Integration Leadership Council

OF THE EL PASO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM

The Integration Leadership Council works with primary care and other healthcare providers to increase collaboration, coordination and integration of mental healthand substance use service options into primary care settings by; improving organizational policies and practices, increasing availability of trained andcredentialed workforce, expanding, and enhancing model behavioral health andrecovery supports into primary care settings.

Opportunity for Change # 1:

Expand and enhance coordination of mental health and substance use care within the primary care setting.

Strategy 1: Identify active collaborative care models being implemented in the region and engage the model champions to participate on the Integration Leadership Council.

Strategy 2: Explore opportunities for integration of behavioral health caremanager (BHCM) staff within area primary care practices.

Strategy 3: Identify active regional navigation systems, peer support and promotora programs, and other related resources and engage model champions to inform on ways to enhance coordination of care for individuals and families.

Strategy 4: Initiate a data sharing and integration work group or engage an existing work group (e.g., PHIX partners) to explore how expanded data sharing can improve coordination and collaboration among primary care, mental health and substance use service providers.

Strategy 5: Engage with substance use service providers to strengthen network communication and implementation of best practice substance use prevention, support, and treatment programs.

Opportunity for Change # 2:

Engage with higher education institutions and regional employers to introduce and enhance programs that lead to student completion of degrees, licenses, certifications, and other credentials for immediate and sustainable employment in mental health occupations (e.g., LPC, LCDC, LMFT, LCSW, Licensed Clinical Psychologist, Psych NP).

Strategy 1: Explore areas where policy and practice changes will lead to lasting improvements in educational attainment and sufficient employer reimbursement to maintain service availability at optimal levels.

Strategy 2: Implement evidence-based education and training programs for primary care providers (e.g., physicians, nurses, pharmacists) to increase knowledge and skill in effective and efficient mental health and substance use screenings and care coordination.

Strategy 3: Obtain current data on supply and demand for various mental health and substance use care positions and the related education programs available to address needs and grow credentialed professionals who will practice in the region.

Progress Indicators

The Council will track relevant measures regarding data sharing among providers (at the individual case and system levels) and continuity of care between providers over time.

Consortium 2030

Consortium leaders formed a sound foundation in 2015. As a result, El Paso partners have successfully increased mental health and substance use resources for the region, made significant improvements in the behavioral health system of care, and set the stage for the next phase of improvements.

The Consortium helps to foster, strengthen, and properly recognize the integral partnerships that create change in the El Paso region. With the 2021 El Paso Behavioral Health System Assessment, the 2026 data update, and other related data and ongoing community feedback, El Paso County is prepared to take new steps toward achieving an ideal behavioral health system of care.

Get Involved:

The Consortium is committed to ongoing collaboration where all partners are welcome, empowered, and unified to achieve the vision. To learn more about the El Paso Behavioral Health Consortium, the 2026 Quantitative Data Summary, the 2021 El Paso County Behavioral Health System Assessment, or the Consortium Leadership Councils, contact Enrique Mata, Executive Director, Paso del Norte Center at Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute, at emata@mmhpi.org, 915-253-0287 or Sandra Day, Associate Program Officer, Paso del Norte Health Foundation, at sday@pdnfoundation.org , 915-218-2617.

Please Note: The El Paso Behavioral Health Consortium does not provide health services of any type, such as mental health, substance abuse, or other services. The following are resources to help those seeking behavioral health services:
2-1-1 El Paso Resource Referral System - Dial 211
24-Hour Mental Health Crisis and Suicide Prevention Line – Call or Text 9-8-8 or chat at https://988lifeline.org/