ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CRIMINAL MENTAL HEALTH PROJECT

Miami-Dade County, Florida
Jail Diversion Programs

Designed and implemented to divert people with serious mental illnesses away from the criminal justice system into community-based treatment and services.
FACTS

• There are 800-1400 detainees that experience mental illness on any given day at the Miami-Dade County jail.

• This represents approximately 30% of the total inmate population and costs taxpayers millions of dollars annually to manage this population in jail.

• Persons with mental illnesses stay in jail 8 times longer than those individuals without mental illness at a cost of 7 times more.
Cross System Collaboration

- Judges
- The Court
- Public Defender
- State Attorney
- Law Enforcement
- Consumers and Families

- Department of Corrections
- Mental Health Providers
- Social Security
- Foundations
- DCF
CIT officers receive special training to respond to crisis calls involving persons with suspected mental illness. When appropriate, CIT officers transport individuals with mental illness to community mental health facilities for evaluation, treatment, and referrals instead of making an arrest.
CIT

- Collaboration between Police and Mental Health Facilities
- CIT training- experts in the community volunteer to present subject matter
- Changing Police values about people with mental illnesses
- Changing working relationships between Police and Mental Health Facilities
- CIT Advisory Committee
Meeting the Demand

- 16 CIT Trainings- 40 hour classes per year
- Communications Trainings for dispatchers and call takers
- Executive Training for Command Staff
- Train the trainers
• 36 of 36 Police Departments participate in CIT training
• More than 5,000 officers trained since 2003
• More than 1,200 CIT officers On Duty throughout Miami-Dade County
POST-BOOKING

• Originally established to divert nonviolent misdemeanant defendants with SMI and possible co-occurring substance use disorders

• Program expanded to serve defendants that have been arrested for less serious felonies and other charges as determined appropriate
Twin Goals

- Improve psychiatric outcomes (stabilization, functioning, recovery) in the least restrictive setting

- Decrease recidivism
Jail Diversion Programs

- Misdemeanor
- Felony
- Forensic
• An approach that was developed to access and expedite social security entitlements for individuals that are homeless and mentally ill
• Created specialized unit to expedite access to benefits
• Expand target population
PEER SPECIALISTS

• Due to their life experience they are uniquely qualified to perform the functions of the position.
• Peer support specialists work as members of the jail diversion team.
• Primary responsibility is to assist jail diversion participants with community re-entry and engagement in continuing treatment and services
Successful Community Re-Entry and Recovery

- Individuals voluntarily agree to services and are assisted with linkages to a comprehensive array of community-based treatment, support, and housing services.
- The CMHP utilizes the APIC Model to provide transition planning for all program participants.
- Upon stabilization, legal charges may be dismissed or modified in accordance with treatment engagement.
Immediate Access

Provide linkage to the necessary treatment and supportive services:

- Treatment
- Medication
- Housing
- Transportation
- Entitlements
Treatment Alone is Not Sufficient

• Only 1 in 10 offenders with mental illness are arrested as a result of untreated mental illness

• Justice involved people with SMI have the same criminal risk factors as anyone else and face an array of challenges- person-level factors and environmental factors
Screening Tools

• Mental Health Screening Form III

• Ohio Risk Assessment System-Community Supervision Tool

• TCU Drug Screen V
Develop
Individualized Interventions

• Medication Adherence
• Criminogenic Risk- CBT
• Addiction Risk
• Trauma Risk
• Stress Risk
• Environmental/Social Disadvantage Risks
Assess the Individual Served

• Face to face contact by JDP Staff
• Needs Assessment includes:
  – Housing (73% homeless at time of arrest)
  – Treatment: mental health, substance abuse, trauma, CBT
  – Culture
  – Entitlements
  – Case management
  – Special needs
Plan for Treatment and Services

- Referrals to community services based on individual risks and needs
- Initiate contact with Social Security
- Address possible gaps
  - Transportation
  - Clothing
  - Identification
  - Language
Identify Appropriate Community Programs

- Forward a complete summary of recommendations and release conditions to community provider
- Ensure individual served is aware of community providers responsibility to report status to the court
- Ensure individual served has the necessary tools to comply with conditions of release
Coordinate the Transition Plan

• Link to Peer Specialists for support during community reentry process
  – Release
  – Intake to community provider
• Immediate access to community services
• Ensure that the individual served knows who to contact for:
  – Medication issues
  – Court reporting
Summary

• Intervention and Support
• Individualize Transition Planning
• Cross-System Collaboration
• Promote Creative Solutions
• Reduce Jail Recidivism
• Promote HOPE and RECOVERY
For Additional Information

Cindy A. Schwartz, MS, MBA
Project Director

cischwartz@jud11.flcourts.org