



CRIMINAL JUSTICE & RECOVERY HOUSING

strategies for the 21st Century Cures Act

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Criminal Justice Efforts in Response to the Opioid Epidemic

[The 21st Century CURES Act](#) enacted by Congress in December 2016 recognized that states need significant help to combat the opioid epidemic across the nation. It is designed to modernize health care through enhanced innovation, research and communication, leading to better patient outcomes. The Act also makes new funding available to states to combat the prescription opioid and heroin crisis through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). SAMHSA's State Targeted Response (STR) to the Opioid Epidemic grant provides up to \$970 million to states and territories over a two year period.

As one of the states hit hardest by the opioid epidemic, Ohio is among the largest recipients of grant funding. Beginning May 1, 2017 through April 30, 2019, Ohio has received \$26 million per year that focuses on several core principles as well as the integration of several areas within the community system of care, including the criminal justice system and the recovery housing community.



Addressing Stigma and Identifying Gaps within the Criminal Justice System

There is a longstanding recognition that individuals with behavioral health disorders are over-represented in the criminal justice system. The opioid crisis highlights the need for specialized training for professionals within the criminal justice field to assist staff in learning the needs of the opioid use disorder (OUD) population. On a systematic level, communities can benefit from the identification of community resources and gaps related to serving individuals with an OUD across the criminal justice system. The development of action plan to address the identified gaps and the resources and capacity to implement the plan is also vital for enacting change.

Criminal Justice MAT Symposia

[Ten training events](#) per each year of the grant are being offered to staff within the criminal justice system. The symposia focuses on the nature, application, efficacy, and implementation of MAT. Each training event incorporates support from a local judge and a local law enforcement professional. A wide variety of criminal justice staff such as parole officers, court staff, prison and jail administrators, and law enforcement are encouraged to attend. Trainings include interactive breakout sessions in which attendees are able to engage about the strengths of MAT in their own community's criminal justice system, system

improvement needs to enhance MAT, and strategies to coordinate care for individuals with an OUD. Each symposium covers topics related to trends and stigma of addiction; the myths, benefits, and modalities of MAT; and available treatment programming for individuals with OUDs.

Cross-System Sequential Intercept Mapping

OhioMHAS is sponsoring [Sequential Intercept Mapping \(SIM\)](#) workshops that focuses on the opioid epidemic in nine communities throughout Ohio. The SIM model was developed by the [Criminal Justice Coordinating Center of Excellence \(CJ CCoE\)](#) and [SAMHSA's National GAINS Center](#) to approach the over-representation of people with mental illness within the criminal justice system. Given the current opioid crisis, the approach has since been tailored to also apply the same model to opiates. SIM is a cross-system approach to strengthen local strategies to implement core services that will address behavioral health, criminogenic, and social factors for individuals involved with opioid use and flow through the local systems of care, including the criminal justice system. The workshop promotes stakeholder collaboration and incorporates a variety of different disciplines within the criminal justice and behavioral health field of each participating community.

The CJ CCoE is facilitating the opiate SIM workshops and has utilized this approach with many counties throughout Ohio. Each workshop is 1.5 days and includes trained



facilitators with resources on a framework for addressing risks and needs of justice involved adults with behavioral health issues. The workshop includes the development of a map, which provides a comprehensive picture of how people with AG6e and co-occurring disorders flow through the criminal justice system along six distinct intercept points (figure1):

Intercept 0: Prevention, Treatment, and Regulation

Intercept I: First Contact and Emergency Services

Intercept II: Initial Detention/Initial Court Hearings

Intercept III: Jails and Courts

Intercept IV: Re-entry

Intercept V: Probation and Community Supervision

The SIM workshop also assists communities in identifying gaps, resources, and opportunities at each intercept for individuals in the target population and works with workshop participants to develop priorities for activities designed to improve system and service level responses for those individuals. The CJ CCOE creates a report for each participating community, which encompasses the local map report, priorities and action planning, and additional recommendations and resources. Additional follow up to identify progress, barriers, and technical assistance is also offered to participating counties.

SIM Implementation

Up to five counties that completed the opiate SIM workshop have an opportunity to receive funding to implement at least one priority area that was identified in the action plan that was developed in the workshop. Participating communities engage with a core planning

team that was identified at the workshop to complete goals and objectives within the county plan. The opportunity enables communities to begin implementing systematic changes related to resolving barriers for the OUD population within the criminal justice system to help reduce recidivism, fill service gaps, and increase access to treatment. Communities have developed sustainability plans that enable them to maintain changes that result from the priority area(s) addressed with the funding.

Recovery Housing MAT Trainings

Housing is an important component of recovery support needs for individuals with an OUD. Recovery housing offers a safe and healthy living environment that promotes abstinence from alcohol and other drugs and enhances participation and retention in traditional clinical treatment. Residents benefit from peer support and accountability, and gain valuable relapse prevention, case management and employment skills training as they transition to living independently and productively in the community. Recovery housing plays an integral role in recovery for many individuals with opioid use issues and there is a need for additional education about MAT for recovery housing operators and staff. Consequently, four regional Recovery Housing MAT trainings are being offered in SFY 2019 for up to 300 recovery housing operators, prevention staff, and peer supporters. Trainings are being conducted by Serenity Crossroads, LLC and will focus on reducing stigma and integrating MAT patients into recovery housing.

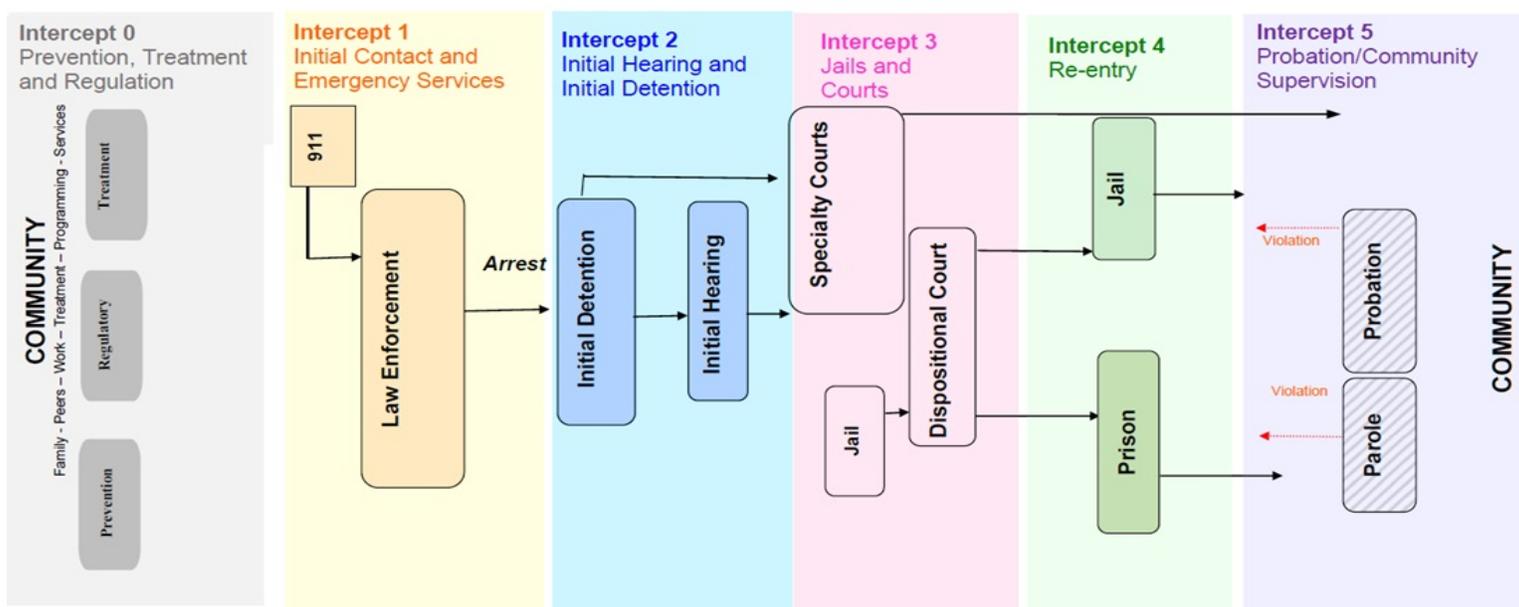


Figure 1