infants exposed to substances in utero, along with mothers and their families. The former Enterprise Child Development Center will serve as the main facility for the initiative.

### **Maternal Addiction Recovery Center (MARC)**

Provides comprehensive obstetrical care, outpatient addiction care and counseling for expectant mothers with opiate addiction. This program has been in place since 2013, but has expanded in recent months.

### **Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT)**

Marshall University's SBIRT is an evidence-based approach focused on early intervention and treatment of individuals at risk for developing a substance use disorder (SUD). SBIRT promotes universal screening of all individuals to identify use, early risks and abuse in order to intervene appropriately. Marshall's SBIRT program is multi-disciplinary program comprised of seven departments and two professional schools, including the departments of Psychology, Social Work, Counseling, Public Health, Health Sciences, Nursing and Physical Therapy, and the School of Pharmacy and the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. To date, the funded program from SAMHSA has assisted Marshall in training over 2,700 individuals.

### **Behavioral Health Workforce Education Training Grant**

The Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training grant through HRSA is targeted funding to support the training of behavioral health professionals to work with underserved populations within an integrated behavioral health care framework. This framework emphasizes the use holistically, focused

multi-disciplinary teams working out of primary care clinics to deliver effective and accessible services. Marshall received funds to support the training of counselors, school psychologists, masters level clinical psychologists and psychiatry residents in integrated primary care setting.

### **Seeds of Change**

Funding from Transforming Recovery, the Seeds of Hope grant will provide funding, technical assistance, and mentorship as Marshall works to increase its collegiate recovery efforts. Marshall recognizes the needs of students in recovery as they navigate higher education and will provide support to aid students in their recovery process and with their academics.

### **Targeted Clinical Care Partnerships**

Provides primary care and other health care services to participants in the Cabell-Huntington Adult Drug Court as well as assistance to recovery programs throughout the tristate.

### ***Areas of Research***

Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome

Neurobiology

Neuropharmacology

### ***Other Areas of Partnerships***

#### **Quick Response Teams**

In partnerships with the City of Huntington, Marshall University and Marshall Health has helped land two federal grants to start the Quick Response Team. The Team is comprised of a police officer, an EMT, and either a recovery coach or clinician. The coordinator of the Team is with Cabell County Emergency Services. The Team started work following up with people who have overdosed to help them get into treatment on in early December. In the first week 6 people were helped into treatment.

#### **Faith Community United**

Faith Community United, comprised of community volunteers, clergy, addiction specialists and trainers, and concerned citizens, works to coordinate the needs of the faith community in the tristate region as it relates to the opioid epidemic. The group has provided monthly training opportunities, including six sessions provided to spiritual leaders in the community to educate, empower, and enhance your response to those struggling with the disease of addiction, their family members, your congregations, and the larger community. To date, four of the sessions have been successfully completed with an attendance that averages approximately 50 people of faith.

#### **Harm Reduction**

The Marshall University School of Pharmacy and Social Work Department continue to provide assistance with Cabell-Huntington Health Department' Harm Reduction Program. The Pharmacy School students assist daily with the syringe exchange and offer Naloxone training once a week and as needed. The Social Work Department is working to expand the harm reduction program by aiding patients with housing, aiding recovery coaches in connecting patients with treatment, and finding ways to help people heal mentally before they are prepared to stop using substances.

**Lily's Place**

Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Sean Loudin, M.D., serves as medical director for the first Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) Center in the United States. Lily's Place provides medical care to infants suffering from NAS and offers non-judgmental support, education and counseling services to families and caregivers.

**Project Engage with Local Hospitals**

A Regional Health Summit Workshop, sponsored by the Cabell Huntington Hospital in collaboration with Marshall Health, was held in Huntington on early intervention and referral to substance use disorder treatment in the health care setting. Dr. Terry Horton, Chief of the Division of Addiction Medicine at Christiana Health System in Delaware presented "A Health System's Response to the Opioid Epidemic." Dr. Horton's presentation included an overview of the opioid crisis and Christiana Health System's response to the crisis through development of Project Engage, a health care-based approach where hospital staff identify patients who may be struggling with substance use to effectively connect them with treatment programs and other resources during hospitalization. Following the Regional Summit Workshop, health care and community partners in Huntington are continuing to evaluate how the model can be integrated locally.

**Regional Partnership to Increase the Well-Being of and to Improve the Permanency Outcomes of Children**

Working in collaboration on a grant through Presteria Center, this project will form a regional partnership to provide intensive case management and related support services to children affected by substance use and their families without cost to the families. In order to improve the child's well-being, safety and permanency, this project will offer intensive case management services, including screening, assessment and evaluation; individual care plans for all family members; referrals for substance use disorder treatment, behavioral health services including trauma-specific services; medical health treatment; interventions that improve parenting capacity and family functioning; services that support family reunification; ancillary services such as assistance in securing safe housing, transportation, employment and child care; and other services. In addition, the regional partnership will improve system's capacity by increasing workforce and by providing needed workforce training in family interventions.