

City of Lawrence Outside Agency Annual Report For Calendar Year 2021

Reports on activity should be submitted electronically to Danielle Buschkoetter, at dbuschkoetter@lawrenceks.org by 5:00pm on Tuesday, February 15, 2022. To answer the following questions please refer to your [2021 application/agreement for funding](#).

Reporting Period: Calendar Year 2021

Agency Name: DCCCA – First Step at Lake View

1. Refer to the program in which your agency received funding; provide a participant success story that helps demonstrate the accomplishments of the program.

First Step specializes in services for substance using pregnant women and women with dependent children, ensuring access to an array of medical, mental health and other community support services in addition to primary addiction treatment interventions. The following individual's story offers an example of how barrier reduction funds supported a woman's sustained recovery.

"The biggest reason people go back to the lifestyle of active addiction is because of financial burden. Once you get behind financially the stress can cause you to give up all together and go back to the life of crime and finding other ways to get money which also includes drugs most of the time. The financial assistance helps people stay afloat, so they don't have to worry about being homeless again. People can then focus on getting a steady income through legal ways and continue to live in a stable environment where they have a place to sleep and put their things where they won't get stolen. They also have a place to shower and get ready for work when they are not homeless. When you are homeless it is difficult to have a job because you don't know where you'll shower or sleep. The homeless rob the homeless constantly too so it is a battle to keep anything safe. I am very appreciative for the financial assistance."

2. Refer to your 2021 agreement for funding; provide a brief narrative of the activities funded with City funds.

Four hundred ninety-six women engaged in substance use disorder treatment in 2021. Nine children accompanied their mothers and were cared for in the licensed childcare center on the First Step property. Methamphetamine remained the primary substance identified by women at admission, followed by alcohol and opioids. Over 50% of admitted women were uninsured. Collaboration with Heartland Community Health Clinic continued for primary medical care, psychiatric evaluation when needed, medication management, and Medication Assisted Treatment for those struggling with an alcohol or opioid disorder. Women were offered information about and access to resources related to domestic violence and sexual assault, in addition to primary substance use interventions, through First Step's collaborations with The Willow and The Sexual Trauma and Abuse Care Center. Nutrition and healthy food preparation were led by the Community Mercantile Educational Foundation's Growing Food Growing Hope community garden on the First Step property. A new partnership with Positive Bright Start was initiated in 2021. PBS now operates the childcare center adjacent to First Step and provides daycare services for the children living with their mothers in treatment, as well as families from throughout the community.

The COVID 19 pandemic continued to present challenges in 2021. Residential capacity remained at 75% to ensure clients could have their own bedroom and ample quarantine space if needed. Regular COVID testing, mask and distance requirements allowed the facility to maintain admissions throughout the year, however

capacity fluctuated as virus related staffing issues impacted required ratios. Intensive outpatient treatment with supportive housing – the modality that enables women to remain in the facility beyond residential treatment – continued to be suspended throughout 2021 due the “ins and outs” that could create virus exposure risk. The treatment team implemented a new approach to this modality near the end of the year, using City of Lawrence Special Alcohol Fund supported barrier reduction dollars to pay deposit and rent at local Oxford Houses (recovery housing) as women transitioned to virtual IOP groups 3 days weekly. Thirteen women were helped to secure housing. Outpatient individual and group therapy remained fully virtual.

3. Refer to your 2021 agreement for funding; report what progress was made toward your proposed outcomes and comment as necessary.

Outcomes	List 2021 outcomes from agreement	Comment as necessary
Outcome #1	85% of adult women will report a decrease in substance use at completion.	93% reported a decrease in substance use at completion.
Outcome #2	70% of women will successfully complete residential substance use disorder treatment as defined by meeting goals and objectives on their treatment plans.	61% of program participants successfully completed a residential modality.
Outcome #3	80% of women who complete the discharge satisfaction survey will report improvements in their physical health.	70% reported improvements in their physical health at discharge. 25% reported no change.

4. Refer to the line-item budget provided in your 2021 application for funding; is this accurate to how your allocation was actually spent? If no, what changed and why?

Budget Categories	Requested Amount	Actual Amount	Comment as necessary
Personnel	34,476	40,350	Increased personnel costs necessitated shifting available funds to cover the grant funded position.
Fees & Services			
Estimates/Bids			
Travel			
Marketing			
Cost of Materials			
Operating Expenses			
Other	10,524	4,650	Fewer women than anticipated applied for and received barrier reduction support for housing.
Grand Total	45,000	45,000	