

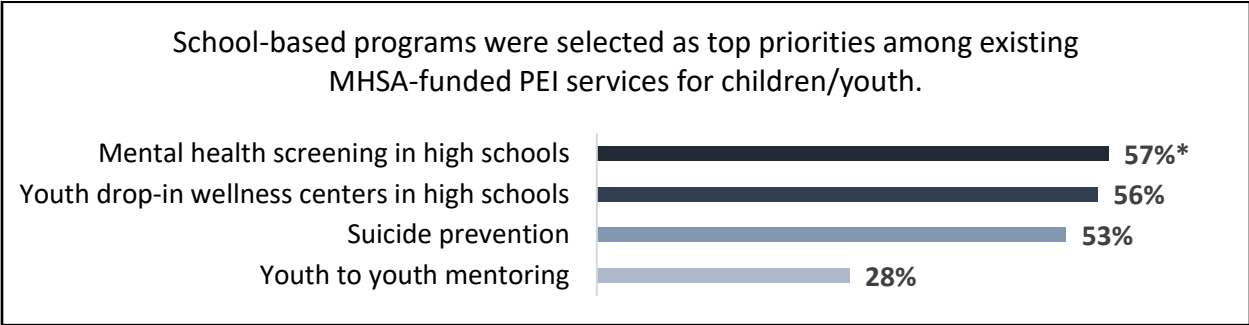
NEVADA COUNTY MHSA:
2019 COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUMMARY FINDINGS

What's working well with mental health services in Nevada County?

1. Existing services in schools

- Drop-in wellness center
- Mental health screening
- Referrals for mental health services

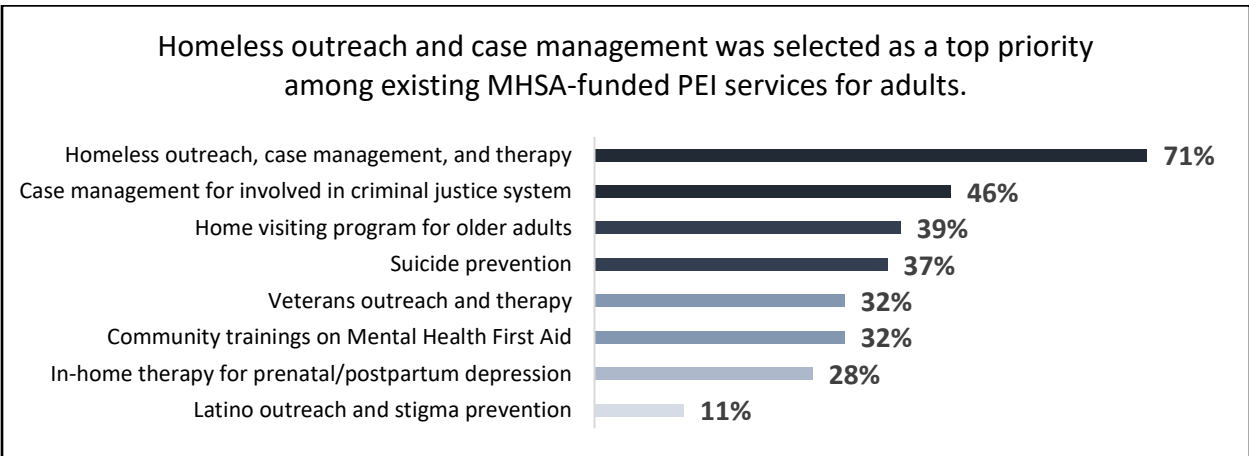
“Having successful models for community-school collaboration has increased access for students.”



*Percentages represent total participants that selected each option.

2. Homeless outreach and case management

“The HOME team is reaching out and working with people that in the past have been very difficult to serve, there’s a wrap-around of support and care for these folks.”



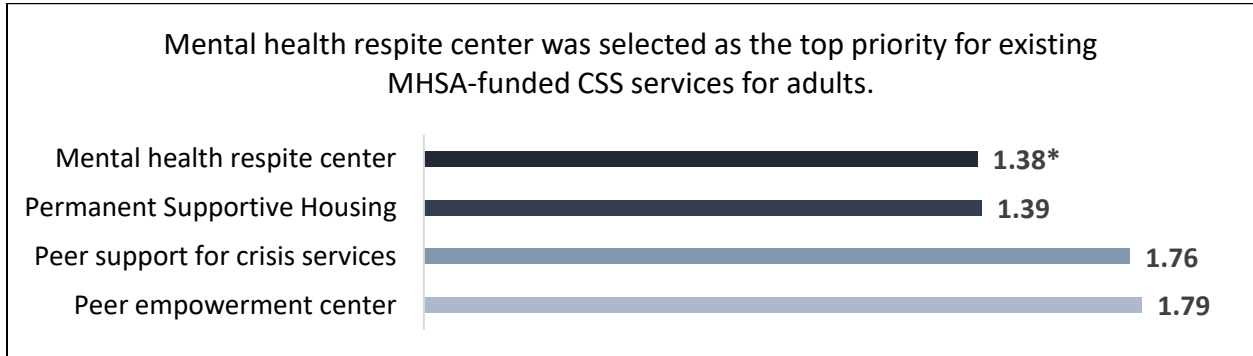
NEVADA COUNTY MHSA:
2019 COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUMMARY FINDINGS

3. Collaboration

- Among service providers
- Between mental health providers and law enforcement

“We have a culture of being proactive on mental health issues across the board, including law enforcement and all of the providers.”

4. Mental health respite for adults



*Numbers represent weighted average, with 1 indicating highest priority.

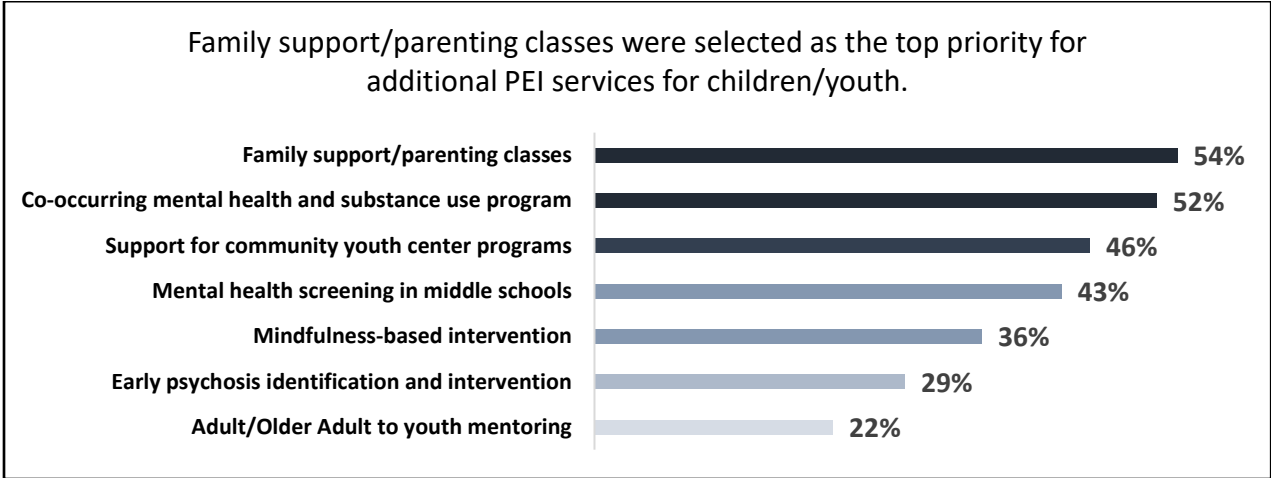
NEVADA COUNTY MHSA:
2019 COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUMMARY FINDINGS

What are additional mental health service needs in Nevada County for children/youth?

1. Parent support and involvement

- Collaboration with service providers
- Direct support and programs for parents

“We’ve seen that parents’ voices are minimized.”
“Providers don’t know how to collaborate with families.”



2. Mental health and substance use programs

- Selected as a high priority for additional PEI service for children/youth (see chart above)

3. School-based services

- Lack of mental health services in schools
- Awareness/understanding of mental illness in schools

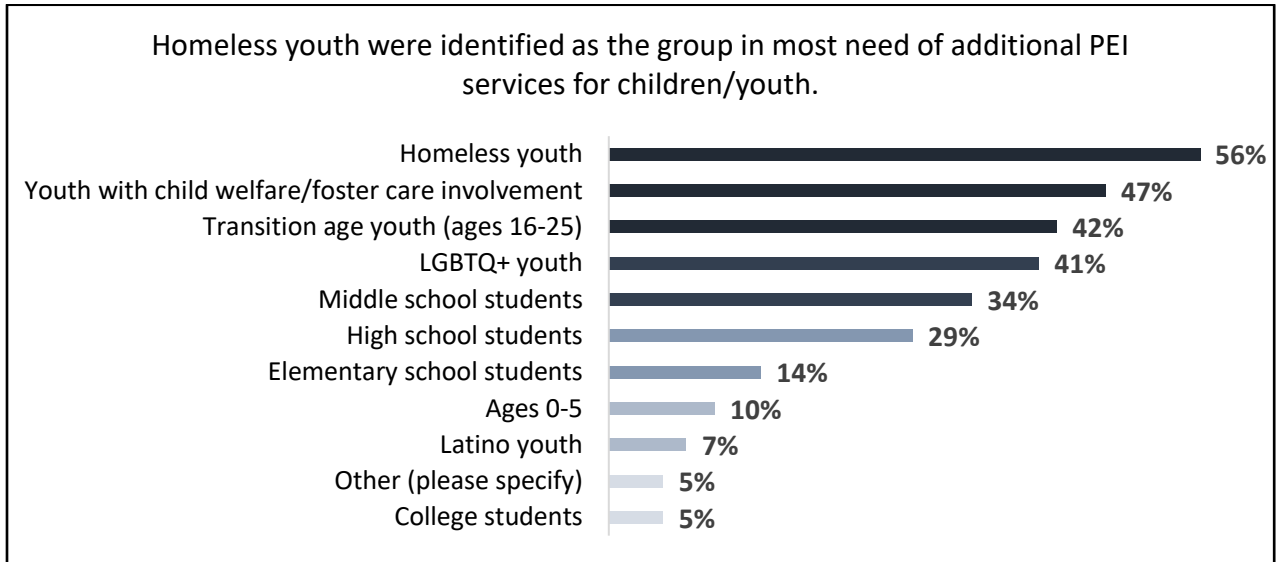
“I’ve heard schools look at behaviors as something that needs to be corrected. Behaviors can be symptoms of mental illness.”

“When our family went through severe mental illness there was no support for my daughter at the high school.”

“A big need is more cohesion between the education system and the county to get youth the mental health services they need.”

NEVADA COUNTY MHSA:
2019 COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUMMARY FINDINGS

4. Services for homeless youth



5. Respite care for youth

“Respite for youth is one of our greatest needs. Our kids are suffering because we cannot get a break.”

“There was no place that my son could go and diffuse the situation without getting involved in the criminal justice system. We tried.”

NEVADA COUNTY MHSA:
2019 COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUMMARY FINDINGS

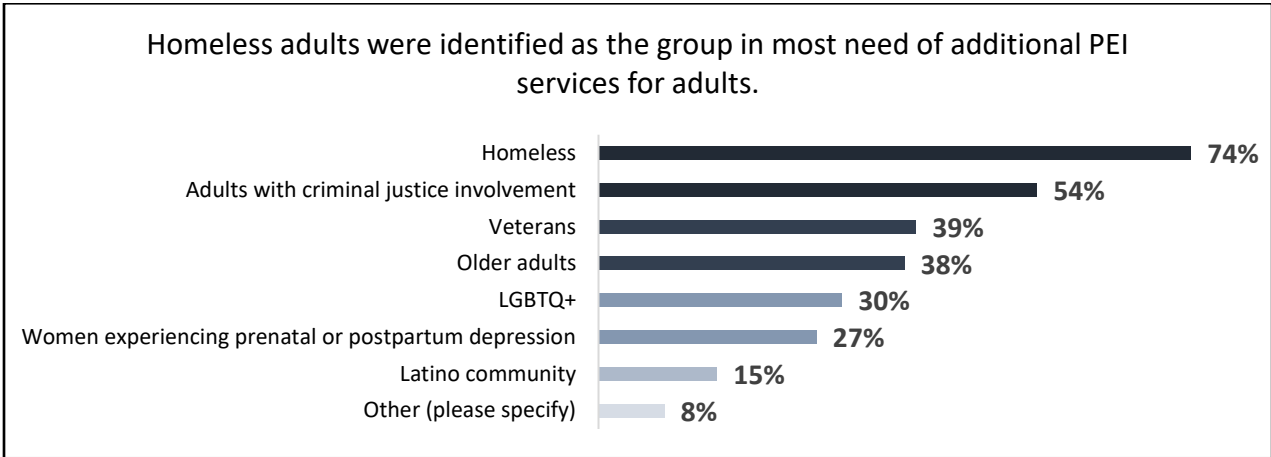
What are additional mental health service needs in Nevada County for adults?

1. Housing

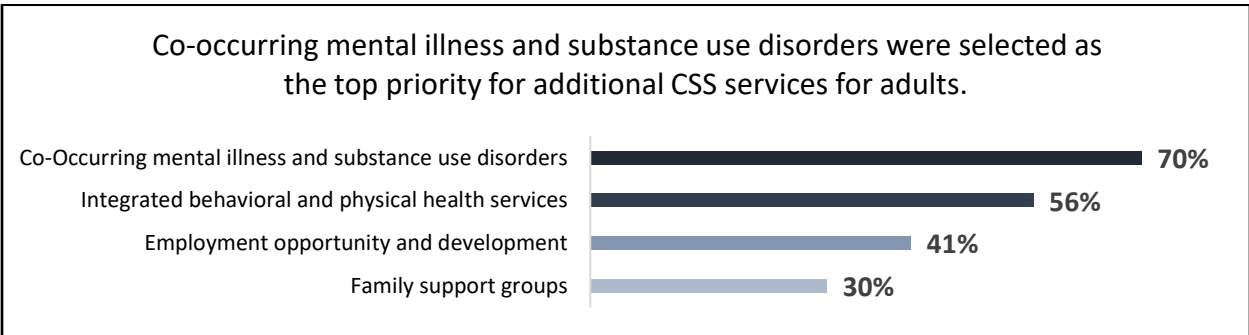
- Permanent supportive housing
- Transitional housing

“Housing continues to be a big issue in our community. It’s a community-wide problem, but certainly for the mentally ill we need permanent supportive housing.”

2. Services for homeless adults



3. Mental health and substance use services



NEVADA COUNTY MHSA:
2019 COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUMMARY FINDINGS

4. Crisis Services

- Community crisis response
- Crisis residential

“There is a gap in the capacity to deal with mental health crisis, including emotional first-aid and being able to de-escalate situations using non-physical interventions.”

“Crisis residential is one of the biggest gaps that we have, and it would alleviate a lot of the community pressure.”

5. Services for older adults

- Home visiting program

“There is a gap in services for elderly mentally ill folks. They are having severe medical issues plus a severe mental illness. There’s no one who will take them.”

NEVADA COUNTY MHSA:
2019 COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUMMARY FINDINGS

What are barriers to care?

Among those who reported a need for mental health services for themselves or a family member, 39% of people received needed services.



Barriers to care:

- Cost
- Insurance
- Lack of access to providers
 - Overall lack of providers in all areas of mental health
 - Providers that accept insurance
 - Provider turn-over
 - **Accessible psychiatry/counseling for non-severe mental health issues**

“We just don’t have enough providers, so there are people waiting and not getting prevention services.”

“I have to leave the county to find a psychiatrist that accepts my insurance.”

“When you’re accessing services and don’t have a consistent provider, you don’t develop that relationship that would speed up the process.”

- Language/cultural competency
 - Services in Spanish
 - Cultural competency on behalf of providers
 - Fear/embarrassment around seeking services

“Language is a barrier for many people. You can tell people that you can go and get help, but when you get there and there aren’t adequate services in Spanish, people leave.”

“We need bilingual providers. And bicultural, too.”

NEVADA COUNTY MHSA:
2019 COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUMMARY FINDINGS

Broad areas for improvement

1. Stigma

- Discrimination towards people with mental illness – from medical and mental health providers, community members, at schools

“There’s confusion around how to interact with individuals who are different. I’ve seen this among school children and also among providers. I’ve seen some things that are alarming to me.”

“Some providers don’t know how to build that relationship in the moment. It’s a separate skill-set, but it’s incredibly needed. We’re working on it still with our staff, all of the stigma.”

“There’s a difference in how people approach seen and unseen health issues. The stigma that happens with unseen mental health issues is institutionalized.”

2. Quality of care

- Treatment for severe mental illness
- Discomfort seeking care at Behavioral Health Department

“They were looking at symptoms as behaviors that needed to be managed versus illness that needed to be treated.”

“In this county, there’s a huge disconnect with severe mental illness. There’s nothing to help the early onset of severe mental illness, because it’s not recognized.”

3. Collaboration

- Primary care providers and mental health services
- Law enforcement, DA, hospital, and mental health services
- Service distribution/communication across the county

“We’ve had to push really hard as family members. Because what we’ve come to learn is that from the police to the hospital to the DA to the jail, none of them communicate.”