Stepping Up: A National Initiative to Reduce the Number of People with Mental Illnesses in Jails

ACCG’S MENTAL HEALTH SUMMIT
August 2018
Stepping Up National Partnerships

Federal

Association
We are Stepping Up!

- Rural (<50K) 32%
- Mid-Size (50 - 250K) 39%
- Large (>250K) 29%
Georgia Counties are Stepping Up!

- Chatham
- Athens-Clarke
- DeKalb
- Douglas
- Dougherty
- Fulton
- Rockdale
- Union
Stepping Up Framework: Six Questions

1. Is our leadership committed?
2. Do we conduct timely screening and assessments?
3. Do we have baseline data?
4. Do we conduct a comprehensive process analysis and inventory of services?
5. Have we prioritized policy, practice and funding improvements?
6. Do we track progress?

WWW.STEPUPTOGETHER.ORG/TOOLKIT
Stepping Up Framework: Four Key Measures

- Reducing the number of people with mental illnesses booked into jail
- Increasing connections to treatment
- Reducing the length of time spent in jail
- Reducing recidivism

WWW.STEPUPTOGETHER.ORG/TOOLKIT
Stepping Up Approach to Identifying People with SMI in Jail

1. Establish a shared definition of SMI for your Stepping Up efforts that is used throughout the local criminal justice and behavioral health systems;

2. Use a validated mental health screening tool on every person booked into the jail, and refer people who screen positive for symptoms of SMI to a follow-up clinical assessment by a licensed mental health professional; and

3. Record clinical assessment results and regularly report on this population to stakeholders.

WWW.STEPUPTOGETHER.ORG/TOOLKIT
Stepping Up Innovator Counties

Calaveras County, Calif.
Champaign County, Ill.
Douglas County, Kan.
Johnson County, Kan.
Franklin County, Ohio
Pacific County, Wash.
Miami-Dade County, Fla.
Resources Toolkit

- Monthly webinars and networking calls
- Educational workshops at NACo and partner conferences
- Quarterly calls of smaller networking groups of rural, mid-size and large/urban counties that have passed Stepping Up resolutions

- A project coordinator handbook
- Guidance on measuring the number of people with mental illnesses in jail
- Written and online tools that are companions to the Six Questions report that present the latest research and case studies for county officials

WWW.STEPUPTOGETHER.ORG/TOOLKIT
Stepping Up County Self-Assessment

- Assess your county’s progress with the Six Questions County Leaders Need to Ask
- Compare your county’s progress to the rest of the Stepping Up counties
- Track your county’s progress over time
- Access targeted technical assistance resources in areas of need

HTTPS://TOOL.STEPPUTOGETHER.ORG
How Counties are Stepping Up
How Counties are Stepping Up

**Reduce**
- The number of people with MI booked into jail
  - Police-Mental Health Collaboration
  - CIT and MHFA training
  - Mobile crisis or Co-responder model
  - Crisis diversion centers
  - Crisis care continuum

**Shorten**
- The average length of stay in jail
  - Screening and assessment
  - Pretrial mental health diversion
  - Pretrial risk screening, release, and supervision
  - Bail policy reform
  - Correctional officer training

**Increase**
- The percentage connected to care
  - Community-based treatment & housing
  - Access to services
  - Healthcare enrollment
  - Telepsychiatry
  - Peer support specialists

**Lower**
- Rates of recidivism
  - Risk-Need-Responsivity
  - Evidence-based practices
  - Specialized Probation
  - Community resources and supports
  - Ongoing program evaluation
Athens-Clarke County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>706 Advantage Clients*</th>
<th>1,135 Not Advantage Clients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>History of multiple arrests</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average # of lifetime arrests</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>5.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total lifetime arrests</td>
<td>8,986</td>
<td>6,095</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average length of stay in jail</td>
<td>22.7 days</td>
<td>8.1 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return to jail in 2016</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*65% of clients had a MH diagnosis, 35% had a SU diagnosis, 47% had a co-occurring diagnosis

Aligned Strategies with Four Key Measures:

1. Created Crisis Intervention Response Unit: Hired Behavioral Health Co-Responder and Increased CIT training
2. Coordination with local judicial system; expanded treatment court opportunities
3. Implementing screening & assessment; expanded pre- & post-release planning efforts
4. Partnerships with probation & community supervision
### Fulton County Justice and Mental Health Recommendations

**December 11, 2017**

Here is a summary of the key recommendations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Workgroup</th>
<th>Cost Factor</th>
<th>Implementation</th>
<th>Stepping Up Key Measure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jail mental health screening and assessment process</td>
<td>Re-Entry</td>
<td>Low Cost</td>
<td>Short Term</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information sharing across systems</td>
<td>Detox-Re-Entry</td>
<td>Medium TO High Cost</td>
<td>Short Term</td>
<td>1.2.3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standardized law enforcement training</td>
<td>Pre-Arrrest</td>
<td>Low Cost</td>
<td>Short Term</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court-based jail diversion</td>
<td>Court</td>
<td>Medium TO High Cost</td>
<td>Short Term</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Key Priorities:**
- Jail mental health screening and assessment process
- Information sharing across systems
- Standardized law enforcement training
- Court-based jail diversion
- Coordinating care for people at risk of homelessness

River Region, Ala.

- Sequential Intercept Mapping
- CIT Training
- High Utilizer Early Warning system
- BJMHS implementation
- Post-Incarceration Case Management

Post-Incarceration Case Management Results

- Of first 40 clients, only two re-arrested, one re-incarcerated
- Recidivism rate dropped from 56% to 2.5% for this pop.
- Estimated savings of $2,600/day and $957K/year for the one case manager
Upcoming Stepping Up Activities

Webinar:
Stepping Up Four Key Measures #2: Shortening the Length of Stay in Jail for People with Mental Illnesses
August 2, 2pm ET
Register at: StepUpTogether.org/Toolkit

Stepping Up Small Network Calls
Next Calls in August
Email nwalsh@naco.org to join
Contact

Nastassia Walsh, MA
Program Manager
National Association of Counties
E: nwalsh@naco.org
P: 202.942.4289

www.StepUpTogether.org
info@stepuptogether.org