

Baker County

Population 16,455*



Vicki Long, Director
Mountain Valley
Mental Health Programs, Inc.
(541) 523-5903
vicki_97814@yahoo.com

Mental Health & Developmental Disabilities Services

Screening & 24-hour Crisis Services
Mountain Valley
Mental Health Programs, Inc.
2200 4th Street, Baker City
(541) 523-5914

Addictions Services

Screening
New Directions Northwest, Inc
(541) 523-7400

Baker County Board of Commissioners:



Fred Warner, Jr.,
Chair



Tim L. Kerns



Carl E. Stiff

County government is the local fiscal agent for state funds and provides accounting, legal, and human resources services as well as county funds for detoxification services

New Directions NW, Inc. *contracted to provide Addictions Services*

Prevention

Prevention staff works on-site in public schools with children, provides technical support to faculty and coordinates alternative activities for youth

Treatment

Outpatient services provided at Blue Mountain Addictions Program
Residential treatment at Elkhorn Adolescent Treatment, Baker House (Adults 9 women and men, includes co-occurring disorder treatment*), Recovery Village (women with children) including Seeking Safety* program
Detox: Baker House (County dollars maintain open beds for residents and visitors)

Recovery

AA 12-step groups*, transitional housing

* An Evidence-Based Practice

Adult and Adolescent Drug Court*

Hon. Greg Baxter, Presiding Judge

Treatment funded primarily through federal Northeast Oregon Collaborative for Child Safety grant and provided by Blue Mountain Addictions Program & Mountain Valley Mental Health

*Population Research Center, PSU, March 2009

Go to www.aocmhp.org for Baker County's detailed community implementation plan

Mountain Valley Mental Health Programs, Inc.

provides mental health and developmental disabilities services, quality improvement and utilization management of state-county shared services on contract with Baker County

Developmental Disabilities Services

Program Administration

Eligibility determination, quality assurance, foster care licensing, family support, contracts, protective services and adult support services

Service Coordination

Crisis services, referral, person-centered planning, monitoring, advocacy, and information and training

Residential, vocational and transportation services

The state Seniors & People with Disabilities Division contracts outside of the local planning and quality assurance process for adult support services with **Eastern Oregon Support Services Brokerage**

Mental Health Services

Prevention and Early Intervention

24-hour crisis intervention, crisis respite for adults, children's crisis respite at Elkhorn Adolescent Treatment Center

Outpatient

Adult: case management, medication management*, counseling (including co-occurring disorders*), intensive skill building (Dialectical Behavioral Therapy)*

Children: Intensive Community Treatment and Support, Community Resource Teams provide multi-agency coordination and person-centered planning, individual and family therapy, full-time staff at Elkhorn Adolescent for co-occurring disorders*

Community Housing and Residential Services

Adults: Supported housing* through the NE Housing Authority

Children: therapeutic foster homes

Acute Care

St. Charles (Bend), Portland area hospitals, Intermountain Hospital (Boise - voluntary placements only)
Subacute: McNary Place (Pendleton)

Recovery Supports

Peer Drop-In Center* with illness management and recovery*, therapeutic support & skills training provided

Services to Special Populations

- Disaster response (case management for residents, counseling services to emergency responders)
- Services to jail inmates (on-site)

* An Evidence-Based Practice

Serving still



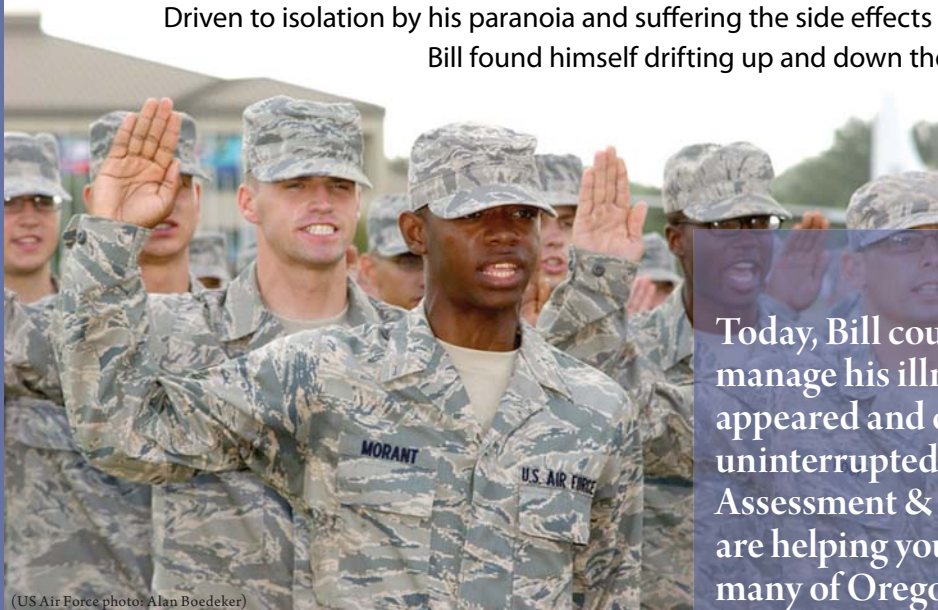
As a boy growing up on the West Coast, “Bill” dreamt of the day he would don his Air Force uniform and fly into the sunrise.

Their son was bright and capable, and knowing they would struggle to put him through college, Bill’s parents encouraged his dream of joining the military. He followed through on his plan and served honorably in the United States Air Force for four years after high school. He then embarked on his university career as a veteran with the help of the G.I. Bill.

Six months later he experienced his first psychotic break and so began a long nightmare. He was diagnosed with schizophrenia, paranoid type, and was forced to drop out of college.

Because Bill’s illness was not diagnosed until after he was discharged from the military, he was ineligible for the VA benefits that would have made medical and social supports available.

Driven to isolation by his paranoia and suffering the side effects of powerful psychotropic medication, Bill found himself drifting up and down the West Coast, on and off his troublesome medication, in and out of psychiatric wards.



(US Air Force photo: Alan Boedeker)

Today, Bill could have learned to manage his illness as soon as it appeared and continued his education uninterrupted. Research-based Early Assessment & Support Teams (EAST) are helping young people do just that in many of Oregon’s communities.



His unmanaged illness spiraled into a Social Security-covered disability, but Bill was too sick to manage his benefits. An unusual symptom of his worsening condition was a speech disorder that caused him to appear slow or intoxicated. Coupled with his other symptoms, this made him a ripe target for the unscrupulous. Victimized by these “friends”, he was soon homeless and withdrawing further and further from the outside world into the recesses of his mind.

The turning point came when Bill moved in with a relative in Baker City. The dog that had been his only faithful companion through twelve years of chaos was struck and killed by a car outside their home. Bill was devastated. His grief and his unmanaged illness led to an altercation with his family member. Police were called in and once again he was homeless. But it would be the last time.



Baker County’s mental health program, Mountain Valley Mental Health, provided Bill a doorway to recovery. Program staff correctly diagnosed schizophrenia, disorganized type, which finally explained his speech problems and got him the right medication. Over time, his symptoms became manageable. His case manager helped him develop a financial plan and successfully manage his money for the first time as an independent adult. Mountain Valley paid his rent at a local motel for the first few months while he got on his feet.

As Bill stabilized on his medication and the stressors of his daily life were reduced, his speech improved. He began to emerge from the isolation imposed by his illness and developed healthy relationships with his peers through the program’s drop-in center. Vocational rehabilitation services helped him find a job.

On a sunny day in Baker City, Bill can now be found manning the barbeque at the drop-in center. He has become a mainstay of love and support for his peers. There is also a new certificate on his wall, next to his Airforce photos. It reads, “Salvation Army Employee of the Month.”