

**November 2024**

**OPEN MINDS Roundtable:  
Implementing Medication-Assisted Treatment In A FQHC: The  
Valleywise Health Case Study**



## Our Mission

Provide exceptional care,  
without exception, every  
patient, every time.








# Our Vision

***Be nationally recognized for transforming care to improve community health.***

- With a 140-year history of providing care to a diverse population, regardless of a patient's ability to pay, Valleywise Health is a trusted name in healthcare for the entire community
- Valleywise Health is Arizona's only public teaching and safety-net hospital and healthcare system
- Nearly 16,000 Inpatient admissions and 70,000 adult and pediatric ED visits annually
- Nearly 70% of Valleywise Health patients are financially vulnerable patients who are uninsured, underinsured, or covered by AHCCCS (Arizona's Medicaid program) or Federal Emergency Services- the highest of any health system in Arizona and among the highest in the nation
- Valleywise Health Medical Center, 3 behavioral health hospitals, and 13 community health centers

# Aligning Services with Community Needs

**Table 1.** Health Indicator Disparities: Highest IP<sup>1</sup>/ED<sup>2</sup>/Death<sup>3</sup> rates by groups of residents living within Valleywise Health's PSA (2021)

| Indicator  | Race/Ethnicity  | Age  | Sex  |
|--|---|--|--|
|  <b>Diabetes</b>                          | American Indian <sup>1,3</sup><br>Black/African American <sup>2</sup> | 45-64 <sup>1,2</sup><br>65+ <sup>3</sup>   | Male <sup>1,2,3</sup>                      |
|  <b>Heart Disease</b>                     | Black/African American <sup>1,2,3</sup>                               | 65+ <sup>1,2,3</sup>                       | Male <sup>1,2,3</sup>                      |
|  <b>Hypertension</b>                      | Hispanic <sup>1</sup><br>Black/African American <sup>2,3</sup>        | 45-64 <sup>1,2</sup><br>65+ <sup>3</sup>   | Female <sup>1,2</sup><br>Male <sup>3</sup> |
|  <b>All Mental Health Disorders</b>       | Black/African American <sup>1</sup><br>American Indian <sup>2</sup>   | 25-44 <sup>1,2</sup>                       | Male <sup>1,2</sup>                        |
|  <b>Obesity/Overweight</b>                | Black/African American <sup>1,3</sup><br>White/Caucasian <sup>2</sup> | 25-44 <sup>1,2</sup><br>45-64 <sup>3</sup> | Male <sup>1,2,3</sup>                      |
|  <b>Substance Use (All Drug Overdose)</b> | Black/African American <sup>1,2</sup><br>American Indian <sup>3</sup> | 25-44 <sup>1,2,3</sup>                     | Male <sup>1,3</sup><br>Female <sup>2</sup> |
|  <b>Substance Use (Alcohol Related)</b>  | American Indian <sup>1,2,3</sup>                                      | 25-44 <sup>1,2</sup><br>45-64 <sup>3</sup> | Male <sup>1,2,3</sup>                      |

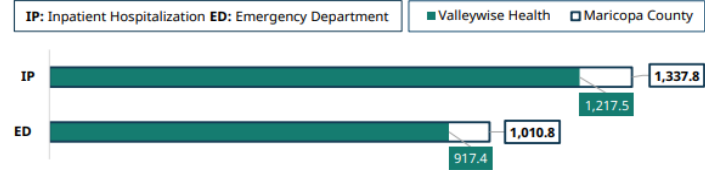
## 2023 – 2025 Valleywise Health Community Health Needs Assessment Report

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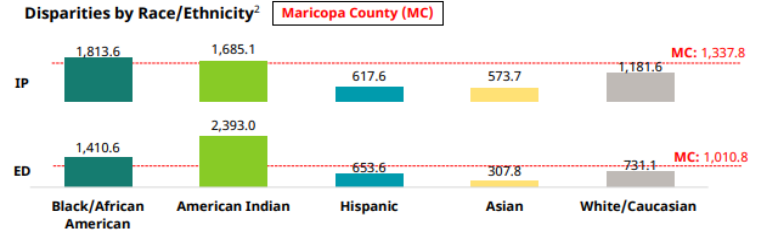


## Mental Health

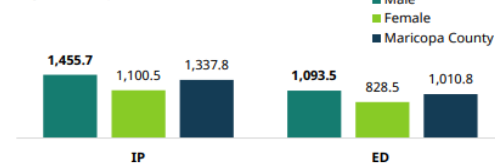
### Disparities by Overall Rates<sup>2</sup>



### Disparities by Race/Ethnicity<sup>2</sup>



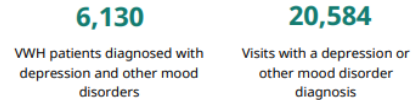
### Disparities by Sex<sup>2</sup>



### Disparities by Age<sup>2</sup>

No age groups in Valleywise Health's primary service area exceeded Maricopa County's rates.

### Valleywise Health Patient Health Outcomes<sup>3</sup>



### Top Community Health Condition<sup>4</sup>



Mental Health Issues was ranked as the 3<sup>rd</sup> (2019) and 1<sup>st</sup> (2021) greatest community health condition.

### From a Community Member (2021)<sup>4</sup>

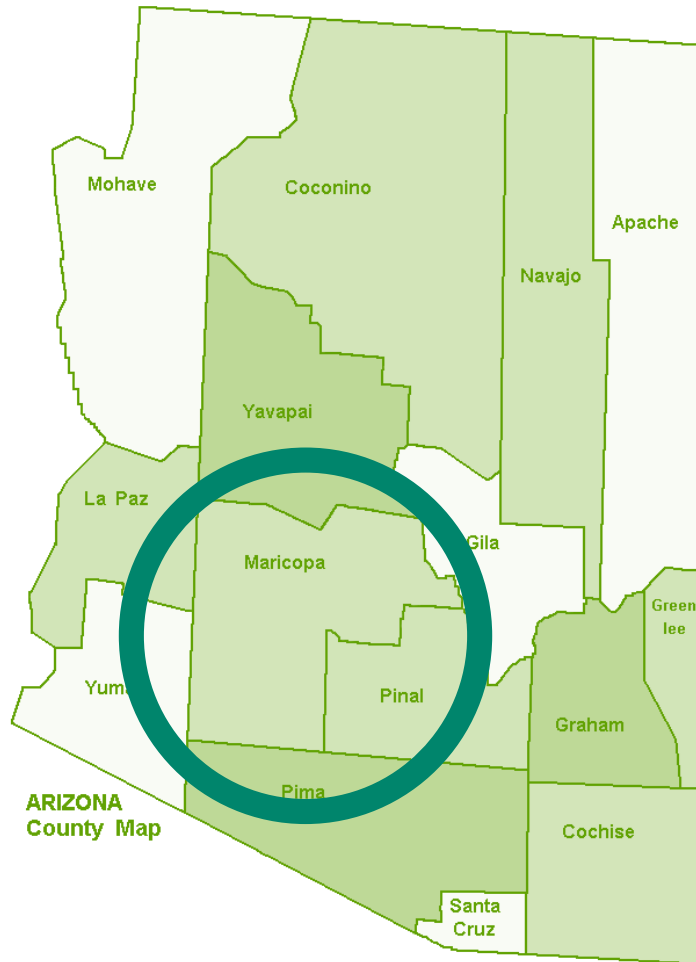
"I wish we had more mental health access for everyone. It's a difficult time to find a person and also like to see mental health covered by insurance. It's really sad that this one area of health is always getting overlooked. I have many mental health issues and I have given up on the search because I can't afford one."

Sources: (1) 2021 American Community Survey; Census, (2) 2021 Hospital Discharge Data (nonfatal rates only available), obtained from ADHS & analyzed by MCDPH (3) Valleywise Health 2022 Uniform Data System Report, (4) 2019 & 2021 MCDPH Community Survey

# Locations



## Problem



Maricopa County is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest county in US

In 2023, 1,216 of AZ's 1,924 opioid deaths were in Maricopa County.





## *Going to the MAT to Fight OUD*

Total Award – \$2.6 for 5-year period

Goals include:

- Address gaps in care by building capacity through an expanded workforce and adding long-term strategies.
- Build a team of Integrated Behavioral Health Peer Recovery Support Specialists
- Increase the number of providers licensed to prescribe MAT medications in integrated health care settings
- Reduce stigma related to MAT services
- Expand referrals and service delivery with partner organizations

**More than five people die every day from opioid overdoses in Arizona.**



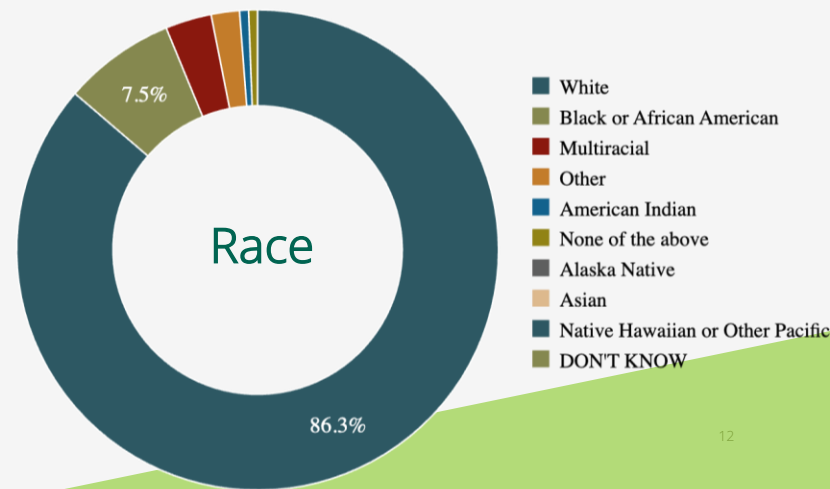
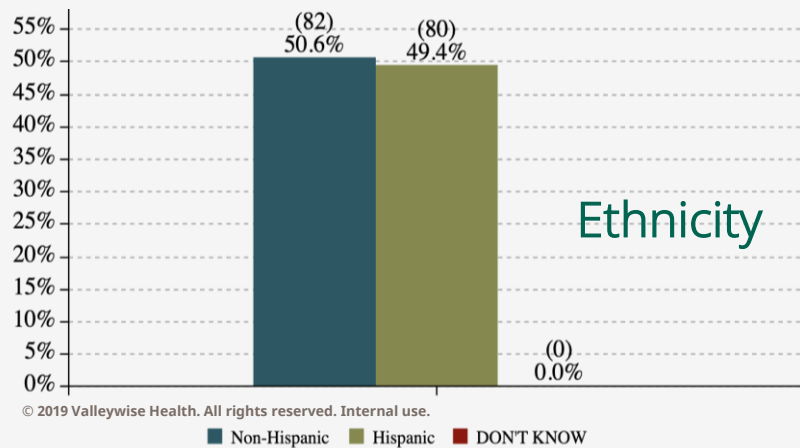
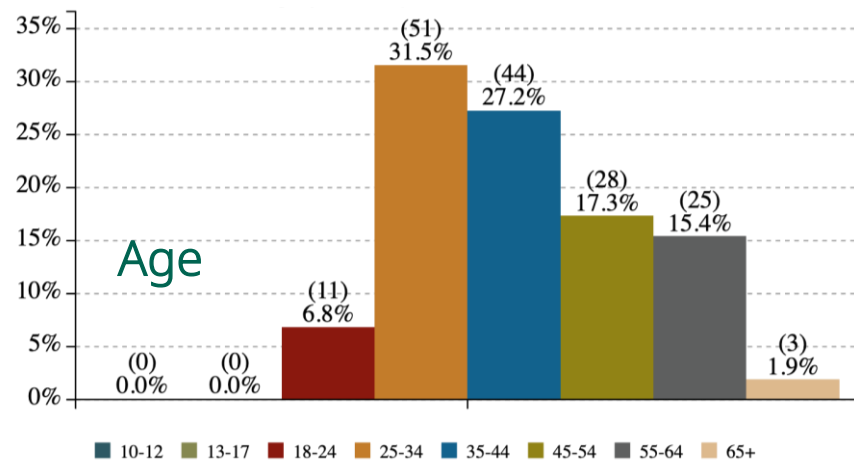
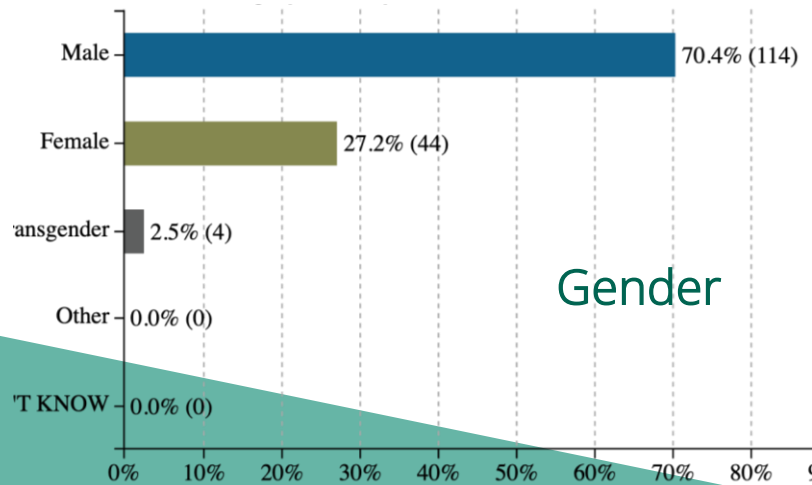
## Accomplishments to Date

- 165 patients enrolled, 85% of SAMHSA YTD goal.
- Deployed 5 peer support specialists.
- Licensed clinician-partners at each site
- Recruited 7 provider/sites within the VWH FQHCs and all Specialty Behavioral Health Program
- Enlisted 5 MDs and 2 Nurse Practitioners to deliver MAT services within the 7 VWH FQHCs



## Enrollment To Date (19 Nov 24)

| Number of Unduplicated Patients Served with Grant Funds |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |              |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|
|   | FY 1<br>9/21-9/22 | FY 2<br>9/22-9/23 | FY 3<br>9/23-9/24 | FY 4<br>9/24-9/25 | FY 5<br>9/25-9/26 | Total        |
| GOAL  | 25                | 50                | 100               | 150               | 280               | 605          |
| ACTUAL  | 6                 | 56                | 87                | 16<br>(YTD)       | NA                | 165<br>(YTD) |



# A Complex Patient Portrait



# Characteristics of VH Patients with OUD from the GPRA interview (11/2024)



- Mean age - 40.30 yrs.
- <5% are veterans
- 40% speak a language other than English at home
- 56% report using Fentanyl within last 30 days
- 22% report also using methamphetamine (30 days)
- 64% regular use of tobacco
- 92% request Buprenorphine
- 67% report prior mental health diagnosis
- Most common DX- Major Depressive Disorder, Bi-polar, & Generalized Anxiety Disorder

# Characteristics Continued-

- 2.6 is the average number of prior recovery attempts
- 51% report being unemployed
- 64% report having a high school diploma or less
- 94% report being housed; however, 73% of those report living in someone else's home/apartment
- 71% report earning <\$15,000 pretax last year
- 38% report being Justice Involved individuals (JII)
- 62% rate quality of life as good or very good 81% report experiencing significant MH issues in last 30 days
- 91% report contact with family in last 30 days
- 78% report satisfaction with relationships



# Addiction and Recovery are not Uni-Dimensional

The majority of VWH MAT patients require –

- Behavioral health services
- Education
- Employment
- Affordable housing
- Ongoing recovery support





# National Outcome Measures Across 6 Mo.

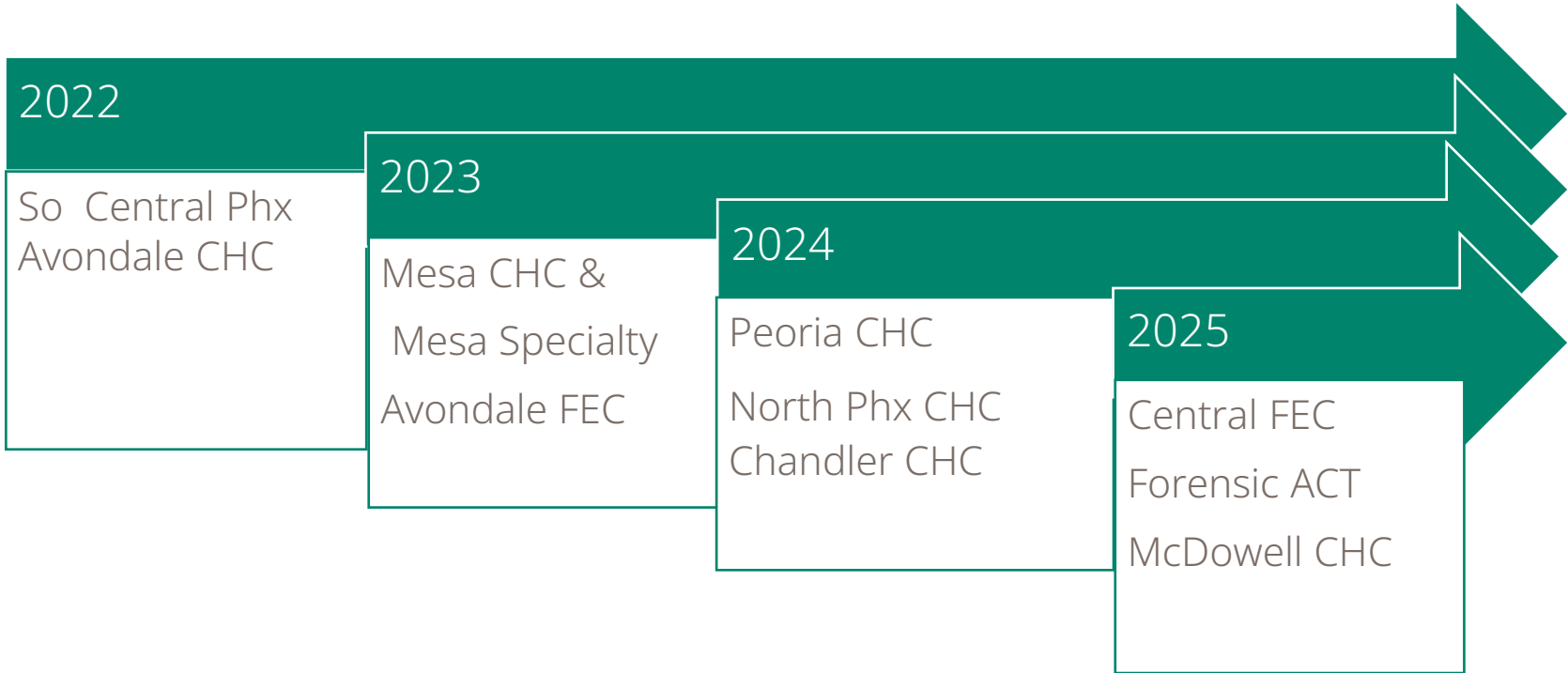
|   |        |        |                      |
|---|--------|--------|----------------------|
| <b>Abstinence:</b> did not use alcohol or illegal drugs   | 9.8%   | 47.5%  | <b>**383.3%</b>      |
| <b>Legal:</b> has no past 30-day arrests  | 98.4%  | 98.4%  | 0.0%                 |
| <b>Employment/Education:</b> participants were currently employed or attending school   | 39.3%  | 54.1%  | <b>**37.5%</b>       |
| <b>Health/Behavioral/Social Consequences:</b> experienced no alcohol or drug related health, behavioral, or social consequences | 100.0% | 100.0% | 0.0%                 |
| <b>Social Connectedness:</b> participants were socially connected with family/friends   | 96.7%  | 98.4%  | 1.7%                 |
| <b>Stability in Housing:</b> participants had a permanent place to live in the community  | 26.2%  | 36.1%  | <b>**37.5%</b>       |
|   |        |        | <b>**p &lt; .001</b> |

# Lessons Learned & Next Steps

- Stigma and myths associated with the population and provision of MAT services
- Recruiting providers and sites
- Training providers
- Identifying patients/participants
- Clinicians and Peer Support
- Scheduling & Encounter/Billing Services
- Microdosing
- Competing priorities, Harm Reduction, and more . . .



# Current and Future VWH Plans



Specialty populations for increased outreach and engagement: justice-involved, persons with a serious mental illness, active-duty military, individuals with HIV/AIDS, veterans and military families.

# New Provider Training

Request to outline a plan that has the number of providers, hours, etc. that will demonstrate the financial impact of trainings for new providers

- 1) Have all interested providers complete readiness checklist
- 2) Based on the results, place providers into one of 3 categories:
  - 1) 0- no experience, estimated training, mentoring and TA needed: 12 hrs.  
(2 hrs.. onboarding, 8 hrs.. training, 2 hrs.. shadowing/mentoring)
  - 2) 1- some experience, estimated training, mentoring and TA needed: 7 hrs.  
(2 hrs.. onboarding, 4 hrs. training, 1 hr. shadowing/mentoring)
  - 3) 2- ready to go, estimated training, mentoring and TA needed: 2 hrs..  
(onboarding)
- 3) Onboarding includes meeting with MAT team, reviewing VH protocols, meeting with site manager/CRL, blocking calendars, etc.

# THANK YOU

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