Youth with High Behavioral Health Needs in Colorado:

Cross-System Utilization Patterns

August 30, 2014

SUBMITTED BY:

Diane R. Fox, Ph.D.
Nancy Johnson Nagel, Ph.D.
Kaia Gallagher, Ph.D.
Ashley Brock-Baca, Ph.D.

SUBMITTED TO:

Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Behavioral Health
The Masai, an accomplished and fabled tribe of Africa have a traditional greeting inquiring about the health and welfare of their children. The traditional greeting that passed between Masai warriors “Kasserian ingera”, means “And how are the children?”

It is still the traditional greeting among the Masai, acknowledging the high value that this society places on their children’s well-being. We in Colorado also value our children. This report which looks across systems is addressing the question, “How are Colorado’s children?”

This evaluation represents the first attempt to comprehensively document service utilization across child serving systems. Data was obtained from multiple data systems which required effort from many data staff. This comprehensive system analysis provides information regarding the factors that impact youth outcomes to possibly lead to more effective intervention and coordination of services between systems.

We hope that this report will be helpful in moving Colorado forward to a system of care that meets the needs of children with behavioral health concerns and their families. We are committed to working between our Offices and throughout our Department and state government to fully implement services and supports that are innovative, coordinated and effective. While there are many ways to measure the success of a system of care, the question that really matters is “How are Colorado’s Children?”

Sincerely,

Lisa M. Clements, PhD
Director, Office of Behavioral Health

Jodie Krow, MA, LPC
Director, Office of Children, Youth and Families
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The data for this evaluation was obtained through the generous cooperation of many state agencies without whose willingness to share client level data this project would not have been possible. Data collection and analyses was conducted by The Center for Research Strategies and Above the Data.

Many thanks to the following agencies who contributed data:

- The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing
- The Department of Human Services
  - Division of Child Welfare
  - Division of Youth Corrections
  - Mental Health Institutions
  - Office of Behavioral Health

Funding for this Report was made possible by a Cooperative Agreement 5U79M061241-02 from SAMHSA. The views expressed in written conference materials or publications and by speakers and moderators do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services; nor does mention of trade names, common practices, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .............................................................................................................................................. III

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEED IN THE YOUTH POPULATION: PREVALENCE AND IMPLICATIONS .............................. 1

INTENSIVE SERVICE UTILIZATION ........................................................................................................................... 4
  - Who Pays for High Cost Intensive Services? ................................................................................................................... 4
  - How Many Children are Receiving Intensive Services? .................................................................................................... 5
  - How Are Costs Distributed Among Individuals? ........................................................................................................... 6

CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN RECEIVING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES WITH AN INDICATION OF CHILD WELFARE INVOLVEMENT ........................................................................................................ 9
  - What is the Clinical and Demographic Presentation of the Children in the System Bearing the Largest Proportion of Intensive Services? ................................................................................................................. 9

HIGHEST CHILD WELFARE UTILIZERS AND SYSTEM OVERLAP ............................................................................. 13
  - In What Other Systems Do Children with Extensive Child Welfare Services Participate? .................................................. 13
  - What are the Clinical Implications of Multiple System Involvement? ................................................................................ 14
  - What are the Costs of Multiple System Involvement? ..................................................................................................... 14
  - From Which Agency Do Children First Receive Public Services? .................................................................................... 15
  - Does it Matter Which is the System of First Involvement? ............................................................................................... 17
  - What is the demographic and clinical presentation of children whose first service system differs? .................................. 18

DYC INVOLVEMENT ...................................................................................................................................................... 23
  - What is the clinical and demographic presentation of the children who become involved with DYC? .................... 23
  - What Factors Predict DYC Involvement for Child Welfare High Utilizers? ................................................................. 26
  - What Factors Predict DYC Involvement for a Mental Health Population? ................................................................. 28

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS .................................................................................................................................... 29

APPENDICES ................................................................................................................................................................. 31
LIST OF FIGURES AND TABLES

TABLE 1. FY2010-11 HIGH INTENSITY SERVICES ..........................................................5
FIGURE 1. AGENCY OVERLAP OF HIGH INTENSITY SERVICES .....................................5
FIGURE 2. FISCAL YEAR HIGH INTENSITY SERVICES: PERCENT OF OVERALL YOUTH SERVED AND EXPENDITURES BY AGENCY .........................................................................................................................6
FIGURE 3. MEDICAID SPENDING ...................................................................................7
FIGURE 4. YOUTH WITH CLINICALLY ELEVATED ADMISSION CCAR SCORES BY CHILD WELFARE STATUS ..........................................................10
FIGURE 5. YOUTH WITH CLINICALLY ELEVATED DISCHARGE CCAR SCORES BY CHILD WELFARE STATUS .........................11
FIGURE 6. CHILD WELFARE HIGH UTILIZERS SYSTEM OVERLAP ................................14
TABLE 2. SYSTEM OVERLAP .......................................................................................15
FIGURE 7. MEAN CW COST IN FY11-12 BY NUMBER OF SYSTEMS .............................................15
FIGURE 8. SYSTEM ORDER PROGRESSION OF 1,881 HIGH EXPENDITURE YOUTH ..........................................................16
FIGURE 9. SYSTEM ORDER PROGRESSION INTO THE DIVISION OF YOUTH CORRECTIONS ..............17
FIGURE 10. NUMBER OF SYSTEMS BY SERVICE ORDER FOR CHILD WELFARE HIGH UTILIZERS ........................................18
FIGURE 11. RACE/ETHNICITY BY SYSTEM ORDER .......................................................19
FIGURE 12. AGE AT ADMISSION BY SYSTEM ORDER ...............................................19
FIGURE 13. CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM AREA BY SYSTEM ORDER ..........................20
FIGURE 14. MEAN ONE-YEAR SERVICE COST TO CHILD WELFARE BY SYSTEM ORDER ..........................................................21
FIGURE 15. GENDER* BY DYC INVOLVEMENT .........................................................23
FIGURE 16. AGE AT FIRST SERVICE BY DYC INVOLVEMENT ........................................24
FIGURE 17. CW PROGRAM AREA* BY DYC INVOLVEMENT .........................................24
TABLE 3. CCAR DOMAINS WITH SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT RATES OF CLINICAL ELEVATION FOR YOUTH WITH (VS. WITHOUT) DYC INVOLVEMENT ........................................26
TABLE 4. FACTORS FOR LOGISTIC REGRESSION: PREDICTING DYC INVOLVEMENT ..........................................................27
FIGURE 18. RISK FACTORS FOR DYC INVOLVEMENT ..............................................28
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Approximately 13% of youth ages 8 to 15 experience severe mental disorders in a given year; a rate that increases to 20% for youth ages 13 to 18. Rates increase to over 50% when mild and moderate mental disorders are also included\(^1\).

In Colorado and across the nation, uncoordinated care is consistently cited by consumers, families, practitioners and other stakeholders as being a primary barrier to quality and cost effective care\(^2\). In response to this challenge, the Colorado Department of Health and Human Services (CDHS) Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) of the applied for, and was awarded, a federal grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to develop and implement a comprehensive strategic plan to expand the system of care for Colorado children and adolescents with serious emotional disturbances (SED) and their families called COACT Colorado.

The COACT project also sponsored an evaluation to examine the service delivery that existed prior to the implementation phase of the system of care. The goal of this evaluation was to document high intensity service utilization and cost, system overlap, and outcomes for high utilizers of public services. The four phases of the evaluation were comprised of:

- Compiling cost and utilization statistics of high intensity services (inpatient and residential treatment)
- Examining clinical and demographic characteristics of individuals from the highest cost system
- Analyzing the system involvement and service trajectory of the highest cost individuals in the system (Child Welfare) the provides the largest proportion of high intensity services
- Evaluating the clinical and system outcomes of children with high utilization of Child Welfare Services

This evaluation represents the first attempt to comprehensively document service utilization across child serving systems. Data was obtained from multiple data systems that do not include a universal identifier for individuals across systems. Multiple state agencies participated in this project by providing client level information critical for the analyses. This comprehensive system analyses provides information regarding the factors that impact youth outcomes to possibly lead to more effective intervention and coordination of services between systems.

Inpatient and residential treatment services are the most intensive and costly forms of behavioral health service. Findings across multiple studies indicate that these services should be reserved for children with the most severe needs and use of such restrictive settings should be limited to the briefest period of time possible before transitioning children back to community based therapy settings\(^3\),\(^4\). In Colorado, multiple child serving agencies pay for these intensive services, they include:

- Behavioral Health Organizations (BHOs) for Medicaid eligible children
- Child Welfare (CW)

---


\(^4\) Mental Health America http://www.mentalhealthamerica.net/patient-care. Accessed online August 26, 2014
• The Division of Youth Corrections (DYC)
• The Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) through The Child Mental Health Treatment Act (CMHTA) for non-Medicaid eligible children
• Colorado Mental Health Institutes at Ft. Logan and Pueblo

Data from all of these systems were compiled to determine that the largest proportion of intensive service cost was paid by the Child Welfare System. Child Welfare Residential Treatment expenditures were $51,719,376, in FY10-11, which accounted for 59% of $95,283,149, total of all child-serving agencies. Cost per client data was available for those served through the BHO Medicaid system and it was determined the Medicaid cost per client was more than five times greater ($41,889 per client) for the top 10% in spending than for the remaining 90% ($7,695 per client).

Due to the large proportion of intensive service cost being borne by the Child Welfare system an analyses of the clinical and demographic characteristics of children served by public mental health and who had an indicator that they were also involved with the Child Welfare system was conducted.

No differences were found between the children with an indicator of Child Welfare involvement and those without a Child Welfare indicator in a comparison of demographic characteristics; gender and race/ethnicity, and the distributions of mental health diagnoses.

While the two groups were similar demographically, the clinical presentation of children with an indication of Child Welfare system involvement was quite different, and more severe than for those children enrolled in public mental health services who did not have an indication of Child Welfare involvement.

The facts that Child Welfare pays the largest proportion of intensive services and children with an indicator of Child Welfare involvement have a more severe clinical presentation, led to an analyses of the cross system overlap in service utilization for the highest cost children in the Child Welfare system. It was hypothesized that the children who comprise the top 20% of expenditures are likely to have some of the most severe behavioral health challenges and thus may be receiving services from other agencies at some point in their lives. To test this hypothesis, the top 20% of Child Welfare Service Utilizers in FY2011-12 (N=1,881) were identified. All of these children had a single fiscal year expenditure that exceeded $21,000 to the Child Welfare system alone. Nearly all of the 1,881 Child Welfare High Utilizers (92%) had mental health services, nearly half (46%) had DYC involvement, and 20% received Substance Use Disorder treatment services.

Another important aspect to understanding cross system involvement is the order in which children received services from different systems. Almost half of the children receive their first services from the Child Welfare system, while the other half receive their first services from the public Mental Health system. Only a very small proportion of children begin their service trajectories in DYC.

In the target FY10-11 adolescents were served at CMHIFL but that unit has since closed.
When comparing groups of children who entered either MH or CW first, gender did not differ. There were slight but statistically significant differences in racial and ethnic distributions such that more Hispanic and African American youth began services in Child Welfare while White youth were more likely to begin services in Mental Health. Examination of the admission ages to services show age at first service being the same for both CW-MH and MH-CW at around 8.5 years. Admission age into subsequent systems did differ, with age at admission to Child Welfare as the second system at 12.1 years and age at admission to Mental Health as the second system at 10.3 years.

The Child Welfare High Utilizers who enter public services through mental health are more likely to become involved with DYC, and have contact with a greater number of systems than children entering through the Child Welfare system.

Research has documented a significant overlap of the Child Welfare and DYC systems. Further evaluation of factors related to this overlap in the sample of Child Welfare high utilizers provides a unique opportunity to look for differences in the demographic and clinical factors for youth who did and did not have DYC involvement in Colorado.

Youth in DYC are older when they first enter public services, are more likely to be male, and do not differ in race/ethnicity from those who do not become involved in DYC.

At admission to mental health services, those who become involved with DYC are clinically similar to youth without DYC involvement; however, at discharge from MH services DYC-involved youth present a much more severe clinical picture.

In a separate evaluation of youth aged 14-25 in the mental health system, predictive analyses related system utilization, demographic, and clinical factors to DYC involvement. A striking 25% of youth served in MH have DYC involvement, a risk that escalates to 80% with additional system and individual risk factors.

Public system expenditures and clients served demonstrate that multiple systems spend a great deal of funds on intensive high cost services. A relatively small number of children (4,020) received over $95 million in just residential or inpatient services (exclusive of less intensive services these children were likely to have received) in FY10-11.

The complexity of the typical youth who is requiring high levels of public resources is reflected in multiple system usage, greater clinical severity for youth in multiple systems, and poorer outcomes. Disproportionate resources are being expended for a group of high needs youth. These needs can be better understood and addressed with a coordinated, collaborative approach that involves all agencies in the care for these youth and families that results in less system involvement and improved mental health. This has been a consistent finding across multiple studies of Colorado's children with behavioral health challenges.
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEED IN THE YOUTH POPULATION: PREVALENCE AND IMPLICATIONS

Approximately 13% of youth ages 8 to 15 experience severe mental disorders in a given year; a rate that increases to 20% for youth ages 13 to 18. Rates increase to over 50% when mild and moderate mental disorders are also included\(^6\). Applying these statistics to Colorado’s youth population indicates that between 160,000 and 250,000 of Colorado’s youth experience severe mental health issues during a given year\(^7\). It is estimated that only about half of those in need in the US access needed mental health treatment\(^8\), and suicide is the third leading cause of death for ages 15 to 24 years. More than 90 percent of persons with suicidal deaths have histories of one or more mental disorders\(^9\).

Not surprisingly, the prevalence of mental health and other behavioral health issues is even higher in the child welfare population. A nationwide survey funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) found that almost half (47.9%) of youth in the foster care system had clinically significant emotional or behavioral problems, and a literature review by the Casey Family Programs reported rates of 50 to 75% for youth entering the foster care system with treatment-level behavioral/social needs\(^10\). A recent study of foster care youth in Colorado revealed four-year high school graduation rates of less than 33%, with one in three foster care youth identified as having a disability and eligible for special education.

Further complicating the lives of these youth is engagement with other systems, such as substance use disorder treatment and corrections. Research shows that youth in the child welfare system are more likely to cross over into the juvenile justice system, and experience increased mental health and substance use issues. More than 95% of newly committed youth, to the Colorado Division of Youth Corrections, required substance abuse and/or mental health treatment, with half of the newly committed youth in FY 2012–13 requiring treatment for both.

The Colorado Department of Education currently uses the definition for Serious Emotional Disability (formerly Significant Identifiable Emotional Disturbance) to determine eligibility criteria in accordance with the Administration of the Exceptional Children’s Educational Act 1 CCR 301-8. While they do not have Colorado-specific statistics (in part, because of the evolving disability definition) for the prevalence of SED within Colorado’s schools, they do cite the NIH 2009 finding that one in five youth have a diagnosable mental disorder\(^11\).

---


\(^11\) www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/ecea_sedppt
In Colorado and across the nation, uncoordinated care is consistently cited by consumers, families, practitioners and other stakeholders as being a primary barrier to quality and cost effective care\(^\text{12}\). In response to this challenge, the Colorado Department of Health and Human Services (CDHS) Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) of the applied for, and was awarded, a federal grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to develop and implement a comprehensive strategic plan to expand the system of care for Colorado children and adolescents with serious emotional disturbances (SED) and their families. The COACT project builds on previous SAMHSA-funded system of care projects in Colorado (Cornerstone and BLOOM), as well as ongoing efforts such as the Collaborative Management Program (H.B. 04-1451) and the S.B. 94 program managed by the divisions of Child Welfare and Youth Corrections, respectively, and the other local collaborative initiatives in the state. There are 16 Communities of Excellence participating in the effort across the state to coordinate services to children with SED.

The COACT project also sponsored an evaluation to examine the service delivery that existed prior to the implementation phase of the system of care. The goal of this evaluation was to document high intensity service utilization and cost, system overlap, and outcomes for high utilizers of public services. The first phase of the evaluation examined the utilization and cost of high intensity services (inpatient psychiatric hospitalization and residential treatment) because it was assumed that children accessing these services are those with the highest and most complex behavioral health needs and furthermore that these children would most benefit from coordinated services. When it was recognized that children involved with the Child Welfare system accounted for the greatest amount of intensive services an analysis of the clinical picture of children receiving public mental health services with an indication of Child Welfare involvement was initiated. The next phase of the evaluation focused on the highest utilizers of Child Welfare services because these children represent the highest utilizers of services within the system that expends the greatest amount of resources on intensive services. The evaluation sought to document from which other systems these Child Welfare children received services and the order in which these services were accessed. The final phase of the evaluation addressed the non-optimal outcome of involvement in the Division of Youth Corrections (DYC). This portion of the analyses focused on the factors related to Child Welfare high utilizers and more generally adolescents receiving public mental health services becoming involved in DYC.

This evaluation represents the first attempt to comprehensively document service utilization across child serving systems. Data was obtained from multiple data systems that do not include a universal identifier for individuals across systems. Multiple state agencies participated in this project by providing client level information critical for the analyses. This comprehensive system analyses provides information regarding the factors that impact youth outcomes to possibly lead to more effective intervention and coordination of services between systems.

---

INTENSIVE SERVICE UTILIZATION

- Who Pays for High Cost Intensive Services?
- How Many Children are Receiving Intensive Services?
- How Are Costs Distributed Among Individuals?
- What is the Clinical and Demographic Presentation of the Children in the System Bearing the Largest Proportion of Intensive Services?

POPULATION IN FOCUS: CHILDREN WHO RECEIVED PUBLICALLY FUNDED INPATIENT AND RESIDENTIAL SERVICES DURING FY10-11 (N=4,020)
INTENSIVE SERVICE UTILIZATION

Inpatient and residential treatment services are the most intensive and costly forms of behavioral health service. Findings across multiple studies indicate that these services should be reserved for children with the most severe needs and use of such restrictive settings should be limited to the briefest period of time possible before transitioning children back to community based therapy settings\(^\text{13,14}\). In Colorado, multiple child serving agencies pay for these intensive services. The first task of this evaluation was to compile the costs across these agencies to determine a state-wide total expenditure for inpatient and residential treatment services. A more detailed description of these costs can be found in Appendix A.

Who Pays for High Cost Intensive Services?

There are several child serving agencies that pay for inpatient and residential services. For those children who are Medicaid eligible, the Behavioral Health Organization (BHO) tasked with their care, provides funding for residential treatment and inpatient hospitalization when necessary. For children involved in either the Child Welfare system or the Youth Corrections system those agencies pay the majority of the residential treatment cost with Medicaid contributing a portion of the cost related directly to mental health services. Another source of funding for residential treatment is the Child Mental Health Treatment Act (CHMTA). This is a legislative initiative to help fund residential treatment for children with severe behavioral health needs but who are not Medicaid eligible. During the study year (FY10-11), the two mental health institutes (Pueblo and Ft. Logan) provided funding for inpatient hospitalization and residential treatment\(^\text{15}\) for children and adolescents through state general fund appropriations with a small portion of the costs paid for by the courts for court ordered evaluations and by school districts for per pupil funding.

Table 1 represents the number of youth served in residential treatment and inpatient hospitalization during FY2010-11 by each child serving agency and the associated costs. The large proportion of intensive service cost was paid by the Child Welfare system, whose residential treatment expenditures ($51,719,376) accounted for 59% of the fiscal year cross-system total.

\(^\text{14}\) Mental Health America http://www.mentalhealthamerica.net/patient-care. Accessed online August 26, 2014
\(^\text{15}\) Mental Health Institutes no longer provide residential treatment.
Table 1. FY2010-11 High Intensity Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Agency</th>
<th>Number of Children</th>
<th>Agency Expenditure</th>
<th>Additional Medicaid Contribution</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child Welfare</td>
<td>2,063</td>
<td>$51,719,376</td>
<td>$5,922,691</td>
<td>$57,642,068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicaid – BHO, Inpatient and Residential Treatment</td>
<td>1,749</td>
<td>$17,339,065</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$17,339,065</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DYC</td>
<td>577</td>
<td>$12,960,211</td>
<td>$1,495,839</td>
<td>$14,456,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado Mental Health Institutes (Ft. Logan and Pueblo)</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>$5,041,972</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$5,041,972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Behavioral Health (non-Medicaid)</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>$656,148</td>
<td>$147,845.69</td>
<td>$803,993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>4,552</td>
<td>$87,716,773</td>
<td>$7,566,376</td>
<td>$95,283,149</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How Many Children are Receiving Intensive Services?
Each system was asked to provide client level data to determine client overlap. These data sets were matched and it was determined that there were 4,020 unique individuals served across all systems. Of these unduplicated youth, 488 (12.1%) had intensive behavioral health services paid for by more than one child serving agency in a single fiscal year.

Figure 1. Agency Overlap of High Intensity Services
While the relative number of children who had services paid for by more than one system is low, it is important to remember that the analyses were constrained to a single fiscal year and to only residential treatment and inpatient services. Children could have been receiving other less intensive services from these agencies that are not depicted here.

Table 1 above described the number of children served and the total cost to each agency, but to better understand the distribution of expenditures and clients served Figure 2 depicts the relative proportion of youth served and agency expenditures on intensive behavioral health services.

**Figure 2. Fiscal Year High Intensity Services: Percent of Overall Youth Served and Expenditures by Agency**

![Bar chart showing the distribution of youth and spending across different agencies]

Figure 2 demonstrates that Child Welfare serves the largest proportion of youth (45.3%) and has the highest proportion of expenditures (59.0%) of all the child serving agencies in the provision of intensive behavioral health services.

**How Are Costs Distributed Among Individuals?**

It is clear that the number of youth served and relative costs are not distributed equally across agencies. Further analyses revealed that this is also the case for the cost of services at the individual level. Cost information for FY2010-11 was available at a client level for both inpatient and residential treatment paid for by Medicaid. Clients were organized into two groups comprised of the top 10% and the bottom 90% of expenditures. The percent of total spending and cost per client were calculated by group and are depicted in Figure 3.

The Medicaid cost per client was more than five times greater ($41,889 per client) for the top 10% in spending than for the remaining 90% ($7,695 per client).
Ten percent of the clients (n=156) accounted for nearly 40% of the Medicaid spending for a total of $6,536,363, whereas the remaining 90% of clients (n=1,404) accounted for 60% of the Medicaid spending, for a total of $10,803,767.
CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN RECEIVING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES WITH AN INDICATION OF CHILD WELFARE INVOLVEMENT

► What is the Clinical and Demographic Presentation of the Children in the System Bearing the Largest Proportion of Intensive Services?

POPULATION IN FOCUS: CHILDREN RECEIVING PUBLIC MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN FY 2010-11 (N=29,601)
CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN RECEIVING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES WITH AN INDICATION OF CHILD WELFARE INVOLVEMENT

What is the Clinical and Demographic Presentation of the Children in the System Bearing the Largest Proportion of Intensive Services?

The data above highlight both system and individual differences in the distribution of intensive behavioral health treatment resources, suggesting a need for further exploration of the clinical and demographic factors of those involved in the Child Welfare system. It was hypothesized that there may be some individual factors that differ between the children involved in Child Welfare and other children in the public mental health system leading to the greater proportion of intensive services.

An additional analysis was initiated to test this hypothesis. In order to obtain clinical profiles, data from the public mental health system was used. All children ages 0-18 who had active treatment episodes in Fiscal Year 2010-11 were included in the analysis. There were a total of 29,601 children who received mental health services. They were divided into two groups; one in which the children’s records contained an indicator of Child Welfare system involvement and one in which their records did not have any indicators of Child Welfare system involvement. The 12,250 children with an indicator of Child Welfare involvement were compared to the 17,351 without a Child Welfare involvement indicator on demographic and clinical factors. (See Appendix B for details on sample selection and creation).

No differences were found between the children with an indicator of Child Welfare involvement and those without a Child Welfare indicator in a comparison of demographic characteristics; gender and race/ethnicity, and the distributions of mental health diagnoses can be seen in Appendix C. The mean age at admission was 11.57 years for those with an indication of Child Welfare involvement, whereas youth with no indication of Child Welfare involvement had a slightly higher mean of 11.74 years.

While the two groups were similar demographically, the clinical presentation of children with an indication of Child Welfare system involvement was quite different, and more severe than for those children enrolled in public mental health services who did not have an indication of Child Welfare involvement.

For the purposes of clinical analyses, the Colorado Client Assessment Record (CCAR) was used. See Appendix D for a copy of the tool and definitions. The CCAR is an assessment completed by providers to rate the current functioning on 25 domains of every individual receiving public mental health services. It is conducted at admission and discharge and each domain is rated on a 1-9 point scale. A score of 9 indicates the greatest severity, and a score that is greater than or equal to 5 indicates symptoms of clinical concern.

Figures 4 and 5 depict the percent of youth with clinically elevated CCAR scores (greater or equal to 5) at admission and discharge for youth served in the public mental health system with and without an indication of Child Welfare
system involvement. At both admission and discharge those children with an indication of Child Welfare involvement have a more severe clinical presentation.

**Figure 4. Youth with Clinically Elevated Admission CCAR Scores by Child Welfare Status**

At admission the children with an indicator of Child Welfare involvement have a more severe clinical presentation on all 25 domains measured by the CCAR. Their scores are significantly higher than youth without Child Welfare Involvement across every domain.
Similarly at discharge more children with an indication of Child Welfare system involvement remain at clinically elevated levels than do the children without Child Welfare involvement. Physical Health and Drug Use are the only two domains where the difference between groups does not reach the level of statistical significance.

**While the two groups were similar demographically, the clinical presentation of youth with an indicator of Child Welfare system involvement was quite different, and more severe than for those children enrolled in public Mental Health Services, who did not have an indication of Child Welfare involvement.**
HIGHEST CHILD WELFARE UTILIZERS AND SYSTEM OVERLAP

- In What Other Systems Do Children with Extensive Child Welfare Services Participate?
- What are the Clinical Implications of Multiple System Involvement?
- What are the Costs of Multiple System Involvement?
- From Which Agency Do Children First Receive Public Services?
- Does it Matter which is the System of First Involvement?
- What is the clinical and demographic presentation of the children whose first service system differs?

POPULATION IN FOCUS: YOUTH IN THE TOP 20% OF CHILD WELFARE SERVICE EXPENDITURE DURING FISCAL YEAR 2011-12 (N=1,881)
HIGHEST CHILD WELFARE UTILIZERS AND SYSTEM OVERLAP

The data in the preceding section indicated that not only does the Child Welfare system pay the largest proportion of the cost of intensive behavioral health services, but also that those children with an indicator of Child Welfare involvement have a more severe clinical presentation at both admission and discharge to mental health services than do other children in the public mental health system. These two factors led to an analyses of the cross system overlap in service utilization for the highest cost children in the system (Child Welfare) with the highest expenditures for intensive services. It was hypothesized that the children who comprise the top 20% of expenditures are likely to have some of the most severe behavioral health challenges and thus may be receiving services from other agencies at some point in their lives. To test this hypothesis, the top 20% of Child Welfare Service Utilizers in FY2011-12 (N=1,881) were identified. All of these children had a single fiscal year expenditure that exceeded $21,000 to the Child Welfare system alone.

In What Other Systems Do Children with Extensive Child Welfare Services Participate?

The children with extensive services from Child Welfare were matched to client level data sets of other child serving publically funded state systems spanning FY06-07 to FY12-13 to assess involvement in: the Division of Youth Corrections (DYC), the Public Mental Health (MH) system, and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) treatment system. See Appendix E for details of analysis.

There is a striking amount of cross system utilization. Only 119 children (6.3%) were served by the Child Welfare system exclusively. Of those 119, 84 (71.4%) were outside the age range served by DYC and therefore could not have overlapped with that system. Nearly all of the 1,881 children (92%) also received public mental health services during the seven-year study period. This finding indicates that it is quite likely that these children have extensive mental health challenges. Another important finding is that nearly half of these children (46%) have DYC involvement.
The involvement in more than one service system seems to indicate a child has a complex set of needs, therefore it seems likely that these needs could be observed in either the clinical presentation of children involved in multiple systems or in the costs they incur for services.

What are the Clinical Implications of Multiple System Involvement?
Examination of CCAR scores at admission to mental health treatment by number of systems revealed no pattern of increasing severity with an increased number of systems accessed. However, discharge CCAR scores were more severe for those involved in three and four systems. See Appendix F for depiction of CCAR scores.

What are the Costs of Multiple System Involvement?
Cost data from Child Welfare high utilizers for FY11-12 was used to explore whether multiple system involvement translated to higher costs. Figure 7 below depicts the annual cost exclusively to the Child Welfare system when youth are involved in multiple systems. This cost is highest for youth involved in three public systems. The reason for lower child welfare costs for youth in four systems is unclear. Costs from all systems would need to be aggregated to get the comprehensive cost picture. The number of systems and Child Welfare cost may be related to different reasons for
youth involvement in Child Welfare. However, almost half of those involved in Child Welfare only (One system) were designated as Youth in Need of Protection. It is important to note that 68% of children who were only involved in the Child Welfare system were under the age of 10 years so may not have the complexity of needs of older children. Those children involved in two systems are most likely to be receiving Specialized Services (such as subsidized adoption and independent living) from Child Welfare while those in three or four systems are most likely to be designated Youth in Conflict by Child Welfare system.

**Figure 7. Mean CW Cost in FY11-12 by Number of Systems**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Population</th>
<th>Number of Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One System Only</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Welfare (CW)</td>
<td>788</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two Systems Only</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CW-Mental Health (MH)</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CW-Division of Youth Corrections (DYC)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CW-Substance Use Disorder (SUD)</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Systems Only</td>
<td>579</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CW-MH-DYC</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CW-MH-SUD</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CW-DYC-SUD</td>
<td>266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Systems</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CW-MH-DYC-SUD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The system overlap analyses indicate that there is a great deal of cross system utilization, however, it does not explain when in the child’s life they accessed services from each agency.

**From Which Agency Do Children First Receive Public Services?**

In addition to analyzing the number of systems involved with each of Child Welfare’s highest utilizers, the evaluation team analyzed the order in which youth progressed through these publicly funded systems. Datasets included start dates and end dates (where appropriate) for each system. First date of contact by each system was identified. These dates were ordered chronologically to identify service order for each child. Out of the 1,881 clients, only one percent (19) had SUD treatment as their first service, and furthermore, pathways to SUD treatment services are dispersed throughout service trajectories. Since there was no discernable pattern of SUD services and to reduce complexity,
progression through the other three systems (CW, MH, and DYC) is depicted. Ninety-three percent (1,756) of clients had services in more than one system and almost half (48%) had involvement in all three systems.

Figure 8. System Order Progression of 1,881 High Expenditure Youth

As illustrated in Figure 8 above, almost half of the children receive their first services from the Child Welfare system, while the other half receive their first services from the public Mental Health system. Only a very small proportion of children begin their service trajectories in DYC.

Because of this first system distribution, the following analyses are focused on the largest groups of children: those who begin in the Mental Health and Child Welfare systems.
Does it Matter Which is the System of First Involvement?

As noted previously, the original analysis sample was selected by identifying the highest cost children in the Child Welfare System during FY11-12. Due to these sample selection constraints, all children in the sample were by definition involved with Child Welfare at some point in their service trajectory. A notable pattern emerges with regard to DYC involvement; progression to DYC is far more likely when the first service system is Mental Health. Of those whose first public system involvement was with Child Welfare, about one in three progress into DYC, and of those whose first system of involvement is the Mental Health system, over one in two progress into DYC. Figure 9 (below) depicts this significant movement into the DYC system.

Figure 9. System Order Progression into the Division of Youth Corrections

A depiction of total number of systems (Figure 10 below) shows that starting in the Mental Health system was also associated with higher rates of involvement in three and four total publicly funded systems.
As system order was associated with different subsequent system trajectories, the question arose of whether client differences, systems differences, or some combination might account for the different system outcomes observed. The data available can address demographic and clinical differences between system order groups, but cannot account for a variety of unmeasured individual and system factors.

What is the demographic and clinical presentation of children whose first service system differs?
There were no gender differences between groups with both groups comprised of about 60% males (see Appendix G). There were slight but statistically significant differences in racial and ethnic distributions such that more Hispanic and African American youth began in Child Welfare services while White youth were more likely to begin services in Mental Health.
Examination of the admission ages to services show age at first service being the same for both CW-MH and MH-CW at around 8.5 years. Admission age into subsequent systems did differ, with age at admission to Child Welfare as the second system at 12.1 years and age at admission to Mental Health as the second system at 10.3 years. Age at admission to DYC was the same for both groups at a little more than 14.5 years.

Children receiving services through Child Welfare are classified into several Program Areas. It is important to note that analyses were conducted on the most recent program area recorded for youth as this was the only program area available through the child welfare system. Further, it is likely that the children classified into the Specialized Services Program Area may have entered the child welfare system in another Program Area. Specialized Services are for children and families in need of adoption assistance, relative guardianship assistance, or Medicaid only services, or to
children for whom the goal is no longer reunification. There were significant differences between the distributions of Child Welfare Program Areas of youth who began in the Mental Health versus Child Welfare system. A larger proportion of youth who began in the Child Welfare system were in the Specialized Services Program Area while a larger proportion of youth who began in Mental Health were in Child Welfare Program Area for Youth in Need of Protection and Youth in Conflict.

Figure 13. Child Welfare Program Area by System Order

There were also statistically significant differences in the costs incurred by youth who began receiving services in different systems. Youth who began in the Mental Health system had an average one year cost to Child Welfare that was $5,000.00 greater than youth who began in the Child Welfare system. It is not clear whether this is attributable to the initial system, the different ages at which Child Welfare services started, the different Program Areas utilized, or some unmeasured differences in the client populations.
Concordant with the system admission ages, youth who began in the Mental Health system entered Child Welfare over three years later, on average (44.3 months). Youth who began in the Child Welfare system accessed Mental Health services on average 18.7 months later.

As noted above, CCAR scores of five or greater indicate symptoms of clinical significance. A between groups comparison shows that youth whose system order began in Child Welfare and in Mental Health had similar clinical elevations at admission; there were notably high rates (almost 80% of each group) of elevated Overall Symptom Severity scores. A statistically significantly larger proportion of youth who began in the Mental Health system versus Child Welfare had clinically significant Mania symptoms, which suggest elevated mood and excessive activity levels.

Discharge CCAR scores show that the proportion of youth in both groups with clinically significant CCAR scores is generally lower at discharge than at admission, i.e., there is improvement. By discharge, the proportion of youth who began in the Mental Health system who still have clinically elevated Overall Symptom Severity is higher than those who began in the Child Welfare System. The Mental Health first group was significantly more severe on 12 domains with particularly severity in Overall Level of Functioning, Recovery, Need for Supervision, Role Performance, Hope, and Interpersonal Relationships. See Appendix H.

In summary, there are no sweeping differences demographically or at admission between the populations of youth who access services in different orders; they differ slightly by race/ethnicity but do not look different clinically at admission to Mental Health. There are some differences at discharge, whether it be due to differential treatment response or system factors. The striking finding in these analyses is that the risk of DYC involvement is significantly associated with the system of first involvement. As such, further analyses to explore factors related to DYC involvement were conducted.
DYC INVOLVEMENT

- What is the clinical and demographic presentation of the children who become involved with DYC?
- What Factors Predict DYC Involvement for Child Welfare High Utilizers?

POPULATION IN FOCUS: CHILD WELFARE HIGH UTILIZERS* OLD ENOUGH FOR DYC INVOLVEMENT (N=1,665)

*Roy Old Enough for Potential DYC Involvement = Youth at least 11 years old by study end; FY 2012-13. (N=1,665 of the 1,881)

RISK FACTORS FOR DYC INVOLVEMENT

- What Factors Predict DYC Involvement for a Mental Health Population?

POPULATION IN FOCUS: ALL TRANSITION AGE YOUTH (AGE 14-17 YEARS) IN THE PUBLIC MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM (N=9,556)
DYC INVOLVEMENT

Research has documented a significant overlap of the Child Welfare and DYC systems. Further evaluation of factors related to this overlap in the sample of Child Welfare high utilizers provides a unique opportunity to look for differences in the demographic and clinical factors for youth who did and did not have DYC involvement in Colorado.

What is the clinical and demographic presentation of the children who become involved with DYC?
The original sample of 1,881 youth of Child Welfare high utilizers was constrained to youth who were age 11 years by the time of study end (FY12-13), and therefore eligible for DYC services. The resulting sample size was 1,665.

**Figure 15. Gender* by DYC Involvement**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Not in DYC</th>
<th>In DYC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>57.2%</td>
<td>71.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>42.8%</td>
<td>29.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Statistically significant at p< .05

There are significant differences in DYC involvement by gender, but no difference in race/ethnicity (see Appendix I). There were also differences in age at first service, such that youth with DYC involvement were older when they first became involved in public service systems than youth with no DYC involvement.
Comparison of Child Welfare Program Areas reveals differences between youth with DYC involvement versus those with no DYC involvement. Youth in Conflict is the program that has, by far, the largest proportion of youth with DYC involvement, while Specialized Services is most common for youth with no DYC.

There was no difference between average one-year Child Welfare costs, which were approximately $41,000 per youth for each group. There was also no difference in the average time between first service system and second at approximately 33 months.

**Youth in DYC are older when they first enter public services, are more likely to be male, and do not differ in race/ethnicity from those who do not become involved in DYC.**
The clinical comparison between youth who are and are not involved in DYC reveals few, but interesting clinical differences. At admission, youth with DYC involvement do have a significantly higher proportion of legal problems and drug use, but have a significantly lower proportion of youth with clinically elevated scores in Overall Symptom Severity, Anxiety and Cognition. Admission scores overall show that while DYC youth do have a considerable number of mental health issues, they are consistently less severe than in the population of youth involved in Mental Health but not DYC.

At discharge, however, the clinical severity of the youth involved in DYC exceeds that of youth not involved in DYC in ten domains. Those with DYC involvement displayed greater elevation at discharge in Legal Problems, Alcohol Use, Drug Use, Socialization and Aggression, as well as in the protective factors of Recovery, Hope, Empowerment, and Activity Involvement. There was one domain in which youth without DYC involvement were more severe than those with DYC involvement. Youth without DYC involvement showed significantly higher levels of Cognition problems at discharge.

The following table depicts the two admission, and ten discharge domains in which the clinical severity of youth with DYC involvement significantly exceeds the clinical severity of youth without DYC involvement. See Appendix J for all CCAR Admission and Discharge domain scores.
Table 3. CCAR Domains with Significantly Different rates of Clinical Elevation For Youth with (vs. without) DYC Involvement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain Name</th>
<th>Significantly Less Severe for DYC-Involved Youth at*:</th>
<th>CCAR Domain Description</th>
<th>Significantly More Severe for DYC-Involved Youth at*:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Admission</td>
<td>Discharge</td>
<td>Overall Symptom Severity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anxiety</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cognition</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Domain Name</td>
<td>Significantly More Severe for DYC-Involved Youth at*:</td>
<td>CCAR Domain Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Admission</td>
<td>Discharge</td>
<td>Legal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Need for Supervision</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>Need for Supervision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggression</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol Use</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>Alcohol Use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug Use</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Drug Use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socialization</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>Socialization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empowerment</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>Empowerment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity Involvement</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>Activity Involvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hope</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recovery</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Recovery</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Indicates higher rates of clinically concerning scores at Admission To and Discharge From public Mental Health Services. Differences are statistically significant at $p < .05$.

**What Factors Predict DYC Involvement for Child Welfare High Utilizers?**

As DYC involvement represents a negative life outcome for youth and an expensive service escalation, an analysis was conducted to predict DYC involvement using demographic and clinical data. Youth with DYC involvement between FY06-07 to FY12-13 were included. The following set of factors significantly predicted DYC involvement. Details of the Logistic Analyses are in Appendix K.
Table 4. Factors for Logistic Regression: Predicting DYC Involvement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Demographics</th>
<th>Services</th>
<th>CCAR Admission Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DYC Involvement</td>
<td>Gender, Ethnicity</td>
<td>CW/MH Order</td>
<td>Legal Problems, Self-Care, Cognition, Empowerment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In summary, the combination of being male, non-white, entering public service system into Mental Health first, and having elevated CCAR scores in the areas of Legal Problems, Self-Care, Cognition, and Empowerment, predicted DYC involvement.

While these factors are significantly related to the DYC outcome, the model overall does not provide strong predictive power (Nagelkerke R Square of .072). The client information available explains only a small portion of outcome variance, and does not fully explain what factors relate to DYC involvement. The low predictive power may be related to the fact that youth in DYC do not have a markedly more severe clinical picture at admission, making it hard to differentiate them as a group distinct from those with no DYC involvement. Another possibility is that the data are not capturing all elements that impact outcomes for this population. Yet another possibility, is that that the relatively small sample size for this type of modeling may limit predictive power. To address this possibility, another model using a larger population drawn from the public mental health system was constructed.

---

16 See Appendix D for CCAR domain descriptions
What Factors Predict DYC Involvement for a Mental Health Population?
As noted above, to address the potential of sample size limiting predictive power, a second predictive model was constructed using all youth with public Mental Health involvement (N=9,556). The population represented in the following analysis was not limited to Child Welfare high utilizers, as in the previous results. In an evaluation of youth aged 14-25 in the mental health system, predictive analyses related system utilization, demographic, and clinical factors to DYC involvement. A striking 25% of youth served in MH have DYC involvement, a risk that escalates to 80% with additional system and individual risk factors. The Figure 18 illustrates the increasing level of DYC risk for youth with these characteristics.

Figure 18. Risk Factors for DYC Involvement

- Youth Commitment = **20.8 OUT OF 10,000** youth in the **JUVENILE POPULATION**
- DYC Involvement = **1 OUT OF 4** (25%) in the **PUBLIC MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM**
- DYC Involvement = **1 OUT OF 3** (35%) **MALES** in the **PUBLIC MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM**
- DYC Involvement = **1 OUT OF 2** (43%) **Males** with **CHILD WELFARE INVOLVEMENT** in the **PUBLIC MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM**
- DYC Involvement = **3 OUT OF 4** (73.7%) **Males** with **SUD SERVICES** and **CHILD WELFARE INVOLVEMENT** in the **PUBLIC MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM**
- DYC Involvement = **8 OUT OF 10** (82.5%) **Males** with an elevated score in the **SOCIALIZATION DOMAIN** and **SUD SERVICES** and **CHILD WELFARE INVOLVEMENT** in the **PUBLIC MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM**
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Public system expenditures and clients served demonstrate that multiple systems spend a great deal of funds on intensive high cost services. A relatively small number of children (4,020) received over $95 million in just residential or inpatient services (exclusive of less intensive services these children were likely to have received) in FY10-11. Child Welfare funded a little over half of those children and paid $57 million.

Looking further at per client costs, we see a small number of clients utilizing a disproportionate amount of funds. The top 10% of clients account for almost 40% of the spending, with a per client cost of almost $42,000. The lower 90% of clients had a cost of around $7,500. Clearly there is a subpopulation within recipients of residential and inpatient services that require greater resources. It is incumbent upon the public systems to look at the drivers of those costs. The brunt of the costs is borne by Child Welfare, leading to the question of whether children in CW are clinically more severe. Data comparing a Mental Health only population to Mental Health with Child Welfare showed consistently more severe clinical scores in those children with a Child Welfare indicator at admission to and discharge from mental health services. Again, a more complex subpopulation exists that does not respond as well to mental health treatment.

Complex needs are also reflected in multi-system needs of youth. Further investigation into the multiple system usage revealed some intriguing patterns.

Multi-system engagement was evident for almost all youth (94%), with Mental Health occurring in 92% of CW high utilizing youth. Youth were likely to have engaged in first services in Child Welfare and Mental Health at approximately 8.5 years of age. Time to the second system engagement varied however as a function of which system was accessed first, with Mental Health services following Child Welfare on average about 18 months later and Mental Health service engagement following Child Welfare by about 44 months. One year Child Welfare costs were greater for the Mental Health first group. Comparison of the client populations’ mental health severity at admission to services showed little difference, though at discharge Mental Health first clients displayed greater clinical elevation.

Another outcome that was different for the two groups was subsequent involvement in DYC. Overall, almost 42% of Child Welfare high utilizing clients became involved with DYC, though the chances were more likely if Mental Health was the first service (53% vs. 30%). Investigation for demographic and clinical differences that would account for the outcome revealed males and a few admission CCAR domains were statistically related in a logistic regression predicting DYC involvement. The most predictive factors were involvement in other public systems and the order in which children became involved in these systems.

The complexity of the typical youth who is requiring high levels of public resources is reflected in multiple system usage, greater clinical severity for youth in multiple systems, and poorer outcomes. Disproportionate resources are being expended for a group of high needs youth. These needs can be better understood and addressed with a coordinated, collaborative approach that involves all agencies in the care for these youth and families that results in less system
involvement and improved mental health. This has been a consistent finding across multiple studies of Colorado’s children with behavioral health challenges. Recommendations for a coordinated system of care have been espoused by a variety of sources and are summarized in a Meta analyses also sponsored by this project.\(^\text{17}\)

\(^{17}\) Meta analyses conducted by the Center for Research Strategies March 2012 and available for COACT project staff upon request
APPENDIX A DETAILED COSTS AND PAYMENT INFORMATION

Table A1. System of Care Expansion Planning Grant – Cost Exploration Residential Treatment Costs FY 2010-11*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Agencies</th>
<th>Total Costs</th>
<th>Client and Daily Costs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CDHS Division of Child Welfare (DCW)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$8,640,151.27</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Residential Child Care Facility Costs (RCCF) for DCW clients</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$43,079,225.32</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Therapeutic Residential Child Care Facility Costs for DCW clients</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicaid Fee For Service Expenditures for Child Welfare Children</td>
<td>$5,278,547.20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Therapeutic Residential Child Care (TRCCF) Facility Costs for DCW clients</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$644,144.23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Psychiatric Residential Treatment (PRTF) Facility Costs for DCW clients</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDHS Division of Behavioral Health (DBH)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Child Mental Health Treatment Act (CMHTA)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$414,673.31</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DBH – State General Fund Only was used for community based services as well as residential services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$656,148.09</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Residential Treatment for Youth (combined Medicaid, General Fund, and Tobacco funds)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$96,893.99</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Transition services from residential treatment back to the community</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicaid Expenditures for CMHTA Clients</td>
<td>$46,609.02</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TRCCF expenses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$101,236.67</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PRTF expenses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDHS Division of Youth Corrections (DYC)</td>
<td>$12,960,211</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TRCCF for DYC Youth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TRCCF placement costs are $172.46 per day</td>
<td>On average 205.9 DYC youth are in RCCF placements each day of the fiscal Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicaid Expenditures for DYC</td>
<td>$1,495,839</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Residential Treatment for DYC clients</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Colorado’s Trauma-Informed System of Care | Appendices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medicaid Fee For Service</th>
<th>$39,945.46</th>
<th>Therapeutic Residential Child Care Facility Costs for Tribal clients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medicaid BHO Costs</td>
<td>$4,662,957.43</td>
<td>Residential Treatment 589 Clients Served with an average of $7,916.74/client</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$12,584,669.57</td>
<td>Inpatient Hospitalization for individuals under 21 years of age 1179 Clients Served with an average of $10,674.02/client</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health Institutes (Ft. Logan and Pueblo)</td>
<td>$5,041,972.00</td>
<td>Inpatient Hospitalization 132 Clients with an average of $38,196.76/client</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Payment Eligibility and Responsibility
Patient eligibility criteria for Public Residential Treatment Facilities require certification of a diagnosis of a psychiatric disorder from one of the following diagnostic categories:

- 295 Schizophrenic disorders
- 296 Affective psychoses
- 297 Paranoid states
- 298 Other nonorganic psychoses
- 300 Neurotic disorders
- 301 Personality disorders
- 307 Eating Disorders, Tic Disorders and Sleep Disorders
- 308 Acute reaction to stress
- 309 Adjustment reaction
- 311 Depressive disorder, not elsewhere classified
- 312 Disturbance of conduct, not elsewhere classified
- 313 Disturbance of emotions specific to childhood and adolescence
- 314 Hyperkinetic syndrome of childhood
In addition, the patient must be certified to have a DSM Axis 5 Global Assessment of Functioning score of 40 or less.

**DYC has** requested additional funds for youth in residential treatment for the 2011-2012 fiscal year.

**State General Fund dollars** are used to pay the majority of expenses for the CMHI, however, a portion of the costs incurred for hospitalization are paid for through the courts when court ordered evaluations are ordered and by school districts for per pupil educational reimbursement.

**Special thanks to the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing and the Department of Human Services’ Divisions of Youth Corrections, Child Welfare, and Behavioral Health** for their participation and assistance in data gathering. The Colorado Department of Education also provided information regarding services provided to children in their system with behavioral health needs. This information was not included in the above table because costs are incurred at the district level and not tracked by the state.

*Data is for FY2010-11 except where noted.*
Client records were obtained from Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Behavioral Health Colorado Client Assessment Record (CCAR) system. These data capture all clients served through the Colorado public community mental health system. Records of all clients with an open episode of care at any point in FY10-11 were identified and all CCAR records for those clients were included. The sample was then limited to clients under age 18 to reflect the general eligibility limits of Child Welfare. The final analysis included 29,601 youth, of which 17,351 had no indicator of current or past Child Welfare involvement. For 12,250 youth there was an indication of Child Welfare involvement. Child Welfare involvement was indicated by a variable on the CCAR that captures clinician report of past/concurrent CW services and/or place of residence in foster home.

The analyses of clinical factors further limited the population of analysis to those under age 18 discharged from mental health treatment. The resulting N for these analyses was 25,695; 15,318 without Child Welfare involvement and 10,377 with Child Welfare involvement.
APPENDIX C. DEMOGRAPHICS BY CHILD WELFARE STATUS

Figure C1. Gender by CW Designation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>No CW n=17,351</th>
<th>CW n=12,250</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>9,818</td>
<td>5,567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>7,533</td>
<td>6,683</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- No CW (n=17,353)
- CW Ever (n=12,251)

- Male: 56.6% (No CW) vs. 45.4% (CW)
- Female: 43.4% (No CW) vs. 54.6% (CW)

*Not included: 902 missing*

Figure C2. Racial Distribution by CW Designation

- White
- Hispanic
- Black
- Multi-Racial
- Other

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>No CW (n=17,353)</th>
<th>CW Ever (n=12,251)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-Racial</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Not included: 902 missing*
Figure C3. Diagnoses by Child Welfare Indication

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diagnosis</th>
<th>No CW (n=17,353)</th>
<th>CW Ever (n=12,251)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other Medical Ment Dis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eating/Sleeping Dis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personality Impulse</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thought Disorders</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dysthymia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non MH Diagnosis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bipolar</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Childhood Dis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Depression</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attention Deficit Dis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct Disorder</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anxiety</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjustment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure D1. CCAR Outcome Section Image

CCAR Outcome Section

School

- Is Individual School Age? □ No □ Yes

Complete questions if of School Age

- In the last 12 months, has the child?
  - Been expelled from school? □ No □ Yes
  - Been suspended from school? □ No □ Yes

History/Current Victimization

- Sexually abused □ Yes □ No
- Mentally disabled □ Yes □ No
- Physically abused □ Yes □ No
- Verbal abused □ Yes □ No

Previous/Concurrent Services

- Juvenile justice □ Yes □ No
- Special education □ Yes □ No
- Child welfare □ Yes □ No

Child Younger than 6

- Is the child less than 6 years old? □ No □ Yes

Complete Questions if less than 6 years old

- Is the child at a developmentally appropriate level for the following?
  - Talking/Communication □ Yes □ No
  - Physical/Motor Movements □ Yes □ No
  - Hearing/Speaking □ Yes □ No

- Learning/Cognition □ Yes □ No
- Playing/Interacting □ Yes □ No
- Self-Help Skills □ Yes □ No

- Is child’s readiness for school developmentally appropriate?
  - □ No □ Yes

History of Mental Health Services

- Inpatient □ Yes □ No
- Other 24 Hour □ Yes □ No
- Partial Care □ Yes □ No
- Outpatient □ Yes □ No

Current Non-Prescription Substance Use

- Tobacco □ Yes □ No
- Alcohol □ Yes □ No
- Marijuana □ Yes □ No
- Cocaine/Crack □ Yes □ No
- Other Opiates/Narcotics □ Yes □ No
- Inhalants □ Yes □ No
- Sedatives/Transquilizers □ Yes □ No
- Hallucinogens □ Yes □ No
- Amphetamines/Stimulants □ Yes □ No
### CCAR Outcome Section
#### Domain Scales

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical Health Rating</th>
<th>Self Care/Basic Needs Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person's physical health or condition is a source of concern.</td>
<td>Extent to which mental health symptoms impact a person's ability to care for self and provide for needs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. No physical problems that interfere with daily living.</td>
<td>1. Able to care for self and provide for own needs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Presence of occasional or mild physical problems that may interfere with daily living.</td>
<td>2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Frequent or chronic physical health problems.</td>
<td>3. Occasional assistance required in caring for self and obtaining basic needs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Incapacitated due to medical/physical health, and likely to require inpatient or residential health care.</td>
<td>4.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Presence of critical medical condition requiring immediate inpatient or residential health care treatment.</td>
<td>5. High levels of assistance needed in caring for self and obtaining basic needs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legal Rating</th>
<th>Security/Supervision Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person is involved in the criminal justice system.</td>
<td>Extent to which the person is in need of increased supervision.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. No legal difficulties.</td>
<td>1. No special security or supervision precautions needed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Occasional legal difficulties.</td>
<td>2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Frequent legal difficulties.</td>
<td>3. Occasional behavior problems are present and require low levels of security and supervision.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>4.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. May be in confinement or at risk of confinement due to illegal activity.</td>
<td>5. Requires moderate levels of security and supervision due to intermittent high-risk and/or dangerous behaviors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>6.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Continuously at risk for illegal behavior. Likely to be in confinement or with current serious charges pending.</td>
<td>7. Close supervision, isolation, suicide watch, or controlled medication administration may be necessary due to severe behavioral problems. Walkaway/escape potential may be high.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suicide/Danger to Self Rating</th>
<th>Aggression/Danger to Others Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person experiences self-harming thoughts and/or behaviors.</td>
<td>Extent of aggressiveness in interactions with others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. No indication of self-destructiveness or self-antagonism.</td>
<td>1. Exhibits no aggressiveness towards others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Self-harmful tendencies are evident from speech and/or previous behavior, and person may experience harmful thoughts with minimal danger to self.</td>
<td>2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Self-harmful tendencies are evident from speech and/or previous behavior, and person may experience harmful thoughts with minimal danger to self.</td>
<td>3. Occasional low-level aggressive behavior toward others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>4.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Self-harmful thoughts and/or actions are present and are of serious concern.</td>
<td>5. Occasional major or frequent minor aggressive behavior which is perceived as dangerous.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>6.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Self-harmful thoughts and/or actions are persistent, affecting most aspects of daily functioning.</td>
<td>7. Repeated major aggressive behavior that is problematic and is hostile, threatening and dangerous.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>8.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Requires immediate intervention to prevent suicide or physical self-injury.</td>
<td>9. Continuously aggressive behavior that is intended to inflict injury or pain, verbal attacks and/or demonstrates imminent danger to others.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Psychosis Rating</th>
<th>Cognition Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person experiences delusional, disorganized and irrational thought processes.</td>
<td>Extent to which a person perahes cognitive tasks and experiences symptoms such as, but not limited to, confusion, poor problem solving, and impaired judgment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. No evidence of thought difficulties.</td>
<td>1. No evidence of impaired cognitive capacity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Occasional odd thought processes.</td>
<td>3. Occasional incidence of poor judgment or memory loss may occur.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>4.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Frequent substitution of fantasy for reality, isolated delusions or infrequent hallucinations.</td>
<td>5. Cognitive processes are persistently impaired and may exhibit impaired functioning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>6.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Persistent thought disturbance, frequent hallucinations or delusions. Communication is highly impaired.</td>
<td>7. Person may be unable to function independently due to significantly impaired cognitive processes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>8.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Thought processes are disorganized and tangential, resulting in persistent disruption in communication. Extreme disconnection from reality.</td>
<td>9. Impaired cognitive processes result in inability to care for self.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## CCAR Outcome Section
### Domain Scales

#### Attention Rating
- Extent to which a person experiences attention issues such as, but not limited to, distractibility, inability to concentrate, and restlessness.

#### Memory-Issue Rating
- Extent to which a person experiences memory issues such as, but not limited to, difficulty recalling recent events.

#### Anxiety-Issue Rating
- Extent to which a person experiences anxiety symptoms such as, but not limited to, nervousness, fearfulness and tension.

#### Depressive-Issue Rating
- Extent to which a person experiences depressive symptoms such as, but not limited to, sadness, crying, and loss of interest.

#### Alcohol Use Rating
- Extent to which a person's use of alcohol impairs daily functioning.

#### Drug Use Rating
- Extent to which a person's use of legal or illegal drugs impairs daily functioning.

#### Family Rating
- Extent to which issues within the individual's identified family and family relationships are problematic.

#### Interpersonal Rating
- Extent to which a person establishes and maintains relationships with others.

#### Socialization Rating
- Extent to which a person's conduct deviates cultural and social norms.
## CCAR Outcome Section

### Domain Scales

#### Role Performance Rating
- Extent to which a person adequately performs his/her occupational role. **NOTE:** Rate individual’s current primary role (e.g., worker, caregiver, student) as marked on the Administration Section.
- 0: Performs erratically and incompetently in role.
- 1: Performs erratically and incompetently in role.
- 3: Frequent disruption of role performance.
- 4: Severe disruption of role performance. Attempts at functioning are ineffective.
- 5: Proactive functioning is absent and currently inconceivable.

#### Overall Symptom Severity Rating
- Rate the severity of the person’s mental health symptoms.
- 0: No symptoms are present for this person.
- 1: Symptoms are present which require formal professional mental health intervention.
- 2: Significant symptoms affecting multiple domains exist, often requiring external intervention.
- 3: Symptoms are profound and potentially life-threatening.

#### Social Support Rating
- Extent to which a person has relationships with supportive people who contribute to recovery.
- 0: No meaningful relationships or relationships that are not constructive and person seems to be able to get support from these.
- 1: Only meaningful relationships are with service providers.
- 2: Only meaningful relationships are with service providers.
- 3: Only meaningful relationships are with service providers.
- 4: Only meaningful relationships are with service providers.
- 5: Only meaningful relationships are with service providers.
- 6: Only meaningful relationships are with service providers.
- 7: Only meaningful relationships are with service providers.
- 8: Only meaningful relationships are with service providers.
- 9: Only meaningful relationships are with service providers.

#### Hope Rating
- Extent to which a person is optimistic about future outcomes.
- 0: Does not express hope for the future, but seems to be making efforts that would lead to better outcomes.
- 1: Expresses both positive and negative attitudes about future outcomes.
- 2: Expresses hope for the future, but seems to be making efforts that would lead to better outcomes.
- 3: Expresses hope for the future, but seems to be making efforts that would lead to better outcomes.
- 4: Expresses hope for the future, but seems to be making efforts that would lead to better outcomes.
- 5: Expresses hope for the future, but seems to be making efforts that would lead to better outcomes.
- 6: Expresses hope for the future, but seems to be making efforts that would lead to better outcomes.
- 7: Expresses hope for the future, but seems to be making efforts that would lead to better outcomes.
- 8: Expresses hope for the future, but seems to be making efforts that would lead to better outcomes.
- 9: Expresses hope for the future, but seems to be making efforts that would lead to better outcomes.

#### Engagement Rating (ages 13 and older)
- Extent to which a person uses available resources that contribute to personal health, wellness, and recovery. This includes knowledge and understanding of symptoms, treatment options, and service use.
- 0: Engages in daily activities, such as personal care and household responsibilities.
- 1: Engages in activities that maintain basic functionality and self-care.
- 2: Engages in activities that promote personal growth and development.
- 3: Engages in activities that promote personal growth and development.
- 4: Engages in activities that promote personal growth and development.
- 5: Engages in activities that promote personal growth and development.
- 6: Engages in activities that promote personal growth and development.
- 7: Engages in activities that promote personal growth and development.
- 8: Engages in activities that promote personal growth and development.
- 9: Engages in activities that promote personal growth and development.

#### Activity Enrichment Rating
- Extent to which a person participates in positive activities.
- 0: Engages in a variety of positive activities that are self-motivated.
- 1: Engages in a variety of positive activities that are self-motivated.
- 2: Engages in a variety of positive activities that are self-motivated.
- 3: Engages in a variety of positive activities that are self-motivated.
- 4: Engages in a variety of positive activities that are self-motivated.
- 5: Engages in a variety of positive activities that are self-motivated.
- 6: Engages in a variety of positive activities that are self-motivated.
- 7: Engages in a variety of positive activities that are self-motivated.
- 8: Engages in a variety of positive activities that are self-motivated.
- 9: Engages in a variety of positive activities that are self-motivated.

#### Overall Recovery Rating
- Extent to which a person is involved in the process of getting better and developing/restoring/maintaining a positive and meaningful sense of self.
- 0: Engages in activities that maintain basic functionality and self-care.
- 1: Engages in activities that promote personal growth and development.
- 2: Engages in activities that promote personal growth and development.
- 3: Engages in activities that promote personal growth and development.
- 4: Engages in activities that promote personal growth and development.
- 5: Engages in activities that promote personal growth and development.
- 6: Engages in activities that promote personal growth and development.
- 7: Engages in activities that promote personal growth and development.
- 8: Engages in activities that promote personal growth and development.
- 9: Engages in activities that promote personal growth and development.

#### Overall Level of Functioning Rating
- Extent to which a person is able to carry out activities of daily living, despite the presence of mental health symptoms.
- 0: Engages in activities that maintain basic functionality and self-care.
- 1: Engages in activities that maintain basic functionality and self-care.
- 2: Engages in activities that maintain basic functionality and self-care.
- 3: Engages in activities that maintain basic functionality and self-care.
- 4: Engages in activities that maintain basic functionality and self-care.
- 5: Engages in activities that maintain basic functionality and self-care.
- 6: Engages in activities that maintain basic functionality and self-care.
- 7: Engages in activities that maintain basic functionality and self-care.
- 8: Engages in activities that maintain basic functionality and self-care.
- 9: Engages in activities that maintain basic functionality and self-care.
### Table D1. CCAR Domain Descriptions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CCAR Domain Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person’s physical health or condition is a source of concern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which mental health symptoms impact a person’s ability to care for self and provide for needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person is involved in the criminal justice system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Need for Supervision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which the person is in need of increased supervision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suicide/Self Harm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person experiences self-harming thoughts and/or behaviors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent of aggressiveness in interactions with others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychosis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person experiences delusional, disorganized and irrational thought processes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cognition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person performs cognitive tasks and experiences symptoms such as, but not limited to, confusion, poor problem solving, and impaired judgment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person experiences attention issues such as, but not limited to, distractibility, inability to concentrate, and restlessness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person experiences manic symptoms such as, but not limited to, excessive activity level, elevated mood, and decreased need for sleep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anxiety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person experiences anxiety symptoms such as, but not limited to, nervousness, fearfulness, and tension</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person experiences depressive symptoms such as, but not limited to, sadness, worrying, irritability and agitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol Use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person’s use of alcohol impairs daily functioning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug Use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person’s use of legal or illegal drugs impairs daily functioning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problematic Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relationships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which issues within the individuals identified family and family relationships are problematic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpersonal Relations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person establishes and maintains relationships with others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socialization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person’s conduct deviates cultural and social norms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Role Performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person adequately performs his/her occupational role</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Symptom Severity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rate the severity of the persons mental health symptoms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empowerment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person uses available resources that contribute to personal health, welfare, and recovery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity Involvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person participates in positive activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Supports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person has relationships with supportive people that contribute to recovery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person is optimistic about future outcomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recovery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person is involved in the process of getting better and developing restoring/maintaining a positive and meaningful sense of self</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Level of Functioning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent to which a person is able to carry out activities of daily living despite the presence of mental health symptoms</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX E: SYSTEM OVERLAP ANALYSIS DESCRIPTION

Colorado Child Welfare High Utilizers: Statewide Overlap with Juvenile Justice, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services

How Was the Sample Selected?
The Colorado State Division of Child Welfare (DCW) provided data for the top 20% of children in Colorado who generated the highest expenditures in Child Welfare in FY2011-2012. The sample was comprised of 1,881 children.

- Each child had DCW expenditures that exceeded $21,000.00 in the FY2011-2012.
- The median annual cost per child to Child Welfare for these 1881 children was $35,394.00.
- The maximum cost per child was $183,000.00, for a child who spent 366 days (leap year) in a residential child care facility at a cost of $500/day.

Who Were These Children?
- Gender: 63.6% Male (n=1197), 36.4% Female (n=684).
- Ethnicity: 69.0% Not Hispanic (n=1297), 27.6% Hispanic (n=519)\(^1\).
- Race: 77.1% White (n=1450), 13.8% African American (n=260), 6.4% Multi-Racial (n=120), 0.4% Hawaiian (n=8), 0.6% Asian (n=12)\(^2\).
- Age: Children ranged in age from under 1 year old to 21 years old. Mean = 13.9, Median = 15.0.
- Diagnosis: See Table D1.

Table E1. Mental Health Diagnosis for Colorado Child Welfare High Utilizers Who Were Also Served in the Public Mental Health System.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diagnosis at Admission to MH Services(^3)</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adjustment</td>
<td>575</td>
<td>33.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anxiety</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>15.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct Disorder</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>15.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attention Deficit Disorder</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>12.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Depression</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>6.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Childhood Disorder</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1728</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) Ethnicity data were missing for 65 children.
\(^2\) Race data were missing for 23 children.
\(^3\) Diagnoses came from admission CCAR (Colorado Client Assessment Record – clinical assessment conducted for all clients served in the public mental health system)
Analysis Approach

Historical data that included any case open on July 1, 2006 or later was obtained from Division of Youth Corrections (DYC) and Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) (mental health and substance data). These data were then merged with the data from Child Welfare to determine the overlap between child welfare, juvenile justice, and mental health services for these 1881 children.

Findings

- The majority of children from the child welfare sample (91.9%, 1728 children) had received mental health evaluation (CCAR) or services (Encounter).
- Of those receiving mental health services or evaluation, 82.8% (1429 children) received both evaluation and services (CCAR and Encounter), and 14.8% (256 children) only received evaluation (CCAR only), an additional 2.4% (41 children) only received services (encounter) no evaluation (CCAR).
- Almost half (46.4%, 873 children) of the children in the sample were involved in the juvenile justice system since FY2005-2006.
- Of those involved in the juvenile justice system, 79.4% (693 children) were only placed in detention, and 20.4% (178 children) were both placed in detention and committed to DYC. Two youth (.02%) were committed to DYC with no prior detentions.
- Only 6.3% (119 children) of the Child Welfare sample did not overlap with at least one of the other three service populations (mental health, juvenile justice, substance abuse).
- Eighty-one of the children (68.1% of the 119) who did not overlap with the mental health, substance abuse, or juvenile justice population were under the age of 10, so they were not eligible for DYC services under most circumstances. Additionally, 4 individuals were over the age of 18 in the most recent fiscal year.
- Fourteen percent (266 children) were involved in all systems (mental health, substance abuse, and juvenile justice, in addition to child welfare).
APPENDIX F: CCAR SCORES BY NUMBER OF SYSTEMS

Figure F1. Clinically Elevated Admission CCAR Scores by Number of Systems
Figure E2. Clinically Elevated Discharge CCAR Scores by Number of Systems
Figure G1. Gender by System Order

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>System Order</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CW then MH</td>
<td>60.7%</td>
<td>39.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MH then CW</td>
<td>61.4%</td>
<td>38.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX H. CCAR SCORES BY SYSTEM ORDER

Figure H1. Percent of Clinically Significant Admission CCAR Scores by System Order

- MH then CW
- CW then MH
Figure H2. Clinically Significant Discharge CCAR Scores by System Order

- OVERALL SYMPTOM SEVERITY
- OVERALL LEVEL OF FUNCTIONING*
- PROBLEMATIC FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS
- RECOVERY*
- NEED FOR SUPERVISION*
- ROLE PERFORMANCE*
- HOPE*
- INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS*
- SOCIALIZATION*
- ACTIVITY INVOLVEMENT*
- DEPRESSION
- AGGRESSION*
- ATTENTION*
- ANXIETY
- SOCIAL SUPPORTS
- EMPOWERMENT
- COGNITION
- SELF-CARE
- LEGAL PROBLEMS
- MANIA*
- SUICIDE
- PHYSICAL HEALTH
- DRUG USE*
- PSYCHOSIS
- ALCOHOL USE

Legend:
- MH then CW
- CW then MH
APPENDIX I. DEMOGRAPHICS BY DYC INVOLVEMENT

Figure I.1. Race/Ethnicity by DYC Involvement

- **Not in DYC**
  - White: 54.6%
  - Hispanic: 4.4%
  - African American: 12.0%
  - Multi Racial/Ethnic: 2.1%
  - Other: 4.4%

- **In DYC**
  - White: 50.7%
  - Hispanic: 27.5%
  - African American: 15.7%
  - Multi Racial/Ethnic: 4.4%
  - Other: 1.6%
Appendix J. CCAR Scores by DYC Involvement

Figure J1. Clinically Significant CCAR Admission Scores by DYC Involvement
Figure J2. Clinically Significant CCAR Discharge Scores by DYC Involvement

- OVERALL SYMPTOM SEVERITY
- OVERALL LEVEL OF FUNCTIONING
- PROBLEMATIC FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS
- RECOVERY*
- NEED FOR SUPERVISION*
- ACTIVITY INVOLVEMENT*
- ROLE PERFORMANCE
- HOPE*
- INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS
- SOCIALIZATION*
- LEGAL PROBLEMS*
- EMPOWERMENT*
- SOCIAL SUPPORTS
- DEPRESSION
- AGGRESSION*
- ANXIETY
- ATTENTION
- DRUG USE*
- COGNITION*
- SELF-CARE
- MANIA
- SUICIDE
- ALCOHOL USE*
- PSYCHOSIS
- PHYSICAL HEALTH

DYC
No DYC
APPENDIX K. LOGISTIC REGRESSION

Analysis Approach
Clients from the Child Welfare high utilizer sample that had matching CCAR records were selected initially. Since DYC typically does not serve children age 10 and under, clients were selected who had reached age 11 by the end of the study period (FY12-13). The resulting sample size was 1097; 696 without DYC involvement, and 401 with DYC. SPSS software was utilized for the analysis. Logistic Regression allowed us to identify significant factors related to the binary outcome of DYC involvement (yes/no). Event prediction was based on DYC involvement/yes=1. Factors were entered in three blocks (demographics, system order, CCAR admission factors), with Forward Stepwise selection within blocks, with a criteria of p=.05.

Table L.1: Logistic Regression Results Predicting DYC Involvement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FACTOR</th>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Wald Statistic</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GENDER(1)</td>
<td>-.543</td>
<td>16.199</td>
<td>.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ETHNICITY</td>
<td></td>
<td>6.696</td>
<td>.082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ETHNICITY(1)</td>
<td>1.433</td>
<td>6.693</td>
<td>.010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ETHNICITY(2)</td>
<td>-20.093</td>
<td>.000</td>
<td>1.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ETHNICITY(3)</td>
<td>1.355</td>
<td>6.175</td>
<td>.013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cwmhorder(1)</td>
<td>-.277</td>
<td>4.283</td>
<td>.038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>domainSelfCareBasicNeeds</td>
<td>-.112</td>
<td>5.244</td>
<td>.022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>domainLegal</td>
<td>.173</td>
<td>9.550</td>
<td>.002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>domainCognition</td>
<td>-.104</td>
<td>6.628</td>
<td>.010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>domainEmpowerment</td>
<td>.057</td>
<td>6.557</td>
<td>.010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constant</td>
<td>-1.601</td>
<td>8.030</td>
<td>.005</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>