



Maryland's Office of
Overdose Response

Penn North & MOOR Care Coordination Grant Presentation

Monday, August 25, 2025 - 1:00 to 2:00



Penn North Leadership Team

- Bill Brooks, MBA, President & CEO
- Secret Scott, MS, CAC-AD, Chief Clinical Officer
- Sylvester Conn, MSW, LMSW, CPRS, RPS, Chief Program Officer
- Kim Walker, MA, Chief Financial Officer
- Jacqueline Thompson, BA, CPRS, RPS, Director of Human Resources & Support Services





Penn North Board of Directors

- Bill Brooks, MBA, President & Vice Chairman
- Kevin Tyler, MBA, Vice President & Chairman
- Melody McCrae, Treasurer
- Dr. John Hudgins, Secretary
- Dr. Daniel Howard, MD, Member
- Leon Pinkett, Member
- Michael Rosofsky, Esq, Member
- Tracey Darrington, Member
- Laura Poindexter, Member





Penn North Clinical Team

- Secret Scott, MS, CAC-AD, Chief Clinical Officer
- Dr. Daniel Howard, MD, Medical Director, Primary Care
- Josie Dantzler, PMHNP, Medical Director, Psychiatric
- Dr. Titilayo Akinsola, DNP, FNP-BC, PMHNP, Psychiatric
- Cheri DePetro, LCSW-C, OMHC Clinical Supervisor
- Gina “Nicole” Strawder-Brown, MS, CAC-AD-S, Clinical Supervisor
- Georgann Wright, MS, ADT, Addictions Counselor (“trainee”)
- Brittany Jones, MS, ADT, Addictions Counselor (“trainee”)
- Carolyn Alexander, BS, CSC-AD, Addictions Counselor
- Sylvester Conn, MSW, LMSW, CPRS, RPS, Chief Program Officer



Penn North Peer Team

- Sylvester Conn, MSW, LMSW, CPRS, RPS, Chief Program Officer
- Jacqueline Thompson, BA, CPRS, RPS, Director of Support Services & Human Resources
- Vernard Nelson, RPS, Harm Reduction Program Manager & Overdose Prevention Site Program Manager
- Cassandra Williams, CPRS, RPS, Certified Peer Recovery Specialist
- Charles Wilson, CPRS, Certified Peer Recovery Specialist
- Alisha Jackson, CPRS, Certified Peer Recovery Specialist
- Antionne Davenport, CPRS, Certified Peer Recovery Specialist
- Tyrone Trotman, Peer Recovery Coach
- Deirdre George-Cooper, Peer Recovery Coach
- Takia Scott, Peer Recovery Coach



30+ Years
of Milestones



- 1993 – Tai Sophia Institute and Acupuncture
- 1998 – SUD Treatment
- 2009 – White House ONDCP Award
- 2012 – Baltimore Recovery Corps
- 2013 – Developed Supportive Housing Model
- 2015 – Workforce Development
- 2019 – Partial Hospitalization and Residential
- 2020 – Wellness & Recovery Center
- 2022 – Care Coordination and Court Ordered
- 2023 – Pregnant Women and Women with Children
- 2024 – Outpatient Mental Health Center
- 2025 – Discontinue Supportive Housing to focus on Residential Programs



Operations

CLINICAL SERVICES

- 1999 to present – Outpatient SUD
- 2019 Residential 3.1
- 2022 Residential 3.3, 3.5
- 2024 OMHC

OTHER SERVICES

- Wellness & Recovery Center
- Care Coordination
- Acupuncture & Holistic Services
- Peer Services
- Mobile Outreach Van
- Overdose Response Services





Penn North High Intensity Residential



- ASAM 3.5 High Intensity Residential Program for Returning Citizens
- HG §8-505 and §8-507 Court Ordered Treatment for individuals in the correctional system with substance use disorders
- Reduces Overdose Deaths among our Returning Citizens, a population who is very high risk for overdose death
- Provides Treatment, Education, and Recovery Support
- Property is a 7-bedroom facility with capacity for 14 individuals



Penn North Medium Intensity Residential



- ASAM 3.3 Medium Intensity Residential Program for Returning Citizens
- MDH Behavioral Health Administration's Gender Specific Services Unit certified our program as a Pregnant Women and Women with Children Specialty Provider
- Reduces Overdose Deaths among Mothers/Parents, which can also lead to Infant/Child deaths
- Property is a 8-bedroom facility with capacity for 16 individuals



Penn North PWWC Program



- BHSB Provides grant which partially covers childcare for the 8 families who participate in the Medium Intensity ASAM 3.3 Program
- Women with Children Programs are Especially Expensive to run because:
 - The Children take up bed space which could otherwise be used by a Medicaid billable patient
 - Traditional Medicaid Reimbursement does not cover childcare
 - Our staff spends countless hours going back and forth with the funder (BHSB) over minutia related to what is reimbursable and what's not



Recent Developments in Behavioral Health

- SUD (Substance Use Disorder) and Mental Health have merged to become “Behavioral Health”
- Most SUD Patients have co-occurring SUD and Mental Health disorders, and often need additional increased Medical Care as well (aging population)
- Emphasis on treating the “Whole Person” – Holistic Approach
- Acute Need for Integrated MH and SUD Services
- Increase in Wrap Around Services



Services Provided by Care Coordinators

- Conduct initial assessment, medical, mental health and substance use history
- Complete intake paperwork and consent forms
- Identify participant goals, needs, strengths and potential barriers to care (financial, transportation, medical etc)
- Schedule medical, mental health and counseling appointments.
- Central point of contact between participants, healthcare providers and community services
- Coordinate appointments, treatments and follow-up care
- Help resolve issues with insurance, housing or benefit



Services Provided by Care Coordinators (cont.)

- Refer participants to outside providers (specialist, dental and psychiatric care, MAT programs)
- Provide participants with community resources such as food, housing, transportation, and mental health services.
- Make referrals to support groups or social service agencies.
- Help apply for public benefits (Medicaid, Snap, SSI, etc.)
- Identify and manage crisis (medical, mental health, or social)
- Maintain accurate records of care plans, interactions and services provided.
- Participate in quality improvement initiatives
- Conduct follow-up after discharge to monitor continuity of care.



Criminal Justice Care Coordinator services

- Collect participant demographic, legal and criminal history
- Review court orders, probation/parole conditions, and sentencing requirements
- Obtain necessary ROI to communicate with justice entities
- Orientate participant to treatment program expectations and legal compliance obligations
- Assist participants with obtaining access to housing, employment and education to reduce recidivism risk



Criminal Justice Care Coordinator svcs (cont.)

- Connect participants to supportive services (ID reinstatement, expungement support, vocational training.)
- Help participants prepare for legal obligations such as court hearings, documentation, progress reports.
- Educate participant on rights, responsibilities, and available reentry supports.
- Ensure probation/parole officers receive continuity of care updates at discharge.



Care Coordination Program Surveys

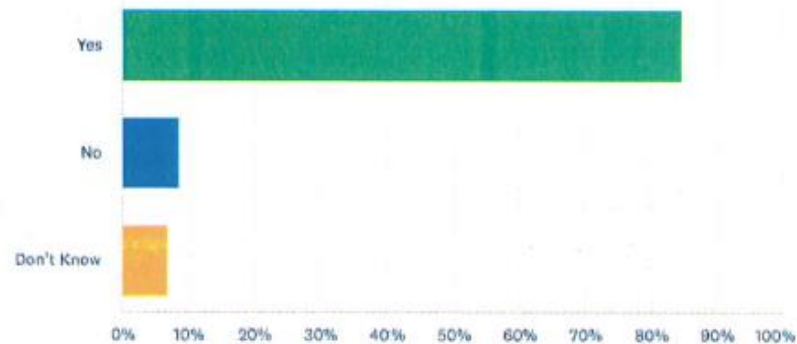
December 2024

July 2025

Q3

Aside from your Clinician, Penn North has a staff of Care Coordinators to facilitate wrap-around services for individuals engaged in treatment. Have you been assigned a Care Coordinator?

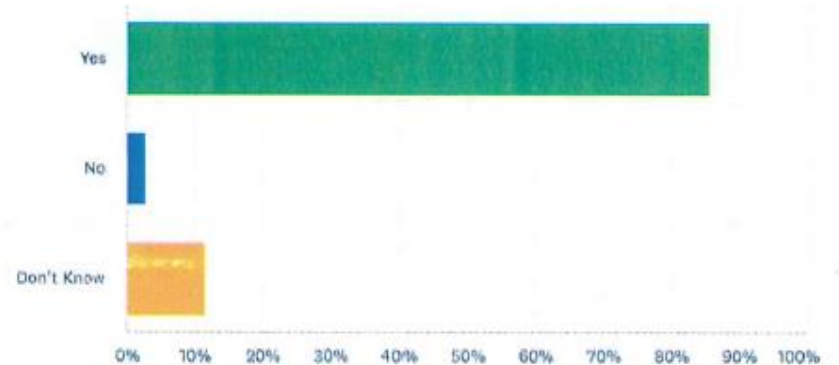
Answered: 117 Skipped: 0



Q3

Aside from your Clinician, Penn North has a staff of Care Coordinators to facilitate wrap-around services for individuals engaged in treatment. Have you been assigned a Care Coordinator?

Answered: 105 Skipped: 0





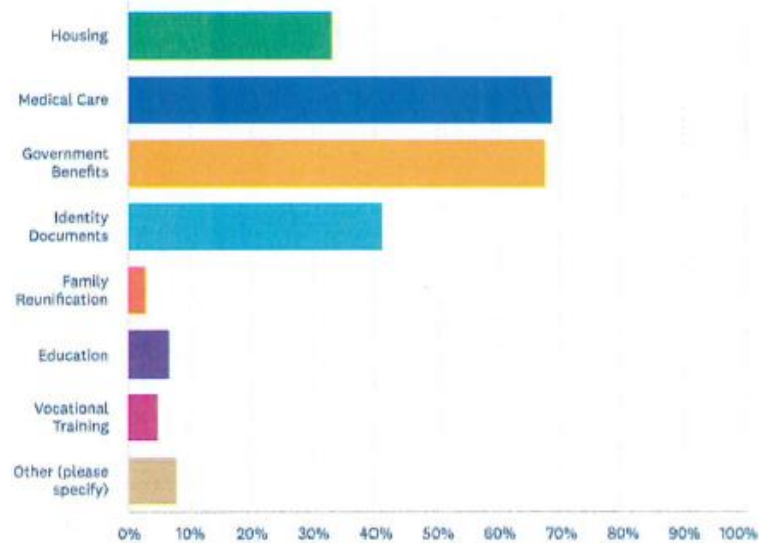
Care Coordination Program Surveys

December 2024

Q4

What are the primary goals that your Care Coordinator is assisting you with?

Answered: 102 Skipped: 15

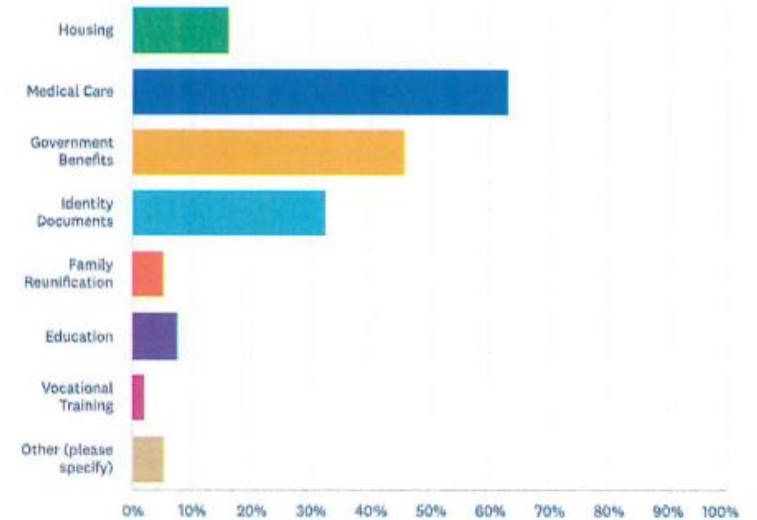


July 2025

Q4

What are the primary goals that your Care Coordinator is assisting you with?

Answered: 92 Skipped: 13





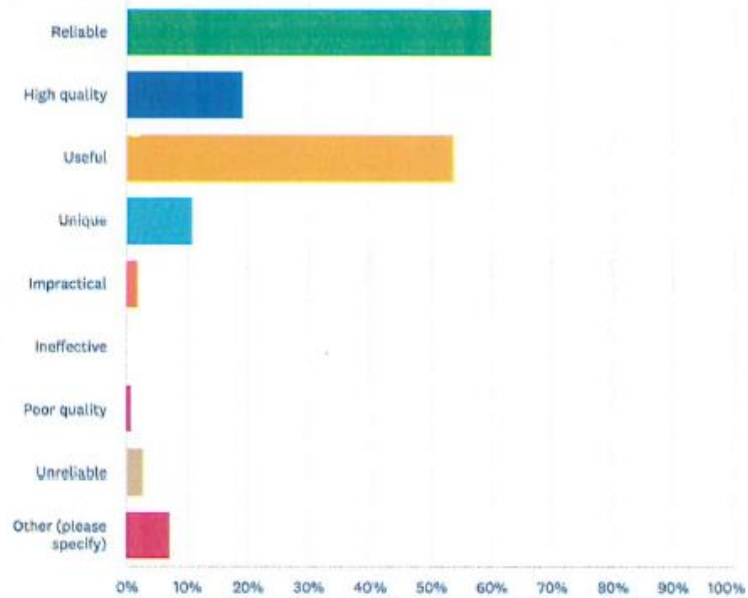
Care Coordination Program Surveys

December 2024

Q5

Which of the following words would you use to describe your Care Coordination services? Select all that apply.

Answered: 110 Skipped: 7

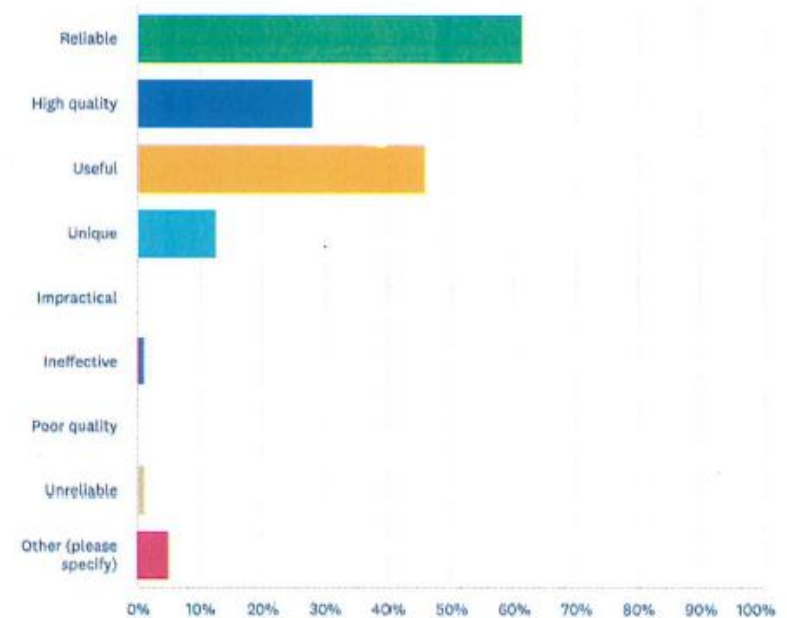


July 2025

Q5

Which of the following words would you use to describe your Care Coordination services? Select all that apply.

Answered: 96 Skipped: 9





Care Coordination Success Stories

- Shawnta Chase, Penn North Care Coordinator
 1. Success Stories of persons served
 2. Success Stories of collaborative organizations/partners
- Alisha Jackson, Penn North Certified Peer Recovery Specialist
 1. Success Stories of persons served
 2. Difference between what care was like prior to Penn North having Care Coordinator services and now



Future Organizational Facilities Needs

- **Peer Services Center** – need office space for 8-10 Certified Peer Recovery Specialists, plus Supervisors and Administrative staff
- **Mental Health Therapy (OMHC)** – need office space for mental health therapists, space to become the future Behavioral Health Urgent Care Center (BHUCC), future Mental Health Crisis Services
- **Methadone (OTP) and Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Clinic** – need long term solution to provide MAT internally, rather than through partners
- **Inpatient Facility** – need facility for long-term inpatient/residential treatment, highest level of care requires specialized facility



July 2025 Overdose Response

- **July 10, 2025** – 26 overdoses occurred almost simultaneously near the corner of Pennsylvania Ave and North Ave. Penn North was among the first on the scene to respond.
- **July 10 -11, 2025 and to present** – The community has seen an outpouring of support from organizations all over the city and state. Harm Reduction based organizations and others have stepped up their presence in the Penn North community to help with the response and provide support.
- **July 18, 2025** – second round of overdoses near McCulloh St and North Avenue.
- **July 23, 2025** – third round of overdoses near Laurens St and Penn Ave.
- **Current Status** – State of Maryland and Baltimore City working together to create a more coordinate effort to respond to overdose incidents.