

(Re)Introduction to GRAT

Geriatric Regional Assessment Team

Brief History

- Previously operated out of Evergreen Health until it was discontinued in 2017
- Its absence was felt by the community and providers suddenly had no one to refer clients to who weren't necessarily appropriate for 911/Emergency Room/APS and whose cases were too severe for light case management.
- King County brought the program back with the Veterans, Seniors, and Human Services Levy (VSHSL) funding and Sound Generations was awarded the contract.

GRAT Comes to Sound Generations!

- Team will have one GRAT Supervisor, four GRAT clinicians, an administrative assistant, and an Outreach Specialist
- Team will provide in-home assessments of mental health, substance abuse, medical status, safety, psychosocial and functioning abilities for people age 55 and older who meet the criteria for eligibility
- Early intervention can effectively stem crises, and divert from costlier services, such as inpatient psychiatric hospitalization, emergency rooms, skilled nursing facilities, and jail.

Who to Refer

- GRAT may be able to accept:
 - Isolated adults 55 and older
 - Escalating toward a crisis
 - Risking Hospitalization
 - Living in unhealthy environments
 - Limited or lack of community and family support
 - Struggling with cognitive, behavioral, mental health or substance use issues
 - Risk of losing housing
 - Living alone with cognitive deficits

Who to Not Refer

- GRAT would not accept:
 - Suicidal or homicidal older adults with a plan
 - Those served by community behavioral health programs
 - Older adults in Assisted Living Facilities, Adult Family Homes, or Skilled Nursing Facilities
 - Homeless older adults

Examples of GRAT Interventions

- Common cases:
 - Mental health and/or substance abuse concerns are prominent
 - Medical concerns are prominent
 - Failing in their own environment
 - Escalating to a crisis, such as eviction
- Clinicians intervene with older adults by:
 - Building rapport and trust
 - Exploring client priorities
 - Providing comprehensive geriatric assessment
 - Connecting with family members and neighbors
 - Referring to and coordinating with medical providers, community supports, and resources

Examples of GRAT Interventions (ctd.)

- Rally family or supportive others in elder's informal resource network to increase care and safety.
- Assist older adults with referrals to support services such as transportation, socialization, and meals.
- Link to medical staff for further diagnosis and treatment.
- With concern of abuse or neglect, involve APS.
- Immediate intervention with emergency resources for anyone at risk to harm themselves or anyone else (ex: Referrals to Designated Crisis Responders)

Referrals: Begin accepting August 1, 2020

- EMS and First Responders
- Family, friends, neighbors
- Primary Care Physician
- Social Service Providers
- Sound Generations' programs
- Adult Protective Services
- Crisis Clinic
- (206) 448-5730
- GRAT@soundgenerations.org
- No Wrong Way

Frequently Asked Questions

- Contact with clients and referents will be over the phone for the time being.
- Contact with the clients will be within 1-5 business days, and an assessment will be written up within 48 hours.
- GRAT serves all of King County
- GRAT is not intended to serve as a long-term care option, with a maximum of about three months.
- Sound Generations is contracted with: Tele Interpreters and intends to eventually contract with in person interpreters.

Questions

