

The Behavioral Health Workforce

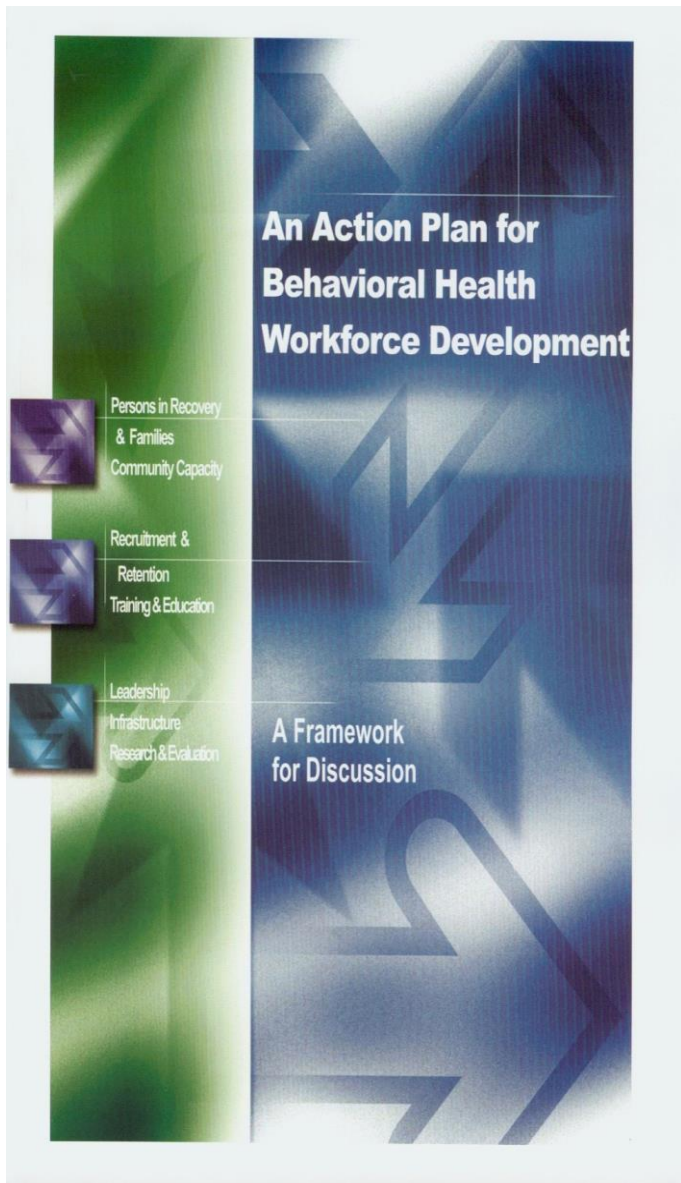
Gail W. Stuart, PhD, RN

- 55% of US counties have no behavioral health provider
- 77% have unmet behavioral health needs
- Plagued with shortages and maldistribution





Taking Nursing to a



- **CALL TO ACTION – 2007**
- Mental health, addictions, treatment & prevention
- Identified a core set of strategic goals & objectives and priority **action items** by **stakeholder**
- A planning resource with **levers of change**

1000 points of “NO”

WHO, WHAT, WHERE
of the Behavioral Health
Workforce and Policy
Recommendations

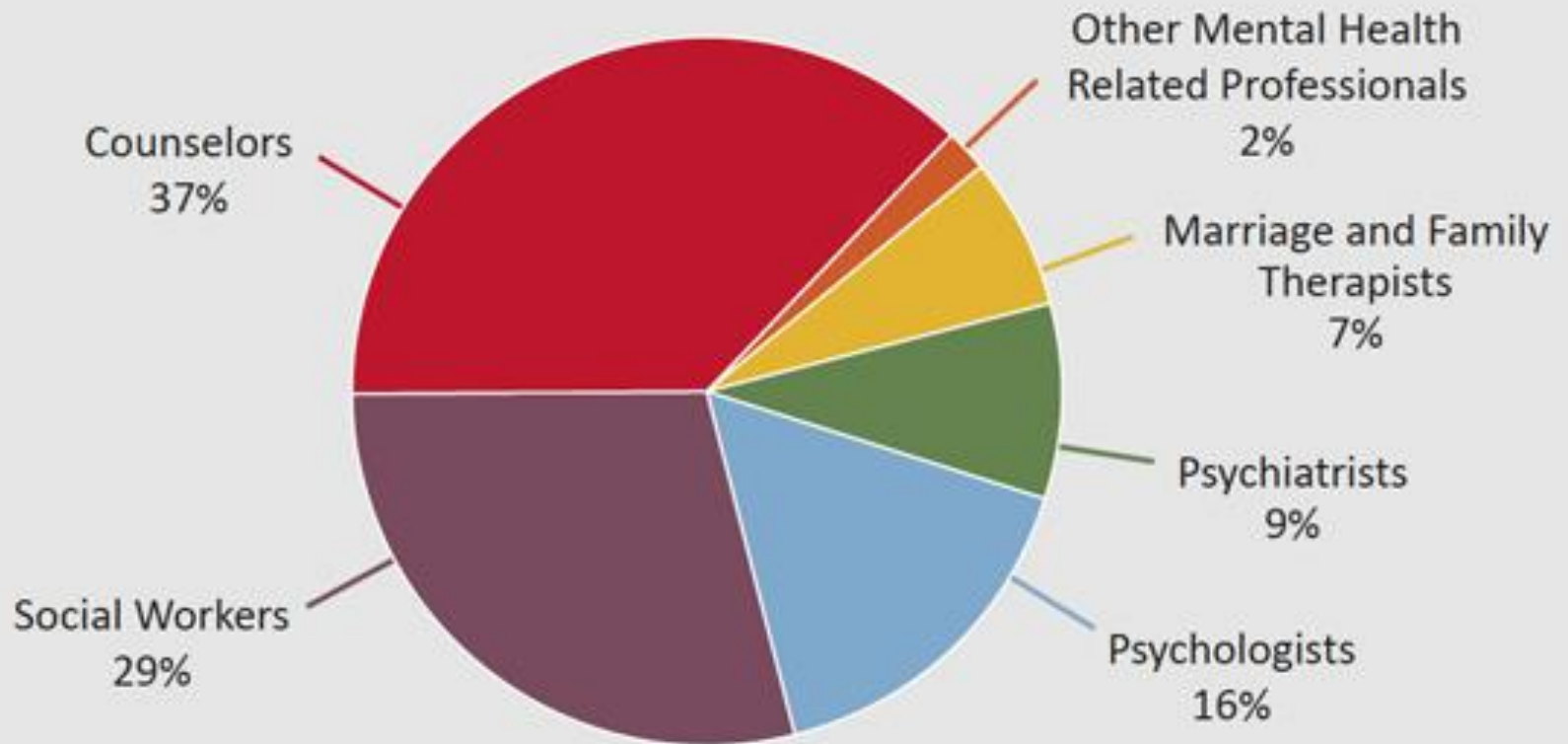
1) WHO is our Workforce?



Taking Nursing to a Higher Level

Behavioral Health Workforce

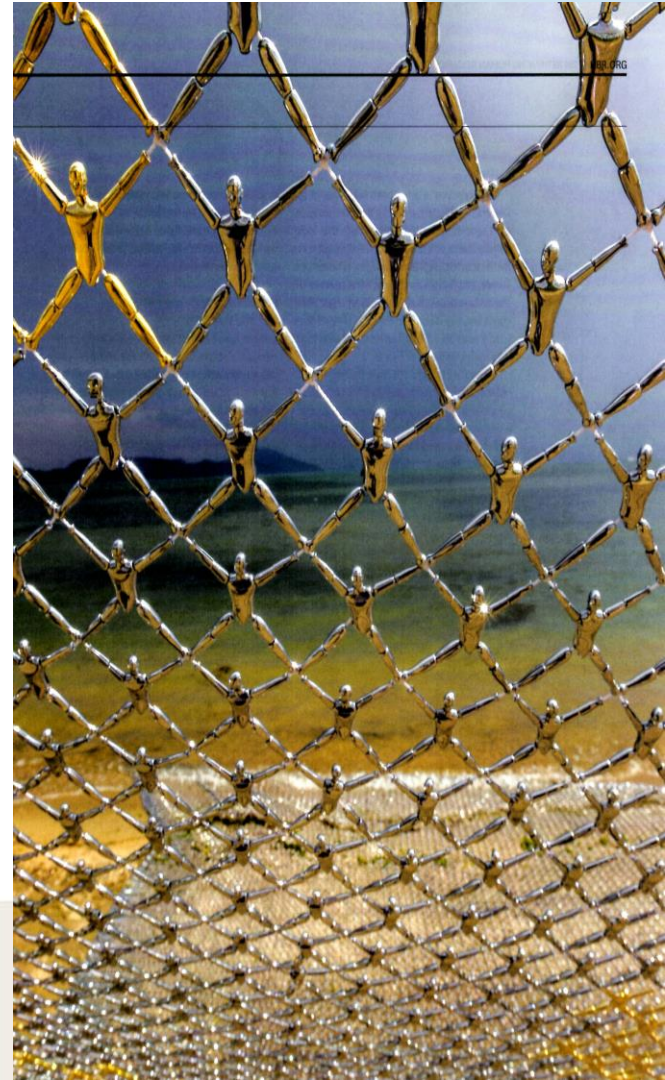
Behavioral Health and Other Related Providers, by Field⁶



Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, National Provider Identifier (NPI) Database (2014)

➤ We Need to *Redefine* the Workforce

- 100,000 nurses working in mental health settings
- Over 275,000 primary care clinicians
- 3.8 million general nurses
- Police
- Peers, consumers, people in recovery
- Community health workers
- Families and friends



➤ We Need a Planning *Data Base*

- Nationally adopt a minimum data set of all specialty and generalist behavioral health care providers:
Michigan: Behavioral Health Workforce Research Center funded by SAMHSA and HRSA
- Exemplar: New Mexico passed legislation to provide the state with behavioral health workforce data

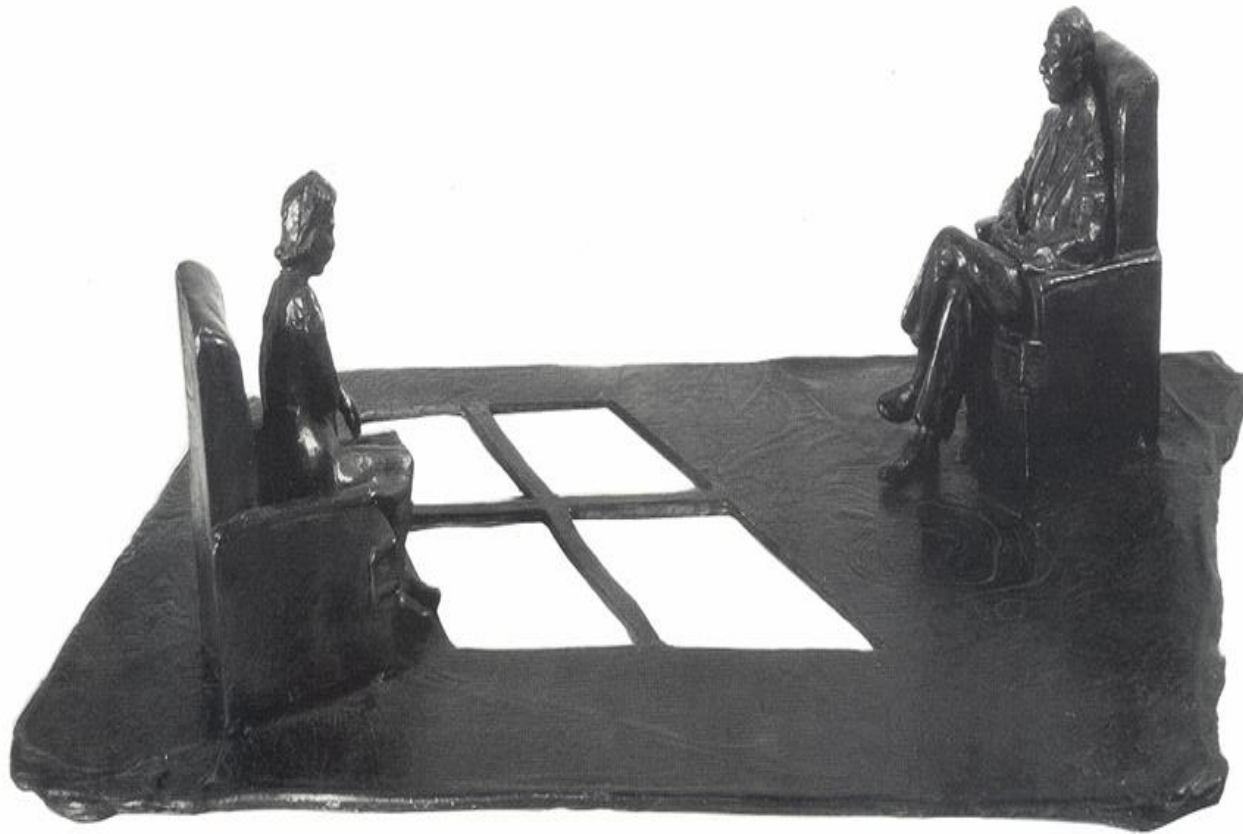


➤ We Need to *Recruit* our Future Workforce and then *Retain* Them

- Expand federal programs:
 - Loan forgiveness
 - Training programs (BHWET)
- Allow for full scope of practice for all licensed/credentialed clinicians
- Reimbursement for all licensed/credentialed clinicians
- Fully utilize and reimburse non-behavioral health providers as core behavioral health service providers – nurses, other clinicians, peers, community health workers

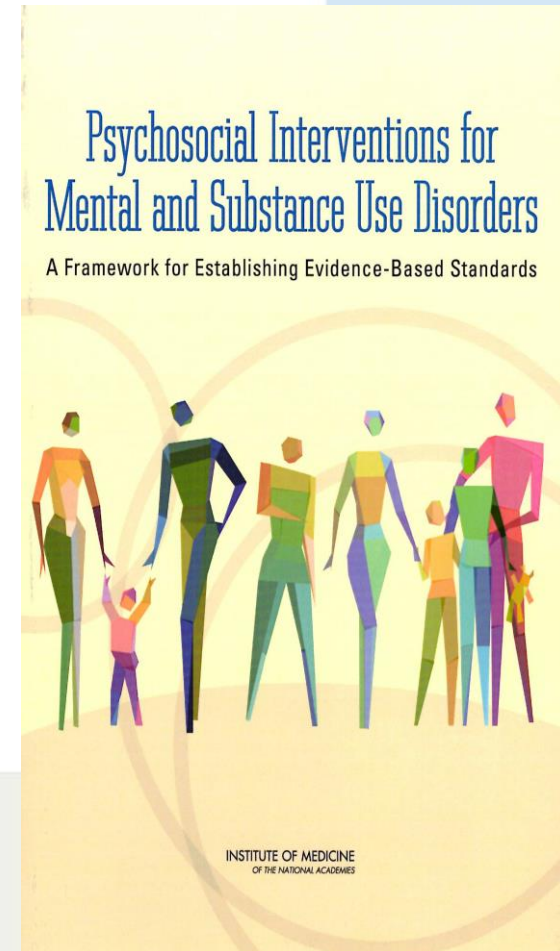


2) WHAT type of care is provided?



➤ We Need to Rethink our *Treatments*

- Reimburse only Evidence-Based treatments inclusive of “non-traditional” care – trauma-informed, recovery support, care coordination
- Expand fee-for-service limitations in primary care from 10-15 minute appointments
- Eliminate prohibiting same-day and two-generation services
- Reimburse specialty trainees for care provided



➤ We Need to Rethink our *Treatments*

- Move beyond medications into psychosocial interventions
- Implement new processes of care – simple, standardized, automated screening tools
- Triage patients to most appropriate care-giver based on symptom severity and type and intensity of service needed



➤ We Need to Rethink our *Treatments*

- Opioid Crisis – 47% US counties and 60% rural counties have no MAT prescriber
- Eliminate the waiver process for MAT prescribers by including it in training programs
- Eliminate waiver requirements for those who can prescribe controlled substances
- Make MAT an essential health benefit
- Ensure insurance parity

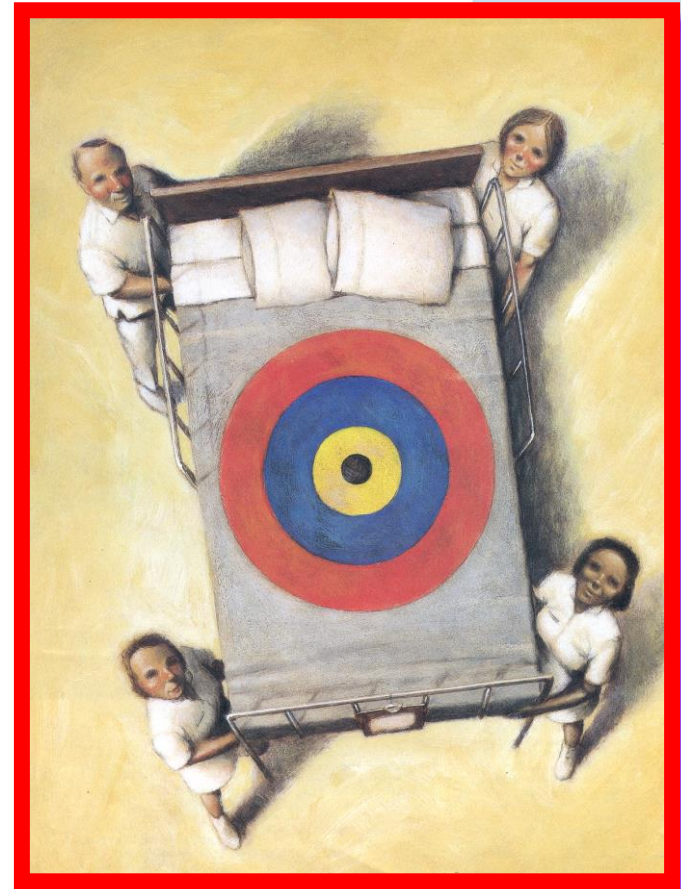


3) WHERE is Care Provided?

- Hospitals
- Clinics – siloed and/or integrated
- Outpatient offices
- Medical Homes
- Sometimes Mobile Crisis Units
- Sometimes Crisis Stabilization and/or Detox Units

- Most settings are 9-5 on weekdays

- And so the ER is now a primary point of behavioral health care



➤ We Need to Rethink our *Settings*

- Churches
- Community Center
- Work places
- Prisons
- Schools
- Homes

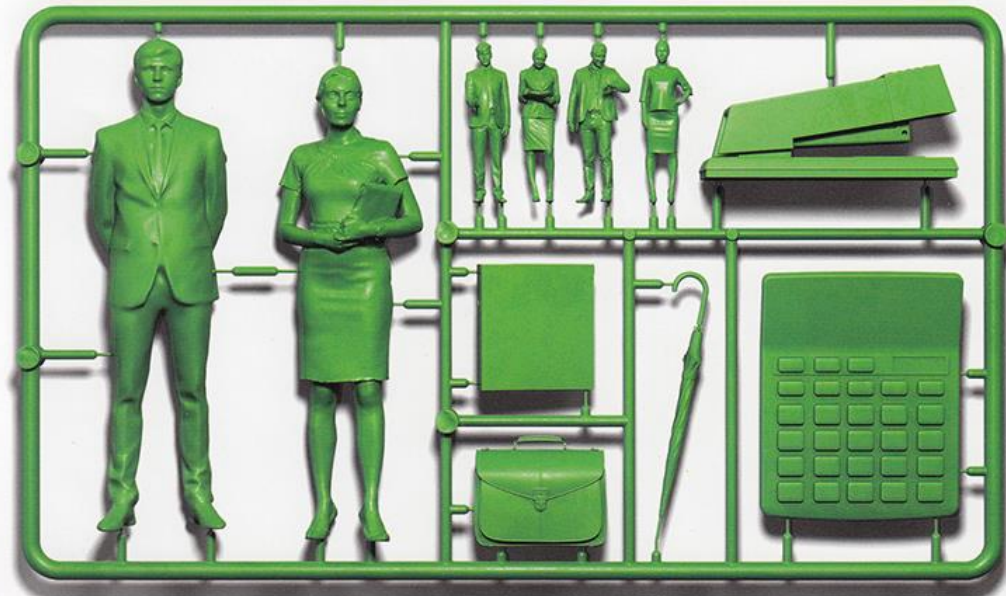
- And coming NOW is “anytime, anywhere” behavioral health care with eHealth, mHealth, telehealth and telesupervision



So, at the End of the Day.....

We need the *right workers*
with the *right skills*
in the *right place*
doing the *right thing*

Thank you!



**BUILDING
A WORKFORCE
FOR THE FUTURE**