



2015 Annual Report to Our Communities



Executive Management

Maggie Labarta, Ph.D.
President/Chief Executive Officer

Steve Pittman, Ph.D.
Executive Vice President/Chief Operating Officer

Richard Anderson, MHS, CAP
Senior Vice President, New Business & Specialty Programs

Morris Breitstein
*Senior Vice President, Administrative Services/
Chief Financial Officer*

Zoe Seale
Senior Vice President, Advancement

Jackie Knabel, MHRM, SPHR
Senior Vice President, Human Resources

Don Savoie
*Senior Vice President, Information Technology/Chief
Information Officer*



During the month of June 2015 the healthcare accreditation organization CARF International, conducted an on site survey of Meridian Behavioral Healthcare Inc.'s numerous programs and clinics throughout the North Florida region. This survey resulted in Meridian being awarded a three-year accreditation for meeting and exceeding CARF's high standards.

The CARF accreditation will extend through June 2018. "This achievement is an indication of Meridian's dedication and commitment to improving the quality of the lives of the persons served. This high degree of accreditation reflects Meridian's commitment to continuously improving services, encouraging feedback, and serving the community." (CARF Report, 2015)

Board of Associates

Michele Adams-Johnson	Cathy Ipser
Charles Allen	Joel Islam
Sinoma Brown	Debby Kinman-Ford
Rachael Channing	Lindsey B. Lander
Phil Emmer	Tonya Meyer-Walsh
Barbara Emmer	Surojit Ojha
Robert Fetterman, Jr.	Barzella Papa
Greg Fleming	Eric C. Parker
Brian Graham	Melanie Shore
Sam Guess	Crista Thomas
Jim Ipser	Mantha Young

Board of Directors

Sinoma Brown
Chair Person, Dixie County

Lillian Cason
Columbia County

Rev. Ross Chandler
Executive Committee, Bradford County

Bryan Da Frota
Alachua County, At-Large

Chief Robert Douglas
Levy County

Sharon Gay
Vice Chair, Hamilton County

Deborah Gordon
Secretary, Union County

Jodi Irving
Alachua County

Sharon Longworth
Alachua County

John Martz
Suwannee

Paul Metts
Alachua County, At-Large

Irma Phillips-Maxwell
Alachua County

Timothy Treweek
Alachua County

Larry Turner
Executive Committee, Alachua County

Rebecca Sharpe
Lafayette County

Mary Jane Weaver
Columbia County

Patricia Yates
Past Chair, Gilchrist
County

Emeritus:

Roslyn Slater



Programs are sponsored in part by
the State of Florida, Department
of Children and Families



Our Mission

To promote the health, recovery, and well-being of those affected by mental illness and substance use disorders through prevention, coordinated treatment, and supportive services.



Our Vision

Hope, recovery, and **wellness** within everyone's reach.

Moving Toward Wellness

During Meridian's 44 years of service, our focus has been helping those affected by a mental illness or substance use disorder find their path to recovery. We have learned much in this journey. Science has advanced our understanding and treatment of these illnesses. Through our patients we see the full scope of what is needed: public support and education – to overcome stigma and discrimination, full partnership with clients and their support systems, housing and vocational options, and services to divert from criminal justice to treatment.

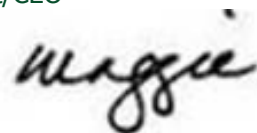
Meridian is committed to addressing each of these through community education, evidence based treatments, supportive housing, criminal justice diversion programs, and vocational help and supported employment opportunities. Our communities have joined these efforts, promoting programs like Mental Health First Aid, homeless services, and creating partnerships that foster the best use of scarce resources.

We have also learned that mental and physical health are intimately related. Individuals tend to see the provider that addresses their most pressing health concerns as their "primary" caregiver. The healthcare system has long siloed mental health and addictions, but this is a time of great awareness building, recognizing that the best care is integrated care; care that ministers to body, mind, and spirit. Meridian – with the help of legislative funds, community donors, and partners – will be opening a Health Home in early 2016. It will work closely with other Meridian programs and community providers to ensure that our patients get care that meets all of their healthcare needs.

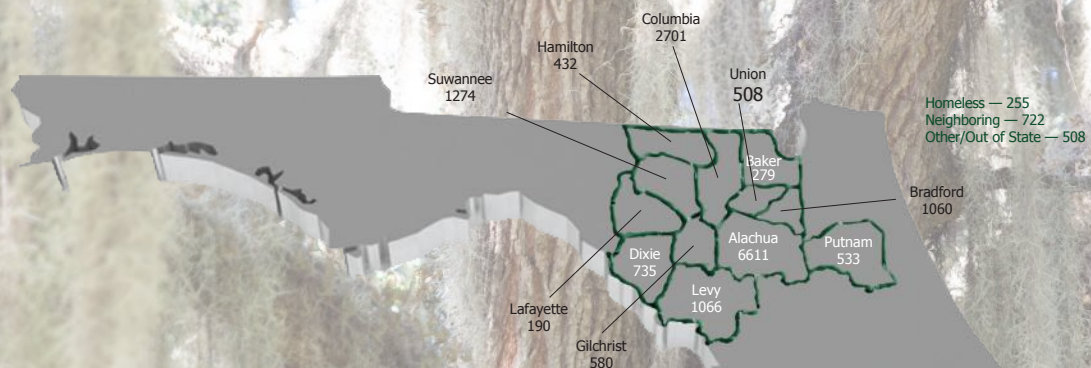
Healthcare change is coming at a rapid pace. For those we serve, there is attention and compassion long overdue. There will be many challenges, but also many opportunities.

Meridian will continue to serve those affected by mental illnesses and substance use disorders, offering compassionate, innovative, cost effective, preventative treatment, and supportive services to place Hope, Recovery, and Wellness within their and our communities' reach.

Maggie Labarta, Ph.D.
President/CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "maggie".

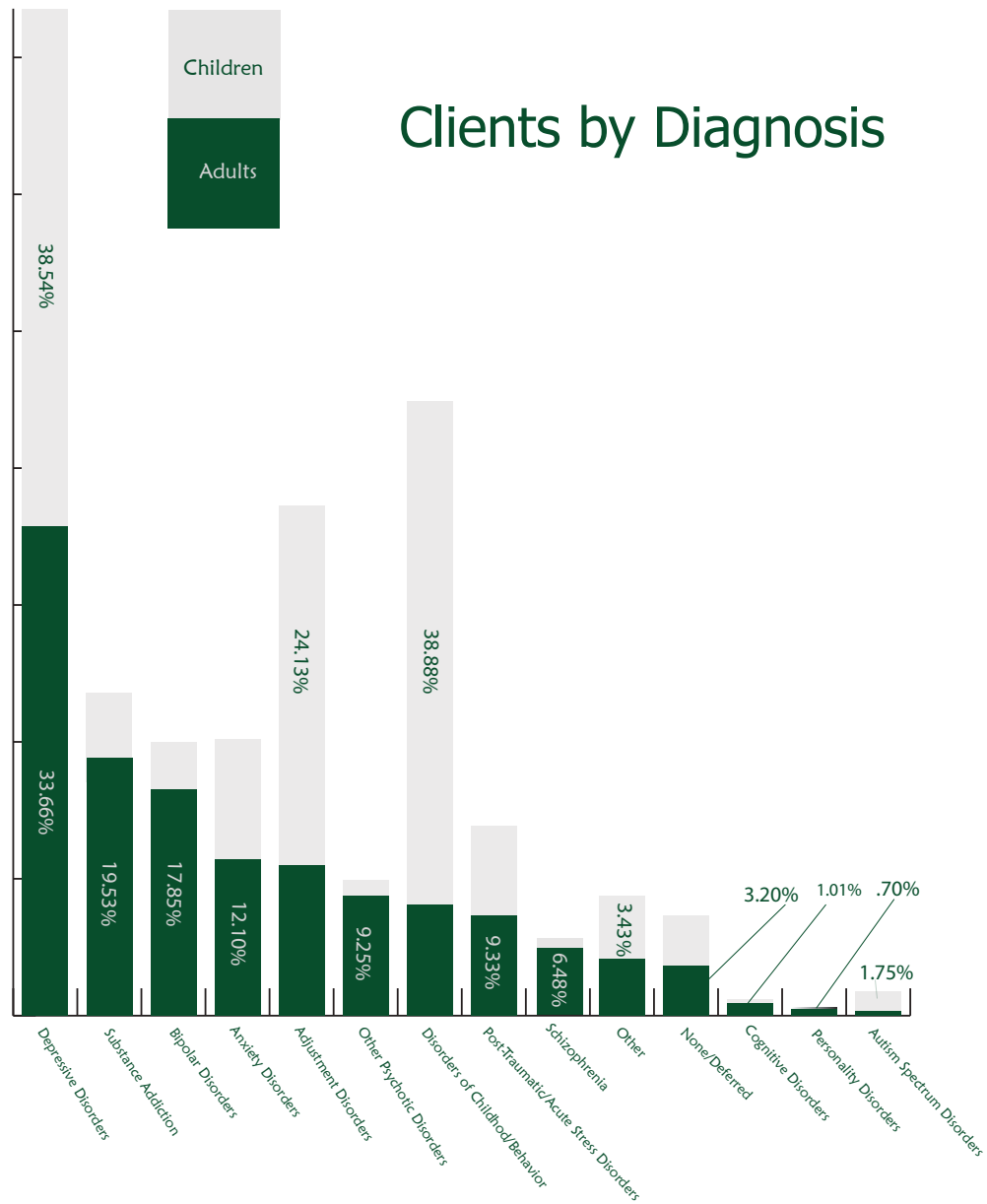
Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) provides services to veterans and their families, who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Meridian was first awarded this federal grant in 2013 and has been re-issued the funding of **\$1,023,000.00** to continue providing these services. This grant has an expansive reach servicing Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Putnam, Suwannee, and Union counties.



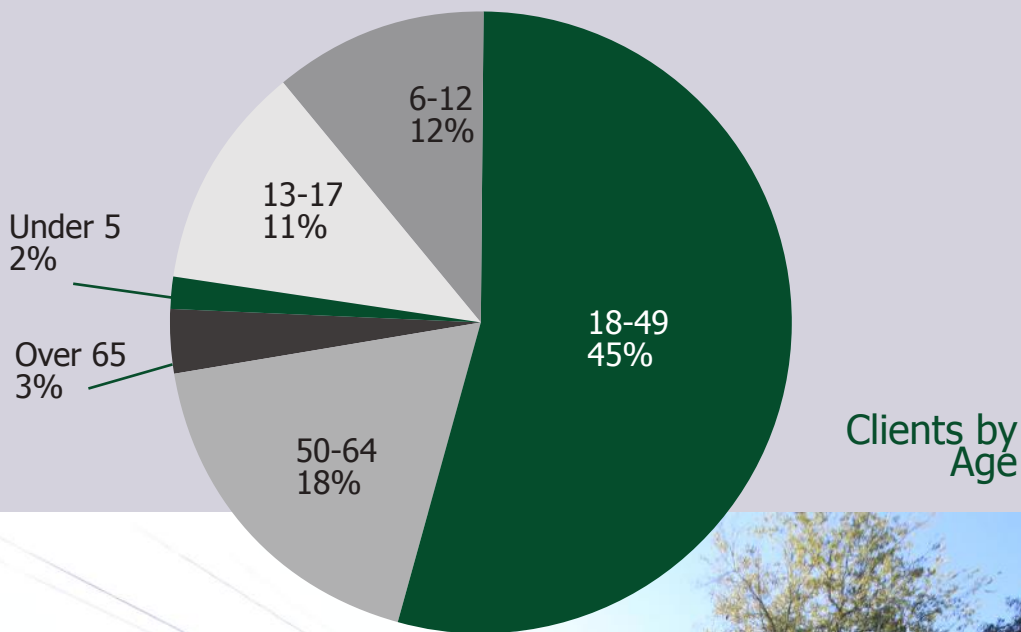
Clients By Service Area

Healthcare Utilization

	Children	Adults
Counseling Services	1958	7013
Psychiatric Services	1134	7267
Rehab Services	n/a	191
Medication Assisted Treatment Services	n/a	859
Family Services	90	573
Care Coordination Services	135	902
Forensic Diversion Services	8	792
Detox	10	630
Crisis Stabilization Units	606	2112
Bridge House	n/a	267
MIST	n/a	55
Recovery	111	n/a
Supported Housing	n/a	706



Meridian's 2014-15 client base
was made up of **56% Females**
and **43% Males**



"The MIST program at Meridian has
**reminded me of the person I was
before drugs.** The program has helped
me develop a relapse prevention plan so I
can stay sober."

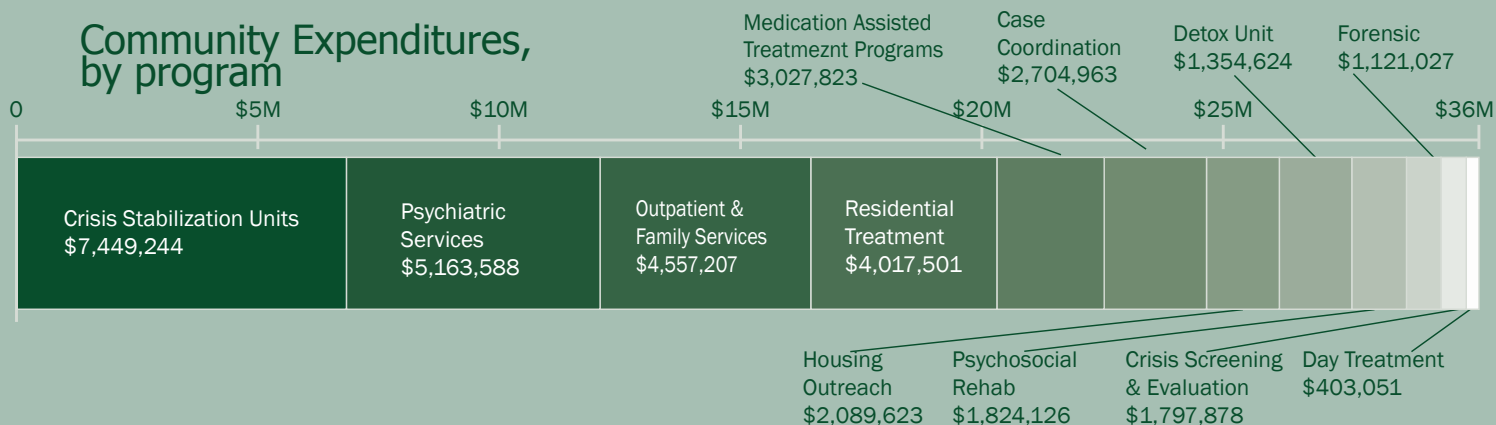
- MIST Residential Client

Last year we touched
18,501 *lives* with
320,600
service visits.

Financial Summary 2014-15

Assets	\$18,669,343
Liabilities	\$10,978,968
Net Assets	\$7,690,357
Expenditures	\$35,074,350

Community Expenditures, by program





Foundations of our success



A commitment to our communities

- ◆ Trained 264 “Mental Health First Aiders” in our communities, building awareness and compassion as well as providing actionable skills to address mental health crises.
- ◆ Supported our criminal justice partners by providing training in Crisis Intervention Team (CIT), Trauma Informed Responses for Criminal Justice, and Sequential Intercept Model.
- ◆ Services to decriminalize mental illness through a model Jail Diversion Program that allowed over 86% of Forensic program participants to remain in the community and had over 90% client success.
- ◆ Collaboration at Grace Marketplace providing housing and mental health substance abuse evaluation.
- ◆ Coordinated our 15th Annual “Stop the Violence Rally” providing education and school supplies to 4,000 school children.
- ◆ Collaborated with the Martin Luther King Commission “Strike Out Hunger Campaign.”
- ◆ Participated in health and service fairs across our region to engage the community and make them aware of services available.
- ◆ Meridian staff fundraised and participated in several community events such as Dash for Addiction 5K, March of Dimes, Annual NAMI walk, Hippodrome Community Partner Nights, FGC Entertainment, Warm The City Blanket Drive, and World Aids Day.



A commitment to stewardship

- Received a renewal of our Supportive Services to Veterans and Families grant that allows us to continue to address the needs of veterans facing homelessness.
- Applied for and received a grant to support medication assisted treatment from the Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association. Funded by the state Office of Court Administration Services, this grant will allow us to serve individuals who cannot otherwise afford treatment.
- Applied for and received funds from the Florida Legislature to operate a Primary Care Clinic and Health Home to open in early 2016.
- Applied for and received a Hagen Family Foundation grant to purchase bicycles for Forensic clients who cannot drive but need a reliable mode of transportation.
- Awarded a 2015 – 2016 grant to provide prevention services to 400 children in Alachua, Bradford and Union County schools. We will be able to reach children through these programs.
- Received a Families Intensive Treatment Team grant to serve families where there has been abuse or neglect as the result of parental substance use. The grant provides care for 39 families a year.
- Incorporated Progress Health System, Inc. with our affiliate, LifeStream Behavioral Center, to support the development of cost efficiencies, contracting methods and practices, and centers of excellence.



Provided ***\$1,400,663*** in uncompensated care
to individuals with no payer for services
once indigent care funds from the state and
county were exhausted.



“Mental illness is invisible. We don’t spray theaters and schools with bullets, we don’t wander the streets talking to ourselves, and we don’t sit on the side of the road with signs. **If you did not know my story, you would never know how much time, energy, and money it costs to manage my illness.** I have survived a near fatal catastrophe, just like millions of others. **We cannot be cured, but we do recover.”**

-William G Wall, PhD, CRPS-A, Forensics Peer Specialist



A commitment to best practices

- ◆ This summer Meridian held three successful Children's Summer Programs for over 200 children in Gainesville, Trenton, Starke, Live Oak, and Lake City using a structured set of treatment and rehab models chosen for their effectiveness.
- ◆ Implemented a pilot to reduce wait time for intakes and psychiatric appointments with the goal of getting to same or next day access.
- ◆ Implemented expanded Medication Assisted Treatments to help those facing addiction to heroin, pain pills and alcohol.
- ◆ Developed an 'in-reach' collaborative between Case Managers and Peer Specialists in the Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) to engage at risk client population to bolster continued support and services after discharge from CSU.
- ◆ Received a 3-year accreditation from the Council on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, providing assurance of our commitment to high quality, patient-centered care.



Thank you for helping us provide wellness within everyone's reach

The following is a compilation of all donors who made gifts during the 2015 fiscal year. Great care was taken when preparing this list. If there are errors, please bring them to our attention by contacting the Advancement Department at zoe_seale@mbhci.org or 352-374-5600x8187.

\$10,000 and Above

My Gainesville Television Network

\$2,500 - \$9,999

John H. Abernethy, III
CDS Family & Behavioral Health Services
Datis
Dex Imaging
Florida Food Service
HOME Magazine
Richard and Sharon Jones
Keith Watson Productions
Maggie Labarta
Ted & Hallie McFetridge
Willis Insurance

\$1000 - \$2,499

Academy of Students of Pharmacy
Friends of the Library
Genoa Healthcare
Haven Hospice
Lorraine Gail Joyner
Turner, O'Connor, Kozlowski Law Office
Eric Parker
Steve & Anita Pittman
Daniel A. Sarkis
Don & Karen Savoie
Shands Healthcare
Stephen & Judith Summerlin
Sun State Federal Credit Union

\$500-\$999

Alive Church
B'Nai Israel Community Day School
Belk Department Store
Wanda Bergman
Morris Breitstein
Sinoma Brown
Amanda Burkette

Class A Entertainment Alliance
Frank Darabi
Sadie Darnell
Dominion Diagnostics
Eddie Dugger Insurance
Phil & Barbara Emmer
Sarah Frazier
Jodi Irving
Sarah Laibstain
Levrina D. Lemon
Virginia Lynn
Millennium Laboratories
Teresa Mullin
Stacy A. Scott
Zoe Seale
Kevin & Ann Shortelle
Linda Skalsky
Rod & Dee Dee Smith
United Healthcare Services

\$100-\$499

Adam's Rib
Allen Enterprises of Gainesville
Anthony Anderson
Richard Anderson
Anonymous
David & Carol Auerbach
Russell M. Bauer
Sheryl Ann Benton
Nancy Bitton
Tara M. Blythe
Myriah Brady
Susanne Wilson Bullard
Maureen M. Burdick
Stacy L. Camiel
Marina Cecchini
Rachael Channing
Andrea Michelle Cooper
Austin B. Creel
Chandra Elaine Davis
Grace L. Dixon
Calogero Dolce
Margaret G. Dukes
Tracey Duncan

Sable Nicole Dye
Heather Edwards
Karyn Lockerman Elliott
Lynda Evans
Rhonda M. Faehn
Faith Christian Family Church
Betty Faust
Gainesville HIPPY
Richard Gehman
Carrie Glebe
Andrew P. Gray
Gray Construction
Anthony R. Gregg
Raellen D. Hale
Sarah E. Hensley
James J. Hughes
Rob Hyatt
Betty D. Jackson
Julie E. Jones-Herrington
Rhonda Kerth
Jackie Knabel
Norman & Melody Laflam
Marty Laughlin
Kimberly Jeanne Law
Maurice & Nicole Levy
Barbara E. Lindsey
Aubroncee Martin
Amy Lynn McCaughan
Laurie Michaelson
LaSonya Teresa Milton
Jose Moreno
Dale A. Morris
David M. O'Malley
Linda W. Orfield
Anju Ramsahai Owens
Pach Adams Photography
Passages Ministries
Alan & Shannon Paulin
Gunnar Paulson
Lee Pinkoson
Stephen Redding
Robert & Leslie Roseman
Tom Rossow
Jeffrey Roth
Carey F. Ryan

Gail Sasnett-Stauffer
 Karen Elizabeth Savoie
 Frances Marie Scott
 Seiler Family Trust
 Daniel Robert Sellers
 Martha Shonter
 Janice H. Siegel
 Skate Station of Gainesville
 Stuart & Eileen Solin
 Venita J. Sposetti
 Storter Childs
 Nanette Irene Sullivan
 James Dennis Taylor
 Lazonia Michelle Thomas
 Kevin Thorpe
 Tower Systems
 Ruth Trimmer
 United Church of Gainesville
 Janice A. Vinson
 VistaPharm
 Amanda Christy Walker
 Benjamin F. Walker
 Patricia Warnock
 Deborah Watford
 Heather Weitz
 Jim & Sheila Winters
 Philoron Wright
 Patricia Yates



\$99 and Under

Active Network
 Adam Joy's Global Impact Ministries
 Holly Sue Allen
 Daniel Franklin Anderson
 Logan Anglin
 Jennifer Beard
 Leorick Delorian Bell
 Blaise James Bezaire
 Rinardo Jason Booth
 Novena Bowie
 Genae Ksameo Brady
 Kelly Branham
 Jonathan S. Broska
 Elizabeth C. Brown
 Karen M. Brown
 Myia Marie Campbell
 Mashala N. Combs
 Kathy Jo Conrad
 Kevin Coulson
 Amanda Owens Craig
 Terri Crawford
 Vivian Kay Crawford
 Vivian Janice Darrah
 Julie Alexa Devin
 Debra DeWein

John Witherspoon Dunlap
 Alisha Dusty
 John Edward
 Susan Eichner
 Kayla Cheree Ellis
 Sharon Ferebee
 Nicole French
 Joanne Gibson
 John & Mrs. Sheila Gilmour
 Dedrie L. Godbolt
 April Griffin
 Sonya Renee Guest
 Sherrie Guthrie
 Vickie L. Hall
 Dawna Marie Haswell
 Shanita Juwana Hatten
 Rebecca C. Johnson
 Carla Jones
 Tynette Renee Jordan
 Ashley Ann Kasper
 Anton & Jean Kootte
 Maureen Ann Kosik
 Gerald G. Langford
 Sharelle B. Lawton
 Porcha Leroy-Reeves

Danielle Little
 Katara Mack
 Patrick Everett Maltba
 Margaret Ann Marler
 Linda Martin
 Arleen Erland Mazzella
 Letitia D. McCrary
 Ashley Means
 Sarah J. Mihlfeld
 Kathleen Miller
 Brooks Nelson
 Corinna Dee Nixon
 Sheryl Alecia Norton
 Kerry M. Oliver-Smith
 Manuel J. Peruga
 Marie Petit-Homme
 Sebrena Phillips
 Valinda Ann Pierce
 Tricia Rispoli
 Ramona L. Roberts
 Denise Louise Sanfilipp
 Ashley Sapp-Edwards
 Loretta G. Servance
 Roslyn Slater
 Lisa Ramona Smith

Viola Smith
 Holly Nielle Snyder
 Cheryl A. Stephens
 Haley Marie Sterling
 Catherine L. Striley
 Rana Tallador
 Charlotte S. Terry-Mendez
 Carlton B. Thomas
 Phillip & Annie Thomas
 Teresa Tipton
 Becky Marie Tyson
 Loneshia Kiara Underwood
 Melisa Urrutia
 Leah Vail
 Henri & Johanna Van Rinsvelt
 Walmart
 Jeffrey Lee Waters
 Lori B. Waxenberg
 Russell Earl Welker, Jr.
 Pamela Whitehead
 William H. Woods
 Chengzhi Zhao

Learn how you can support Meridian and those in need of treatment, at mbhci.org or by calling 352-374-5600 x8187.



Individuals with **serious and persistent mental illness** often have **other serious medical problems**, most prominently diabetes and hypertension related conditions. They also smoke more.

It is estimated that **44%** of the cigarettes consumed in the U.S. are smoked by this group creating high rates of **COPD, asthma, emphysema,** and **lung cancer.**

40% of **Meridian** patients lack **adequate primary care**

Person-Centered Care will work to break down barriers that are causing **poor outcomes and higher attrition rates, leaving patients** without the care they need.

Starting in early 2016, through legislative funding, Meridian will create a Health Home. The Health Home will allow Meridian to provide both behavioral and physical healthcare to patients in one location in order to improve their access to care and decrease the negative impact and cost for this high medical risk population. There are three core aims behind the Health Home movement: Become increasingly patient-centered, improve outcomes, reduce cost. To achieve these aims, and to meet the needs of patients in a sustainable way, requires a new approach.

Person-centered Care – Enhances the patient experience by placing the patient at the center of planning and delivering care. Meeting the patient's goals through collaborative decision making has been shown to improve outcomes and reduce cost.

Outcomes – The use of evidence-based treatments and the coordination of care - including the exchange of information among providers - and the aggregation of data to measure results for individuals and groups will ultimately improve care for all.

Efficiency –Prevention, early intervention and a focus on the patient goals and best practices yield not only better results, but also lower cost. Meridian sees the potential for its Health Home to be a model in all three areas.

Visit us

Main Office:
4300 SW 13th Street
Gainesville, FL 32608

800-330-5615
352-374-5600

Connect with us online

mbhci.org
facebook.com/mbhci
instagram.com/mbhci
linkedin.com/company/meridian-behavioral-healthcare-inc.
pinterest.com/mbhci
twitter.com/mbhci



Promoting wellness to people in North Central Florida and beyond...

Alachua • Baker • Bradford • Columbia • Dixie • Gilchrist • Hamilton • Lafayette • Levy • Suwannee • Union