

# Continuity of Care Across Settings

**Idaho Judicial Webinar Series**

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# Disclosure

No relationships or conflicts of interest related to the subject matter of this presentation.


Judicial Facts in Brief Acknowledgements:

Special thanks to Doris Fuller, MFA

# Case Example

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- 35 y.o. female
- Armed robbery (10<sup>th</sup> arraignment)
- Jail course
  - opioid withdrawal, depression, anxiety and “hearing voices” likely related to PTSD, suicide watch
- Inpatient Competence to Stand Trial Evaluation

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- Trauma history
  - Malingering per the SIRS
  - Found competent, released on bail
  - Defaulted two days later at a mental health court appearance on a different case

- Was competence the real issue?
- Who will treat Maria in the community?
- Will she get treatment as usual?
- Who is paying for her treatment?



The mental health system is “fragmented and in disarray... lead[ing] to unnecessary and costly disability, homelessness, school failure, and incarceration...” (2002)

# The “Cross Over” Population

- Care delivered across settings:
  - Correctional
  - Forensic Hospitals
  - Community
- High utilizers
- Poor outcomes

How did we get  
here?

A Few Theories



Increased  
Incarceration of  
Persons with  
Mental Illness  
and Substance  
Use Disorders:  
1970s Trends  
(Hoge et al; APA  
2008)

Drug Policies

Determinate Sentencing Policies

Truth in Sentencing (fewer early releases)

Drug Culture

Little crime tolerance

Economic Factors (disability laws not yet emerged)

Civil Commitment Reform

Changing policies on community vs. institutional care

Deinstitutionalization/ insufficient community supports



Driving Forces Toward Community  
Based Mental Health Care and  
Community Corrections

# Forces Pointing Toward Community Services

- Laws/Legal Decisions
- Finances
- Policies and Principles

# Legal Decisions

- Olmstead v. L.C. (USSC 1999)
  - In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with mental disabilities have the right to live in the community rather than in institutions...if community placement is appropriate...taking into account the resources available to the State and the needs of others with mental disabilities”

# Laws

- Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act of 1980
  - Protects rights of institutionalized persons (MH and DD facilities, jails, prisons, nursing homes, juvenile justice facilities)
  - Administered by the Department of Justice Civil Rights Special Litigation Section

# CRIPA in Action



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

MAR 28 2012

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye  
President Pro Tempore  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. President:

Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1997f, we are pleased to transmit to Congress the enclosed report describing the Department's activities under the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1997, during Fiscal Year 2011.

We hope this report is useful to you. Please do not hesitate to contact this office if we may provide additional assistance regarding this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "m weich".

Ronald Weich  
Assistant Attorney General

Enclosure

# Excerpts: 2011 DOJ CRIPA Report

- July 2011- agreement with Delaware Mental health to transform services “from an institution-based system to a community-based system” in accordance with the ADA
- November 2010- ADA settlement with MH and DD system to provide “relief to more than 9000 individuals with mental illness in Georgia by increasing community based services”

# Are Forensic Services Immune?

- Discharge efforts will be examined EVEN WITH POPULATIONS WITH HIGH FORENSIC MIX

(J Bloom JAAPL 2012)



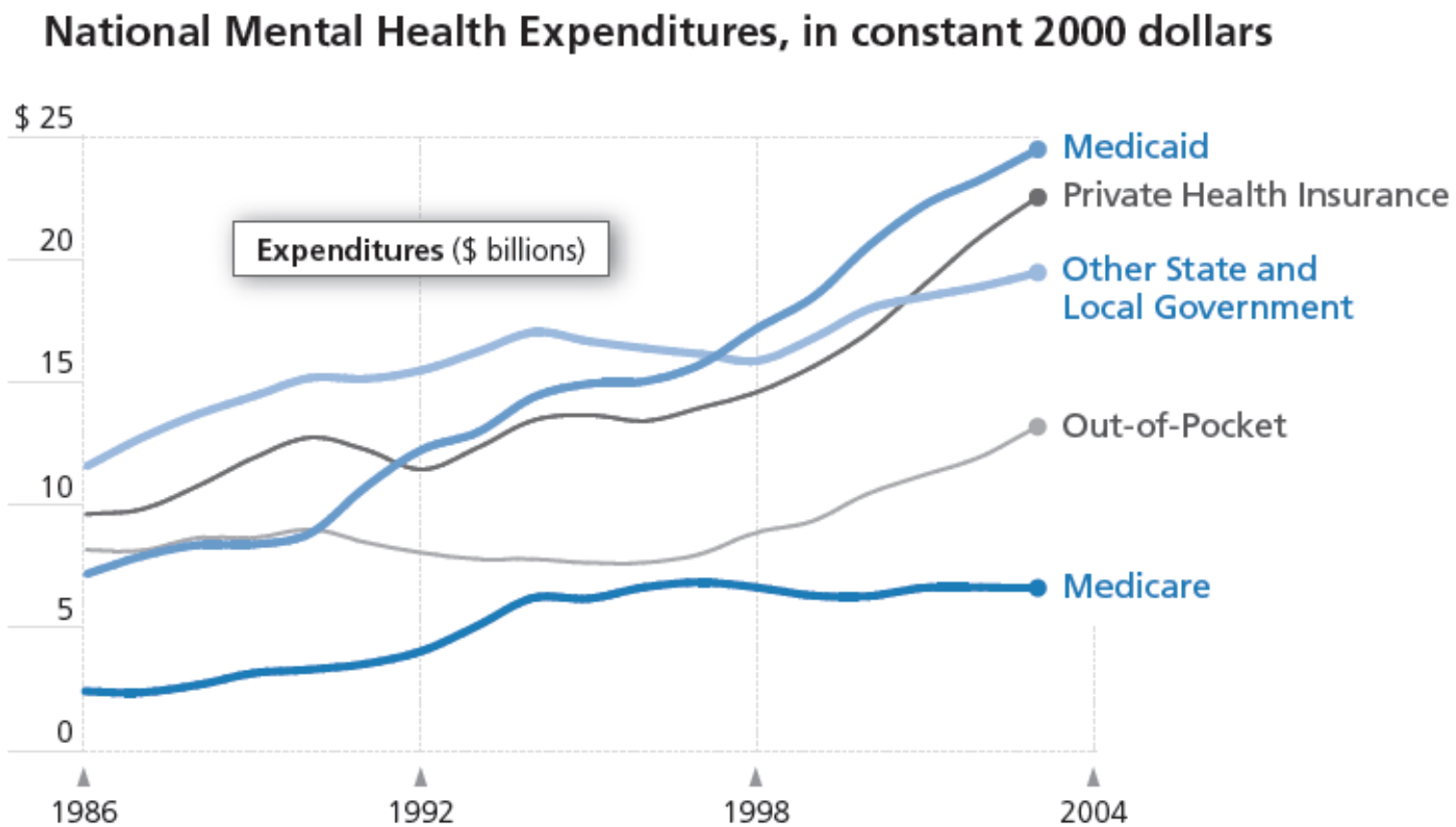
# Are Prisons immune from thinking about the community?

- Discharge/”Re-entry” planning a key element in Prison Reviews
- Brown v. Plata (USSC 2011)
  - Prison over-crowding violates 8<sup>th</sup> amendment rights related to inadequate healthcare
  - Court-ordered release of 40,000 inmates

# Forces Pointing Toward Community Services

- Laws/Legal Decisions
- Finances
- Policies and Principles

# Coordinating services over the next generation



Source: Shirk, Cynthia, National Health Policy Forum; available at [http://www.nhpf.org/library/background-papers/BP66\\_MedicaidMentalHealth\\_10-23-08.pdf](http://www.nhpf.org/library/background-papers/BP66_MedicaidMentalHealth_10-23-08.pdf)

# Financial Considerations: The IMD Exclusion

- Institutions of Mental Disease
  - Any institution that primarily serves patients with mental illness and has over 16 beds
- If more mental health beds than medical beds:  
“Tipping” prohibits federal Medicaid reimbursement
- Disproportionate burden on states, driving fiscal decisions of hospital closures

# Finances

- Medical Necessity vs. Legal Mandates
- Hospitalization as Incompetent for Restoration may not meet medical necessity criteria for inpatient care
  - May not be eligible for Medicare or Medicaid reimbursement
- Court ordered cases sent for inpatient evaluation and treatment may fall to the state to cover costs

# Federal Funds and the Incarcerated Population

- Traditional Medicaid does not cover services provided to “inmates of a public institution”
- Benefits are often terminated upon incarceration/detention
- Costs fall to counties and states to pay
- Terminated Medicaid benefits can take months to re-enroll and restore

# Forces Pointing Toward Community Services

- Laws/Legal Decisions
- Finances
- Policies and Principles

# Policies and Principles

- Community First
- Recovery
- Person-Centered Care
- Nothing about us without us



# Post Release Outcomes

- Individuals with serious mental illness convicted of felonies show poor follow up with treatment services and up to 40% re-arrest within three years

(Lovell et al., 2002; McGuire and Rosenheck 2004)

# Post Release Outcomes

- Risk of death of released prison inmates is 12.7 times higher within 2 weeks of release than for state population residents
  - Leading causes include Drug Overdose, Suicide, Homicide, and Cardiovascular

(Binswanger et al. 2007)

# Management of High Risk Individuals in the Community

- Definition of High Risk: High fiscal risk may parallels high recidivism risk for crossover populations
  - Screening assessments
  - Specialized models of services integrated with probation and parole
  - Attention to criminogenic needs

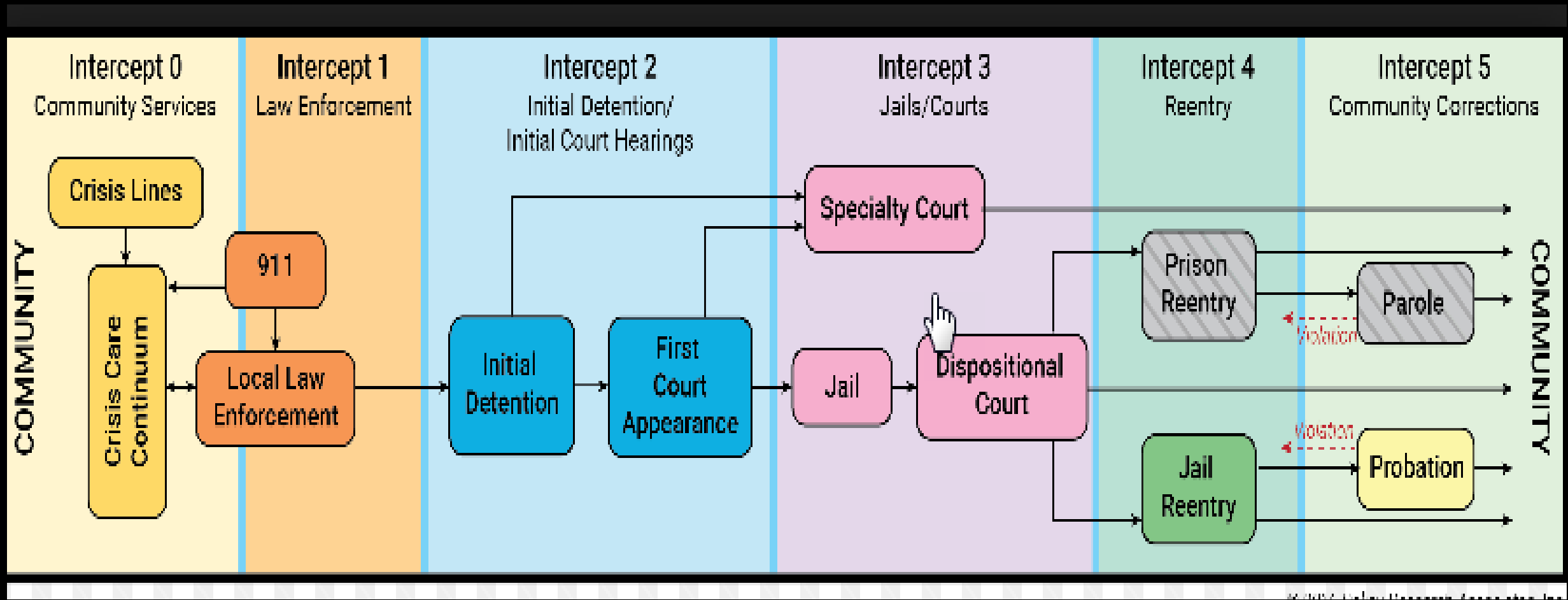
# Hope for the Future



# Hopeful Fixes

- More individuals able to access insurance
- Federal Parity Enforcements
- More prevention

# Diversion



# Creative Ways to Address Cross Over Challenges

# Examples of Policy Reforms

- Reclassifying drug offenses
- Revise sentencing practices
- Improve pre-trial systems
- Enhance parole practices (e.g. medical parole, earned good time)
- Enhanced efficiencies
- EBPs in community corrections



# Community Policies and Practices

# Community Policies and Practices

- **Financial:** Spreading funding for an individual's care across systems supporting the person (e.g., from behavioral health, where the person is seen as a patient, to the correctional system, if they become incarcerated)
- **Clinical:** Assuring that treatments provided in one setting are maintained when the person is treated within other service systems (e.g., medication assisted treatment for addiction being supported in both the substance use and homelessness systems, or the psychiatric medications prescribed in the community also being supplied in the jails)
- **Psychosocial:** Incorporating re-entry specialists and professional peer support in jail/prison discharge planning

# Community Policies and Practices

- **Operational:** Combining professionals from different systems to collaborate and respond to situations where combined expertise may produce a better result (e.g., adding mental health professionals to law enforcement crisis response)
- **Navigational:** Convening stakeholders from multiple systems to map pathways that reduce or eliminate roadblocks to the continuity of care between providers
- **Educational:** Developing programs that raise awareness of the importance of continuity of care and promote strategies for achieving it, this *Facts in Brief* among them
- **Legal:** Developing memoranda of agreement that create a foundation for different systems to work together by addressing privacy and other legal barriers to collaboration (e.g., authorizing emergency medical departments to share medical information with homelessness programs)

# Continuity and Continuum

- **Continuity**

**“the unbroken and consistent existence or operation of something over a period of time.” (google dictionary)**

- **Continuum:**


**“a continuous sequence in which adjacent elements are not perceptibly different from each other, although the extremes are quite distinct.” (google dictionary)**

## For Maria...

- **Continuity**
  - Information about symptoms and treatment is passed along to next treaters
  - Medications started in one site are continued
  - Patient feels their illness is seen wholly across sites and do not need to “retell” or “restart” care
  - Navigator or peer helps shepherd individual across systems
- **Continuum**
  - From an inpatient level of care a stepdown to a residential treatment program
  - From residential supports she could move to intensive outpatient with supported housing
  - From intensive outpatient she can move to routine outpatient
  - If relapses, she can move up or down a level of care as needed


# The Vital Role of the Continuum of Care and the Importance of Continuity

**Beyond Beds**  
The Vital Role of a Full Continuum of Psychiatric Care




October 2017

**NASMHPD**



**READY TO RESPOND**

MENTAL HEALTH BEYOND CRISIS AND COVID-19



**NASMHPD** Reimagining a Sustainable and Robust Continuum of Psychiatric Care

September 2022

# Healthcare Reform and Redesign

- Care coordination
  - Will need attention to population that shifts between institutions
- “Health homes”
- Retail clinics

## Improving outcomes of Justice-Involved Individuals with Mental Illness like Maria

- Screening → Early pre-trial screening and referral
- Innovative Coverage → Transportation
- Minimize disruption in entitlements → Has Medicaid been suspended or re-activated
- Integrate care with Criminal Justice partners → Integrated services with probation
- Risk Management → Consult with care coordinator



# Training Behavioral Health and Justice Professionals of the Future

- Co-occurring Disorders
- Trauma
- Criminogenic risks and recidivism factors
- Behavioral and Physical healthcare integration
- Specialized justice and mental health collaborative services (e.g., MHCs, CIT, Re-entry)

# Examples of Emerging Evidence Supported Approaches



# Forensic Assertive Community Treatment

- Designed to support individuals with serious mental illness who are criminal justice involved.
- Utilizes the model of ACT with a multidisciplinary team, and add a criminal justice component

**Forensic Assertive Community Treatment (FACT)**  
A Service Delivery Model for Individuals With Serious Mental Illness Involved With the Criminal Justice System

**FACT OVERVIEW**

Forensic assertive community treatment (FACT) is a service delivery model intended for individuals with serious mental illness (SMI) who are involved with the criminal justice system. These individuals may have co-occurring substance use and physical health disorders. Their needs are often complex, and their disorders are often under-managed and further complicated by varying degrees of involvement with the criminal justice system. FACT builds on the evidence-based assertive community treatment (ACT) model by making adaptations based on criminal justice issues—in particular, **addressing criminogenic risks and needs**. In this sense, FACT is an intervention that bridges the behavioral health and criminal justice systems.

**KEY COMPONENTS OF FACT**

1. Forensic services that address criminogenic risks and needs
2. Client eligibility based on a set of well-defined criteria, including multiple incarcerations
3. Client access to round-the-clock, individualized psychiatric treatment and social services that address immediate needs and improve stabilization
4. Service delivery by an integrated, multi-disciplinary team, including criminal justice specialists
5. Cross-system mental health and criminal

<https://store.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/d7/priv/pep19-fact-br.pdf>

# Forensic Assertive Community Treatment

## SAMHSA's Key Components:

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5. Cross-system mental health and criminal justice team member training
6. Implementation fidelity to ACT and quality control
7. Flexible funding and implementation support

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# Intensive Case Management

Provides for management of mental health challenges along with rehabilitation and social support needs

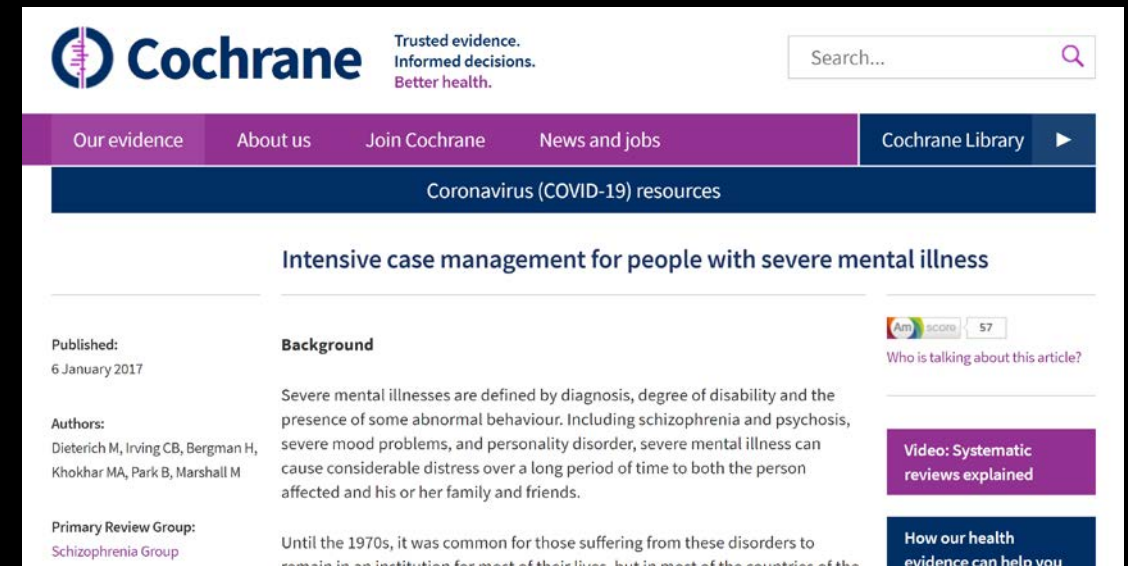
Provided by a small team with small caseloads

Offers 24/7/365 supports

Offers community-based outreach

# ICM Cochrane Review (2017)

- Multiple trials from around the world
- Overall data quality was low to moderate
- Cautious conclusion that compared to standard care, ICM recipients were more likely to
  - Remain in services
  - Have improved functioning
  - Get a job
  - Not remain homeless
  - Have fewer hospital days



The screenshot shows the Cochrane website interface. At the top left is the Cochrane logo with the tagline "Trusted evidence. Informed decisions. Better health." To the right is a search bar. Below the logo is a navigation menu with links for "Our evidence", "About us", "Join Cochrane", "News and jobs", and "Cochrane Library". A dark blue banner below the menu reads "Coronavirus (COVID-19) resources". The main content area features the title "Intensive case management for people with severe mental illness". On the left side, it lists the publication date "6 January 2017", authors "Dieterich M, Irving CB, Bergman H, Khokhar MA, Park B, Marshall M", and the "Primary Review Group: Schizophrenia Group". The "Background" section begins with "Severe mental illnesses are defined by diagnosis, degree of disability and the presence of some abnormal behaviour. Including schizophrenia and psychosis, severe mood problems, and personality disorder, severe mental illness can cause considerable distress over a long period of time to both the person affected and his or her family and friends." Below this, it starts with "Until the 1970s, it was common for those suffering from these disorders to remain in an institution for most of their lives, but in most of the countries of the". On the right side, there is an "Am score 57" badge, a link "Who is talking about this article?", a purple box for "Video: Systematic reviews explained", and a blue box for "How our health evidence can help you".

# Housing Supports

- Housing and support from a mental health team resulted in decreased inpatient days, higher housing stability and cost savings in homeless persons with SCZ or BP disorders. (Tinland et al., 2020)
- Numerous studies point to supported housing as a means to help maximize community tenure for individuals with mental illness



The screenshot shows the SAMHSA website interface. At the top left is the SAMHSA logo with the text 'Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration'. To the right is a search bar labeled 'Search SAMHSA.gov'. Below the logo is a navigation menu with links: 'Find Treatment', 'Practitioner Training', 'Public Messages', 'Grants', 'Data', 'Programs', 'Newsroom', and 'About Us'. The main content area is titled 'Publications and Digital Products' and includes a 'Start a New Search' button. The featured publication is 'Permanent Supportive Housing Evidence-Based Practices (EBP KIT)'. A description states: 'This toolkit outlines the essential components for supportive housing services and programs for people living with mental illness disorders. It discusses how to develop and integrate evidence-based programs in mental health systems. The toolkit includes eight booklets on program development.' Metadata includes: 'Publication ID: SMA10-4509', 'Publication Date: July 2010', and 'Format: Kit'. A 'More like this' link points to 'Evidence-Based Practices KITs'. On the right side, there is a 'Download' section with three links: 'How to Use' (939.83 KB), 'Getting Started' (1.04 MB), and 'Building Your' (3.29 MB). A 'Download only' label is visible at the bottom left of the page.

## Supported Housing Tenets

- Permanence and affordability
- Services that are housing-oriented
- Multi-disciplinary team involvement
- Voluntary services, but assertive approaches
- Integrated in communities
- Emphasis on choice
- Low entry barriers

<https://www.cbpp.org/research/housing/supportive-housing-helps-vulnerable-people-live-and-thrive-in-the-community>



# Co-Occurring Treatments

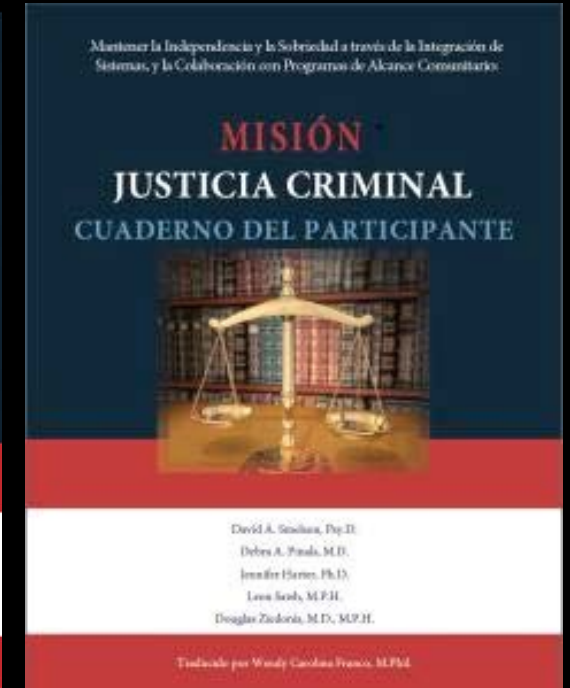
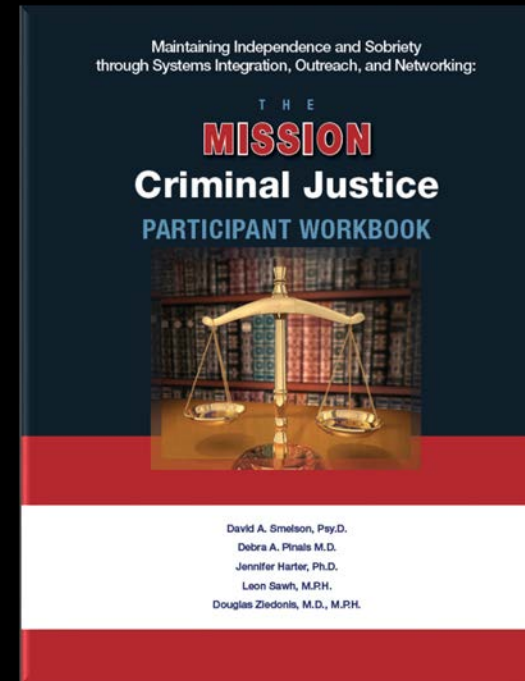
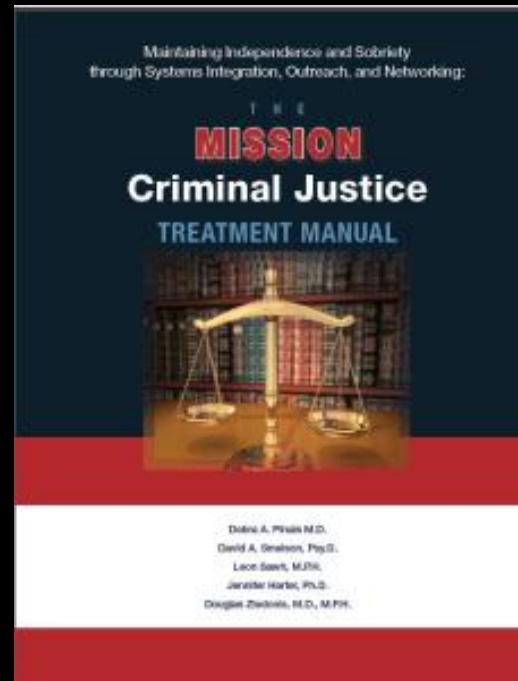
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- Frequent co-occurrence
  - Mental illness
  - Substance use disorders
  - Physical illnesses

# MISSION-CJ Model

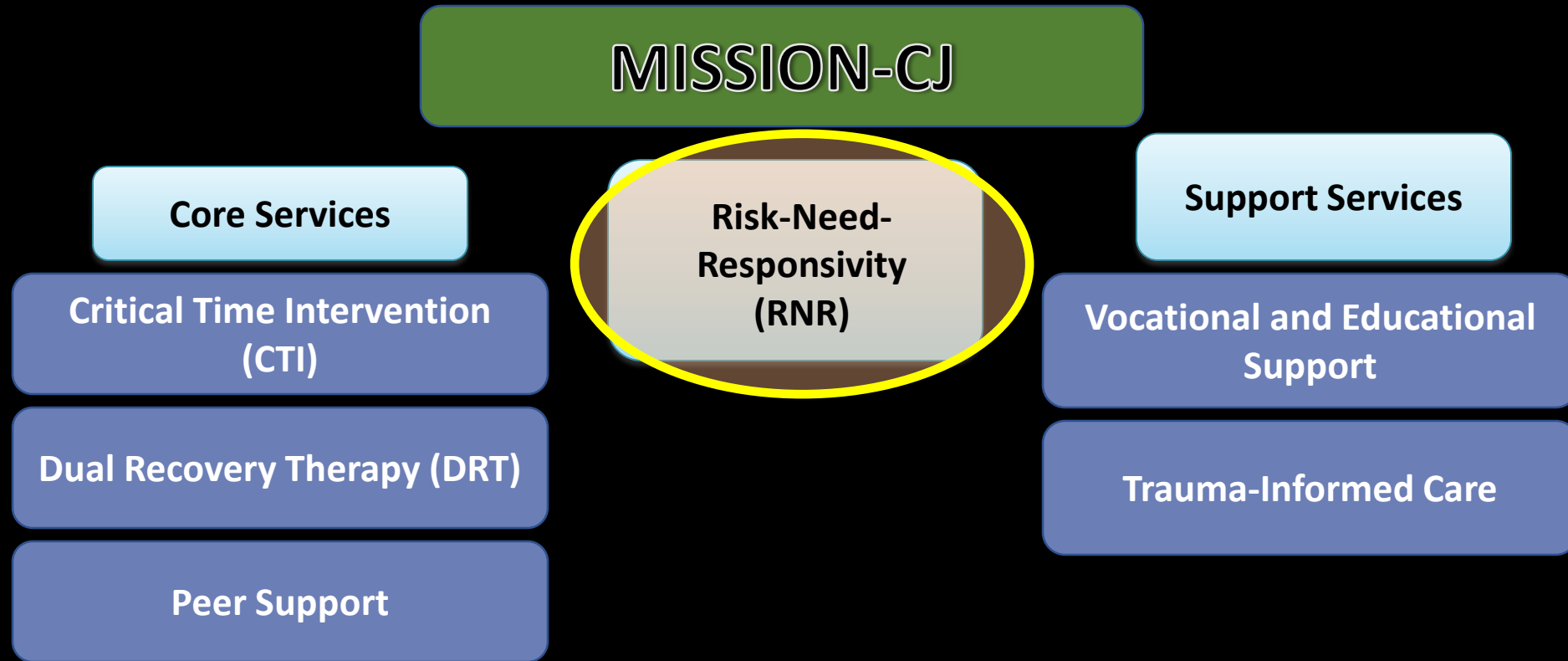
## MISSION-CJ

- Emphasis on CJ involved populations
- Addition of Risk Needs Responsivity (RNR) Framework
- Increased focus on readjustment to community
- More resources for case managers, peers, and clients
- Removal of veteran-specific language



# MISSION-CJ Model

*Combining evidence-based services into a comprehensive system of care*

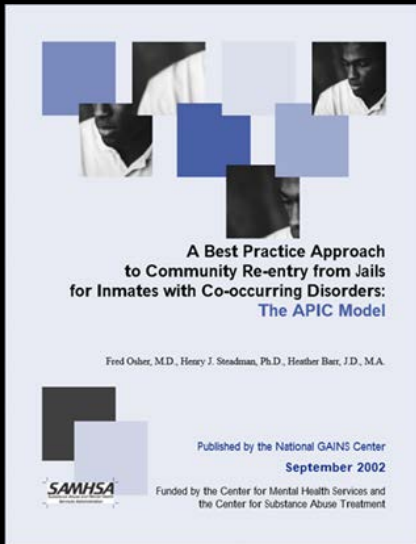


- Critical Time Intervention (Susser et al, 2007)
- Dual Recovery Therapy (Ziedonis et al, 1997)
- Peer Support (Chinman et al, 2010)
- Vocational/Educational Support (Ellison et al, 2012)
- Trauma Informed Care (Najavits et al, 2011)
- Risk-Need-Responsivity (Blanchette & Brown, 2006; Ward, Mesler & Yates, 2007)

# Building Consensus

- MOU Example
  - County Authority
  - Court
  - Probation
  - Mental Health Authority
  - District Attorney
  - Public Defenders
  - Local Clinic
  - Local Service Providers

## 10 Guidelines following the APIC framework including:



### Assess

- Screening for behavioral health needs and risk
- Assessments after positive screenings

### Plan

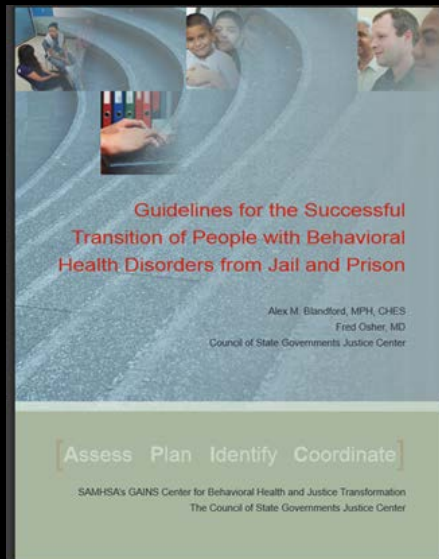
- Individualized treatment planning with appropriate treatment levels and dosing to match risk in collaborative programs
- Collaborative responses between behavioral health and justice systems

### Identify

- Anticipate critical periods especially time surrounding release
- Policies and practices that enhance continuity of care

### Coordinate

- Support "firm but fair" adherence to treatment and supervision conditions
- Develop Information sharing mechanisms
- Support cross training
- Support data analysis



# Judicial Considerations

- *Are alternatives to incarceration available that would address public safety? Was the individual previously connected with community-based treatment?*
- *Is the individual coming from a mental health or substance use treatment program where medications have been prescribed for a mental illness or substance use disorder? If so, what mechanisms can be put in place to assure the medication therapy will not be interrupted?*
- *Is there a clinical treatment plan in place for this individual, and how can the court support the clinical recommendations? If no treatment plan exists, what is the appropriate course of action to mobilize mental health professionals to develop one?*
- *What is the mechanism for the individual's service providers to share information across systems, and is there something the court can do to promote its use? For example, is there a need for a court order authorizing or ordering such information-sharing?*
- *Are there other circumstances that may dissuade the individual from remaining in care, such as distrust of treatment providers, lack of awareness of treatment recommendations, unwanted side effects from treatment interventions, transportation obstacles? Identifying barriers to continuity can shed light on strategies to overcome them.*

## Conclusions

- Innovations include enhancing continuity of care
- Often correctional systems are left out, but that may be changing
- Courts can play a role in understanding the importance of continuity for positive outcomes

# Selected References

- Hwang YIJ et al. Disengagement from mental health treatment and re-offending in those with psychosis: a multi-state model of linked data. *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology* (vol. 55[12], 2020 Dec, pp 1639-1648). Retrieved from <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/341151686> Disengagement from mental health treatment and re-offending in those with psychosis a multi-state model of linked data.
- Bronson J et al. Systematic review and inventory of programs and practices for justice-involved adults with serious mental illness, across the sequential intercept model. Alexandria, VA: National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors Research Institute (2020). Retrieved from <https://www.nri-inc.org/media/1678/final-pew.pdf>.
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