

Conclusion

In summary, we have recommended a vision for the mental health system and developed recommendations and strategies for facilitating the transformation to achieve this vision. We believe that the Fairfax-Falls Church area will experience tangible benefits by transforming the mental health system to a recovery- and resilience-oriented model of care as outlined in this report.

Specific outcomes that can be expected as a result of this shift include:

- Increased wellness and employment
- Decreased reliance on the public system of mental health care
- Reduced demand or need for expensive emergency and crisis services

These outcomes can be achieved through the adoption of business-focused strategies including:

- A data-driven approach to the management of access to mental health services and supports
- Ongoing feedback mechanisms to assure system accountability and effectiveness
- Maximized state, federal, and nonpublic revenue and reimbursements
- Productivity standards that demonstrate the expectation of shared accountability for outcomes

We strongly believe that there are compelling reasons for action, and would-be risks associated with inaction or failure to implement our recommended strategies. Fairfax is currently not maximizing non-local sources of revenue and reimbursements. A significant number of our recommended strategies were designed to produce additional state, federal, and nonpublic financial resources for the mental health system. Another reason to act is we believe that many of our strategies to improve and transform the system can be implemented at no additional cost and by reallocating existing resources or staff. Finally, we believe that many of our strategies — designed to strengthen efficiency and effectiveness as well as enhance prevention and early intervention — will assure that Fairfax-Falls Church area residents are getting the most value for their tax dollars and will ultimately decrease demand for expensive and traumatic emergency services and hospitalization.