

Regional Workshop on Deinstitutionalization in Latin America and the Caribbean

Date: October 8-9, 2019

Place: Bogotá, Colombia

Meeting Room: Lunas

Introduction

The Mental Health and Substance Use Unit of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) has organized two meetings (Washington, DC, USA / December 2017 and Lima, Peru / September 2018) with the participation of experts and professionals with experience in reorganization processes of mental health services in diverse contexts. During these events, participants reviewed the situation of mental health services, identifying effective interventions for deinstitutionalization in Latin America and the Caribbean (LA&C).

Additionally, a literature review was conducted to identify best practices of deinstitutionalization and community-based interventions as alternatives to the asylee model for people with severe, long-term mental disorders. In this initial phase, the review focused on the strategies used, as well as the facilitating factors and the main barriers.

Experience of deinstitutionalization in the region were evaluated and good practices identified through an online survey of mental health professionals and other actors with experience in the field.

Throughout this process, experiences and lessons learned were discussed, with a central focus on overcoming the old service model based on the psychiatric hospital and strengthening the fight against the stigma surrounding people with mental disorders. It was highlighted, among other aspects, that deinstitutionalization can only be developed in the context of a national mental health plan.

This workshop is part of the technical cooperation efforts that PAHO is developing with the countries of the Region to strengthen the reform of psychiatric services in Latin America and the Caribbean, considering that deinstitutionalization is an essential element in these processes.

Objectives:

1. To review the current situation of mental health services in Latin America and the Caribbean, with emphasis on care for people with severe, long-term mental disorders.
2. To analyze the experiences and lessons learned in the deinstitutionalization processes of the Region.
3. To identify the road map for promoting and developing deinstitutionalization processes in countries, including the role of international technical cooperation.

Expected Results:

- Inputs for the preparation of a technical document on deinstitutionalization in Latin America and the Caribbean, which will serve as a tool for countries to promote processes of this type.
- Identified the most effective international technical cooperation mechanisms in deinstitutionalization processes.

Workshop Agenda

Day 1: Tuesday, 8 October, 2019

Moderator: Dr. Luz Maria Salazar, PAHO/WHO, Colombia

Time	Session	Presenter/Comments
8:30 a.m.	Reception and registration of participants	
9:00 a.m.	Opening Remarks	Dr. Gina Tambini, PAHO/WHO Representative Colombia Dr. Ana Maria Peñuela Ministry of Health and Social Protection
9:20 a.m.	Introduction of Participants	Moderator
9:30 a.m.	Introduction to the workshop Programmatic framework and situation of mental health services in Latin America and the Caribbean - ATLAS 2017	Dr. Claudina Cayetano Advisor Mental Health PAHO/WHO
10:00 a.m.	Break	
10:30 a.m.	Deinstitutionalization in the framework of the re-organization of mental health services in LA &C Report summary of the two workshops developed	Dr. Jorge Rodriguez Consultant, PAHO/WHO
11:00 a.m.	Brief presentations of national experiences by selected participants 10 minutes per country (according to presentation guide)	Belize, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Guyana, and Peru
12:00 m	Open Discussion	
12:30 p.m.	Lunch	
2:00 p.m.	Presentation of the results of the first national census of persons admitted for mental health reasons in Argentina	Mr. Luciano Grasso National Director of Mental Health and Addictions, Argentina
2:30 p.m.	Presentation of the report on the literature review and the results of the survey	Dr. Matías Irrarrázaval Director of the Department of Mental Health, Ministry of Health of Chile
3:00 p.m.	General discussion in plenary session: Central question: What are the most effective strategies, facilitators and enabling environments, as well as the main barriers to deinstitutionalization processes for people with severe mental disorders in psychiatric institutions?	Discuss the results of the qualitative and quantitative review and survey
4:30 p.m.	Close of session	

Day 2: Wednesday, 9 October 2019

Moderator: Dr. Claudina Cayetano

Time	Session	Presenter/Comments
8:30 a.m.	Presentation of technical cooperation between Chile, Peru and Paraguay (CCHD)	Dr. Andrea Bruni Advisor Mental Health PAHO/WHO
9:00 a.m.	Organization of group work (A guide for group work will be made available)	
10:00 a.m.	Break	
10:30 a.m.	Continuation of group work Preparation of presentations	A format will be available for the presentations
12:30 p.m.	Lunch	
1:30 p.m.	Group presentations (Q&A)	
3:00 p.m.	Elaboration of work chronogram Organization of a technical team for the final editorial revision of the technical document Defining Next Steps	Ms. Amy Tausch Consultant, PAHO/WHO
4:00 p.m.	Commemoration of World Mental Health Day	Dr. Claudina Cayetano Advisor Mental Health PAHO/WHO
	Conclusions	