

Substance Use Recovery and Empowerment (SURE)

Description

The Substance Use Recovery and Empowerment (SURE) program's goal is to assist individuals diagnosed with a substance use disorder or co-occurring disorder in achieving long term recovery while living fulfilling and productive lives. SURE provides ASAM 2.1: Intensive Outpatient (IOP) and ASAM 1.0: Outpatient levels of care to individuals 18 years of age and older. The SURE program offers support and assistance in developing a recovery management plan that addresses substance use, process addictions, and co-occurring disorder concerns. SURE provides individual and group counseling, psychiatric evaluations, and medication monitoring to support individuals with substance use and co-occurring disorders throughout their recovery. The duration of treatment is determined based on clinical indication and medical necessity. The estimated length of treatment for ASAM 2.1 Level of care is approximately 14 to 16 weeks, while the estimated length of treatment for ASAM Level 1.0 is approximately 8 to 12 weeks.

Personnel

The SURE Program is staffed by one Licensed Program Director, one Licensed Co-Occurring Counselor, and one to two graduate level interns.

Caseload

During FY2026, the SURE Program admitted 98 individuals. Of these 98 consumers, 44 were admitted to the ASAM 2.1: Intensive Outpatient Program level of care, and 54 were admitted into ASAM 1.0: Outpatient Program level of care.

SURE consumers are insured primarily through Medicaid (72%), and Medicare (5%). The program also has grant funding through Morris County that covers individuals who are uninsured, with the goal of increasing access to treatment.

Demographics

The SURE Program provides services to individuals residing in Morris, Sussex, Essex, Warren, Union, and Hudson Counties.

The program served consumers ranging in age from 19 to 78 years old. Of those served, 70% were male, and 30% were female. Regarding ethnicity, 53% identified as White or Caucasian, 13% Hispanic or Latino, 30% Black or African American, and 4% preferred not to say.

Performance Outcomes

In FY2026, the SURE Program delivered 1,738 units of service for ASAM Level 2.1, which exceeded the program's targeted benchmark. In addition, the program delivered 1,060 units of service for ASAM Level 1.0: again, exceeding the overall targeted program commitment.

Consumer Satisfaction Surveys

In May 2026, SURE consumers were given the opportunity to participate in a Consumer Satisfaction Survey. The confidential survey included a total of fourteen questions formatted using a five-point Likert scale, demographic collection, and optional comment section. The survey was prepared in both English

and Spanish and offered in both paper format and a web-based link (SurveyMonkey). There was a 94% response rate with an overall satisfaction score of 93.1%.

Program Highlights

In FY2026, the SURE Program expanded access to medication-assisted treatment (MAT), with the program psychiatrist now prescribing Naltrexone, Vivitrol, and Suboxone to support individuals in their recovery from opioid and alcohol use disorders.

Additionally, the SURE Program expanded its community involvement throughout FY2026 by increasing outreach and engagement opportunities focused on Narcan education and training, relapse prevention, long-term sobriety, and recovery support. These efforts have strengthened the program's connection with community partners while increasing awareness of overdose prevention and recovery resources. The program also emphasized helping individuals build a stronger support network that promotes sustained recovery, improved health and wellness, and greater stability within the community.

Advocacy Activities

In FY2026, the SURE Program Director presented at the Morris County Overdose Fatality Review Team end-of-fiscal-year meeting, increasing awareness of evidence-based co-occurring treatment services, strengthening community partnerships, and expanding opportunities for collaboration and referrals.

The SURE Program also participates in monthly meetings with the Morris County Overdose Fatality Review Committee and its subcommittees to inform system-level improvements and align program practices with identified community needs. Through this involvement, the SURE Program engaged with Assemblywoman Aura Dunn to increase awareness of program services. This outreach resulted in the program being featured in a widely distributed newsletter, reaching approximately 76,000 individuals and further supporting community awareness and potential referrals.

In addition, the SURE program strengthened and expanded relationships with Recovery Court, Probation, Morris County Aftercare to increase referral pathways and ensure clients are connected to appropriate levels of substance use and co-occurring treatment.

FY 2027 Goals

For FY2027, the SURE Program will focus on expanding access to integrated substance use and mental health treatment while strengthening client engagement, retention, and recovery outcomes. The program will work to increase the census and service utilization through enhanced community outreach, referral development, and partnerships with hospitals, Recovery Court, probation/parole, DCP&P, healthcare providers, detoxification and residential programs, and other community organizations.

The SURE Program will continue to strengthen ASAM Level 2.1 IOP and Level 1.0 outpatient services while exploring opportunities to expand programming including evening IOP services, to improve accessibility. The program will also focus on improving coordination with psychiatric and medical providers, increasing access to medication-supported recovery, and addressing barriers related to housing, transportation, healthcare, employment that may impact treatment participation and recovery.

Overall, the SURE Program will continue to prioritize high-quality, recovery-oriented services that promote sustained recovery, improved mental health and substance use outcomes, increased community stability, and successful long-term independence for individuals with co-occurring disorders.