

## No Wrong Door: 2022-2023 Initiatives to Overcoming Barriers

Barrier Identified by Residents	Action Taken by NWD Coordinators	Date/Location
<p><i>Participants requested a common resource for residents to provide an updated, comprehensive list of available mental health facilities, services, programs and/or qualified mental health professionals.</i></p> <p><i>Residents emphasized the importance of dispersing information and resources to all residents; specifically, participants expressed a lack of knowledge regarding active resources available.</i></p> <p><i>Participants expressed a need for a resource (physical and digital) to provide facilities and services available locally.</i></p> <p><i>Residents identified unreliable channels of communication for those seeking mental health and/or substance misuse services; unclear where to seek available resources.</i></p> <p><i>Participants voiced a lack of communication between traditional primary care physicians and available mental health professionals and/or resources identified as a major barrier to appropriate mental health care.</i></p>	<p>Compiled comprehensive list of mental and behavioral health services available throughout Newport County &amp; Greater RI.</p> <p>Created and dispersed Behavioral Health Resource Guide throughout providers and partners in Newport County.</p> <p>Over 2,000 resource guides have been dispersed in Newport County.</p>	<p>Published in November 2022.</p> <p>Translated into Spanish in September 2023.</p>

<p><i>Participants identified access to clean clothes via laundry assistance as priorities for Newport residents in recovery and/or receiving substance-use treatment.</i></p> <p><i>Participants identified difficulty for those in active recovery, or seeking treatment, to get help in getting basic needs met.</i></p>	<p>Partnered with national initiative <i>Laundry Love</i> to coordinate, fundraise, and facilitate laundry-assistance services at local laundromats in Newport County.</p> <p>Recurring events are held bi-weekly in Newport &amp; Middletown and open to all Newport County residents.</p> <p>Partnered with providers to bring representatives to events for tabling (<i>Boys &amp; Girls Club</i> [SNAP Enrollment], <i>Neighborhood Health RI</i> [Medicaid Enrollment], <i>Amenity Aid</i> [Hygiene Kits])</p>	<p>Inaugural <i>Laundry Love</i> event held Feb. 9th 2023 at Mick's Laundry in Newport.</p> <p>22 <i>Laundry Love</i> events facilitated for 258 residents and 572 loads of clean laundry.</p> <p>Expanded to facilitate monthly events for Apple Creek residents in Tiverton, RI.</p>
<p><i>Participants requested personal hygiene products and safe locations to shower as priorities for Newport residents in recovery and/or receiving substance-use treatment.</i></p>	<p>Formed subcommittee with partners to identify and research potential showering facilities open to all residents.</p> <p>Assisted in launching <i>Fresh Fit</i> initiative with Hakim Coggins; partnered with Planet Fitness to provide showers, hygiene products, and gym equipment to <i>Fresh Fit</i> participants.</p> <p>Partnered with <i>Turning Around Ministries</i> to provide free haircuts to Newport County residents.</p>	<p><i>Fresh Fit</i> initiative launched in June 2023</p> <p>21 people enrolled</p> <p>Free haircut events held in December 2022 &amp; May 2023 at T.A.M.</p>

<p><i>Attendees expressed a need for additional community support for single fathers such as support groups.</i></p> <p><i>Participants voiced interest in small support groups within the community for extended family members providing care for those experiencing substance misuse and/or providing childcare.</i></p>	<p>Partnered with <i>McNeill Children’s Institute</i> to facilitate 3-part Parenting Series, open to all Newport County residents.</p> <p>Workshops provided participants with information specific to sensory &amp; behaviors, home interventions, &amp; school-advocacy skills pertaining to 504’s and Individualized Education Plans.</p> <p>Partnered with Child &amp; Family to facilitate the <i>Grandfamily Support Initiative</i>: a support group for grandparents who are the primary caregivers for their grandchildren by providing an opportunity to come together and provide mutual support to each other.</p>	<p>Parenting Series Trainings were held at <i>Ocean Pointe Church</i> in Middletown throughout October 2022.</p> <p>Complementary childcare provided for participants.</p> <p>Sessions filmed and shared to public via YouTube</p> <p>Recurring <i>Grandfamily Support</i> meetings held 3rd Tuesday of each month.</p>
<p><i>Residents identified a lack of child/youth mental health services available; strong sentiment that staff shortages are resulting in unqualified treatment providers.</i></p> <p><i>Participants stated high-priority concern for children, adolescents, and their caregivers for mental health support; expressed increased wait-time especially for younger people.</i></p> <p><i>Residents voiced an urgent need to educate youth regarding the danger of illicit drugs; concerns raised over the relationship between lack of mental health resources for young people.</i></p>	<p>Coordinators trained in <i>Mental Health First Aid</i> for Adults &amp; for Adults Assisting Youth.</p> <p>Community training offered to all Newport County residents monthly free-of-charge.</p> <p>Spanish-speaking trainer contracted to work with NWD coordinators via <i>Conexion Latina</i> to facilitate Adult &amp; Youth Mental Health First Aid trainings.</p> <p>Active military volunteer trained in MHFA and partnered with NWD coordinators to facilitate local workshops.</p>	<p>NWD coordinators completed training in January 2023.</p> <p>Over a dozen MHFA trainings completed throughout Newport County (including <i>Newport Mental Health, HOPE Recovery, Trinity Healthy Living, Tiverton Public School Paraprofessional Staff, Rogers High School Paraprofessional Staff</i>).</p> <p>106 Newport County residents trained in Mental Health First Aid.</p> <p><i>Campaign to Change Direction</i> PSA filmed at</p>

	<p>NWD Coordinators partnered with Middletown Public Schools to plan, organize, and create a youth-driven public service announcement for <i>Campaign to Change Direction</i>.</p> <p>NWD Coordinators partnered with <i>Newport Prevention Coalition</i> to bring Chris Herren to <i>The MET School</i>. Herren facilitated educational assembly for students regarding dangers of substance-use and recovery.</p> <p><i>Overdose Prevention &amp; Reversal Training</i> webinar led by Destinie Campanella, Harm Reduction Program Director at <i>Unity Recovery of Philadelphia, PA</i> offered to all Newport County residents.</p>	<p>Middletown High School February 2023. PSA aired at <i>Island Cinemas</i> (Middletown) throughout winter and spring 2023 featuring local high school students from Newport County.</p> <p>Chris Herren brought to <i>The MET School-East Bay</i> on Sept. 26, 2023.</p> <p>Training from <i>Unity Recovery</i> presented July 25, 2023</p>
<p><i>Participants voiced repeated need for specific support groups within the community (for parents, youth, etc.).</i></p> <p><i>Residents voiced interest in small support groups within the community for extended family members providing care for those experiencing substance misuse and/or providing childcare.</i></p> <p><i>Residents identified a need to focus on community-driven efforts to educate and support expressed by attendees; overwhelming frustration with transportation and location barriers.</i></p>	<p>Partnered with <i>Parent Support Network &amp; YouthMove RI</i> to plan, organize, and facilitate outreach regarding youth-focused events at Sandywoods in Tiverton.</p> <p>Coordinators dispersed locally-sourced back to school supplies to attendees including 60 plus backpacks.</p> <p>Local providers supplied information and outreach for attendees (including <i>YouthMove RI, Parent Support Network, Newport Mental Health, Potter League, Boys &amp; Girls Club, RI Outreach Team</i>).</p>	<p>“Back to School Bash” facilitated and held for all Newport County residents August 19th, 2023.</p> <p>“Tarot &amp; Astrology Discovery Night” facilitated and open to Newport County youth (ages 18-26). 2 events held Oct. 28th (Tiverton) &amp; Nov. 17th (Middletown).</p>