



## **Strategy #1**

### **Court System Innovations and Treatment Alternatives**

- **Expand Pretrial Services Screening**
  - Currently, the Pretrial Services Department is conducting risk assessments (screening) for felony cases in Superior Court and misdemeanor cases in Pima County Justice Court. Most misdemeanor cases in Tucson's City Court, however, are not currently included.
  - Pretrial Services is able to release some defendants and makes release recommendations to the judge on other cases.
  - By including all City Court cases for Pretrial screens, early release options for individuals being held in the county jail on misdemeanor charges are likely to increase.
  
- **Implement Behavioral Health Assessment Prior to Initial Appearance before a Judge**
  - Individuals booked into jail will be screened for substance abuse and/or mental health issues.
  - Treatment alternatives to jail will be identified in cooperation with our Regional Behavioral Health Authority (Cenpatico).
  - **All of the above information** will go to the judge at the Initial Appearance (IA). This information will increase the likelihood that individuals with behavioral health issues who have been booked into jail with low-level non-violent charges will be released with treatment-related release conditions.
  - Cenpatico is using peer navigators as part of treatment. Evidence shows that holistic peer support helps to ensure that individuals stick to their treatment plans.
  
- **Create Specialty Pretrial Supervision Caseload**
  - For those released at IA with treatment-related release conditions.
  
- **Criminal Justice System Training**
  - Provide training across the court system, including judges, regarding the above changes in order to increase likelihood of overall strategy success.



## **Strategy #2**

### **Addressing Causal Factors of Failure to Appear (FTA)**

- **Improve Accessibility of the Court for Warrant Disposition**
  - Reduce failure to appear rates by offering extended court hours on weekends and in various community locations to reduce barriers such as transportation and time factors.
  - The overall goal is to provide better court system access so individuals can get their warrants quashed and dispose of simple cases.
- **Develop City Court Call Reminder System**
  - Tucson City Court: Implement an automated calling system to remind individuals about their court dates.
- **Enhance Justice Court Reminder System**
  - Pima County Justice Court: Implement automated court-date reminder system using texting and emailing (Justice Court already has an automated calling system).
- **Strengthen Relations with Tohono O'odham & Pascua Yaqui Tribal Nations**
  - Reduce failure to appear rates by offering tribal members living on reservations easier access to courts in Pima County.



## **Strategy #3**

### **Sentencing/Post-Conviction Alternatives to Jail**

- **Expand Home Detention/Electronic Monitoring**
  - This helps increase sentencing alternatives for non-violent offenders.
  - This tactic also ensures that such individuals can avoid the significant disruption of their employment, their families, and/or their education.
  
- **Reduce Unnecessary Use of Probation Holds**
  - This changes the current practice of automatic probation holds in jail for probationers arrested on new charges.
  - The necessity for such holds will now be considered on a case-by-case basis.
  
- **Expand Use of Summons in lieu of Petitions to Revoke**
  - The focus here is to decrease the use of Petitions to Revoke (PTRs) for technical violations of probation.
  - When a PTR is issued, it results in automatic arrest and jail booking.



## Community Involvement

- **Formalize a Community Collaborative**
  - Formalize a process for collaboration with community stakeholders in order to provide project oversight and share evaluation data throughout the project process.
- **Leadership Development**
  - Work in partnership with community groups to develop leadership of formerly incarcerated people and their families in order to ensure that such voices are heard regularly in community discussions about incarceration.
- **Qualitative Research**
  - Work with University of Arizona qualitative research team to conduct in-depth interviews with (current and former) defendants and inmates in order to inform and adjust strategies as they are rolled-out over the next three years.
  - Such research will complement the quantitative data that will be gathered simultaneously.