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Coming Alongside Women Experiencing Homelessness

Alexis Dang
Seattle Pacific University

Brianna Cowan
Seattle Pacific University

Tashayla Braxton
Seattle Pacific University

Ellen Jacobs
Seattle Pacific University

Elizabeth Cortes
Seattle Pacific University

See next page for additional authors

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Authors

Alexis Dang, Brianna Cowan, Tashayla Braxton, Ellen Jacobs, Elizabeth Cortes, and Erin Smith

Coming Alongside Women Experiencing Homelessness

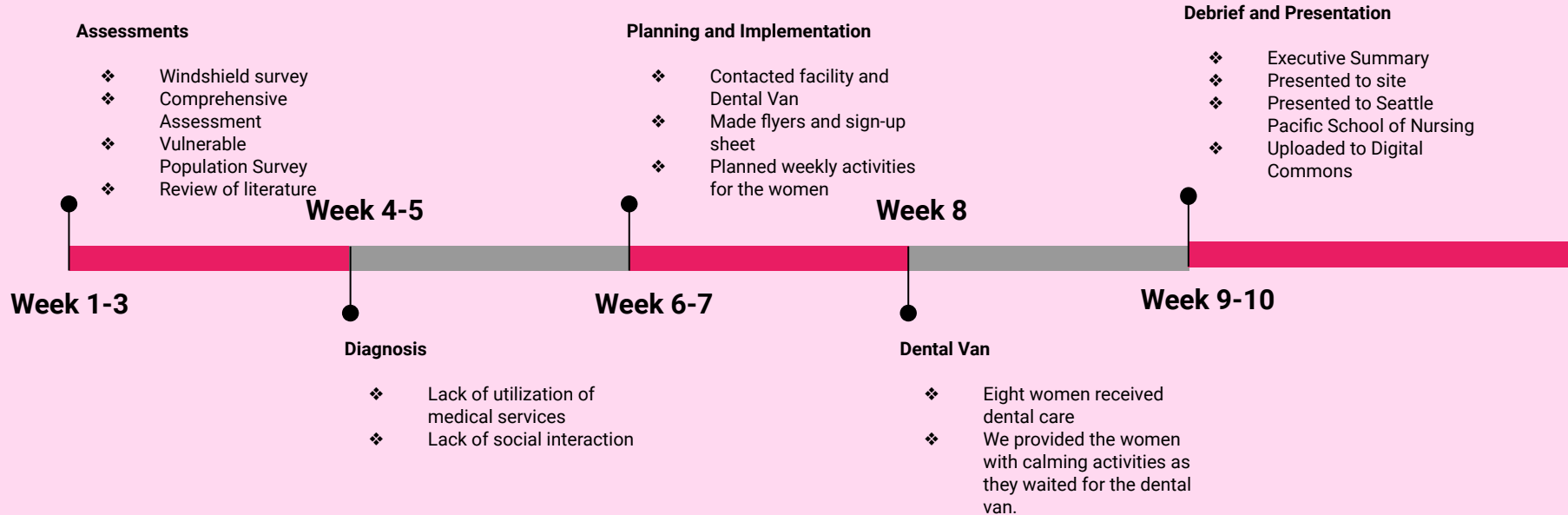
Tashayla Braxton, Elizabeth Cortes, Brianna
Cowan, Lexi Dang, Ellen Jacobs, Erin Smith

Day Center for homeless women



- Provides safety & support for homeless women
- > 200 women utilization daily
- Current overnight services:
 - Meals
 - Laundry
 - Showers
 - Lockers
 - connections to community resources → housing, employment, & stability

Timeline



Assessment

- **Windshield Assessment**

- Minimal grocery stores within walking distance
- ++ construction around the block
- Large homeless population in the area
- Easy access to transportation (buses right outside the door)

- **Comprehensive Assessment**

- Women at shelter
- Staff
- Literature review
- Previous groups work

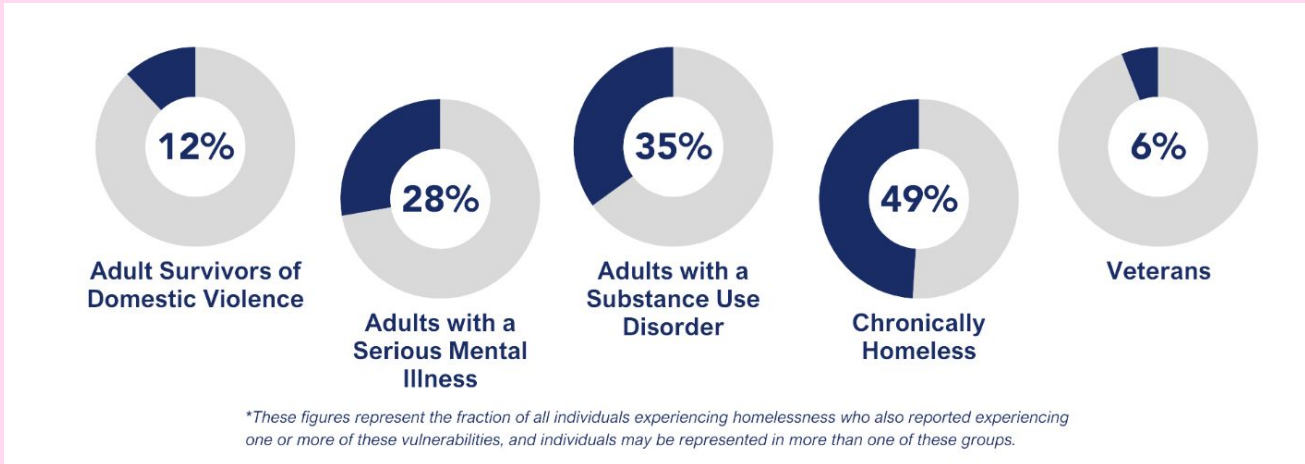
Levels of Prevention

- **Primary**
 - Education
 - Oral care
 - Physical exercise
 - Sleep
 - **Secondary**
 - Oral screenings in the dental van
 - **Tertiary**
 - Teeth extraction
 - Fillings
-

2024 King County Statistics

- **16,385 individuals experiencing homelessness in 2024**

- 5,140 women were experiencing homelessness in 2024 (King County Regional Homelessness Authority, 2024) which is about a 21.5% percent increase from 2022.



Nursing Diagnosis



- **Lack of utilization of health resources**

r/t avoidant behavior

aeb negative reports of past experiences in medical settings leading to reluctance to seek healthcare.

- **Impaired social interaction and self affirming behaviors**

r/t covid outbreak

aeb staff reports, student observations and some refusals of affirmation cards
(due to disbelief)

Planning

— — —

- **Logic Model**

- Input
- Activities
- Output
- Outcomes
- Impact

- **Activities**

- Art
- Music
- Exercise
- Flyers
- Medical equipment



Dental Van
May 15th, 2024



Where will the van be located?

- **Right in front of Agency!**
- The nursing students of Seattle Pacific University will provide you with a **waiting area**.



Do I need health insurance?

- **No!**
- Getting your teeth checked will be **free of cost**.
- This will not be a cleaning; the dentist will be doing fillings, checking for cavities, etc.



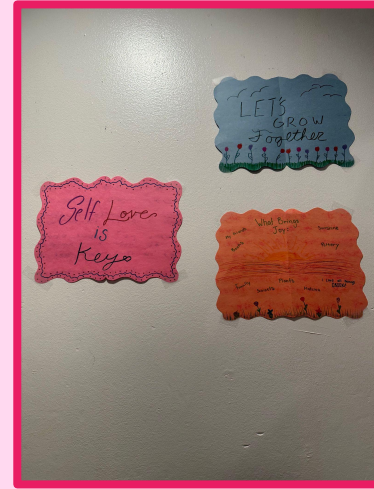
How do I sign up?

- Lilliann will provide a **sign-up sheet**.
- **Any accommodations can also be arranged** during this time.

Join the students before your appointment for snacks, music, and relaxing activities!

Need accommodations? Contact site coordinator

Implementation

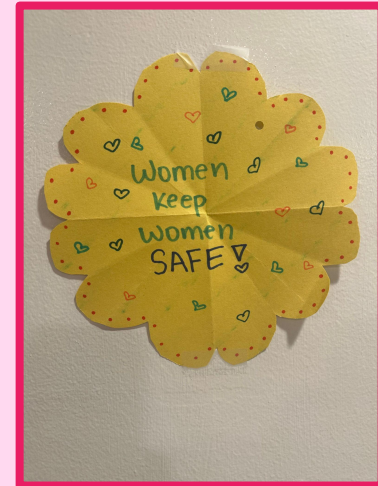


- **Weekly Activities**

- Played calming music in the background
- Wrote self-empowering affirmations
- Drew, colored, and created art

- **Dental Van**

- Developed Dental Van flyer
- Posted sign-up sheet and encouraged women to sign-up
- Waiting room on day of dental van



Evaluation & Outcomes

- **Weekly Activities**
 - The women reported feeling empowered through the use of art therapy and affirmations.
- **Dental Van**
 - Twelve people signed up for the service (8 women utilized services)





Photos from the Dental Van

*Client and student nurse approved



Limitations

- **Wheelchair accessibility**
 - There were steep stairs leading up to the dental van, making it inaccessible to someone who uses a wheelchair
- **Language barriers**
 - There was limited access to an interpreter for the women who spoke a language other than English.
- **Working with a 3rd Party**



Recommendations

- Streamlining patient information between the dental van and student group
- Providing information about the population
- Trauma-Informed Care



Questions?

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References

King County Regional Homelessness Authority. (2024, May 16). *Point-in-time count*. KCRHA.

<https://kcrha.org/data-overview/king-county-point-in-time-count/>