



The State of Justice Involved Service Initiatives in New Jersey: Where are We Now?



Justice Involved Services (JIS) Milestones



- * **Prior to 2002 to present**, NAMI NJ Law Enforcement educator(s) provided information to many law enforcement entities
- * **Summer 2002**, 1st RFP for JIS let out
- * **June 2003**, contracts signed with Camden, Hudson and Bergen providers for services
- * **May 2005**, JIS expanded to Atlantic, Gloucester, Mercer, Union, Essex & Passaic
- * **May 2005**, SPB/DMHS/HFMA/DOC PROMISE initiative started
- * **January 2006**, three large jail diversion programs funded in Atlantic, Union and Essex counties as a result of MH Task Force recommendations
- * **June 2006**, GAINS Center presents at all day conference in New Jersey
- * **December 2007** JIS expanded with additional diversion in Mercer, Ocean and Camden Counties and re-entry in Cumberland
- * **November 2007** first CIT class in Collingswood Camden County
- * **December 2008** Veteran's Assistance Initiative started in Atlantic County



Jail Diversion Services



What is Diversion?

Diversion = avoiding or radically reducing jail time by using community-based treatment as an alternative.

The National GAINS Center 

Pre-booking diversion



- * **Pre-booking diversion** is a police based intervention to avoid arrest and incarceration for non criminal, non violent offenses.
- * Police are trained to identify and de-escalate situations involving consumers and diverting to mental health crisis or pre-crisis services.
 - * Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) - Collingswood NJ
- * Police intervention and connection to JIS services post time limited training
 - * Egg Harbor Twp

Post Booking Diversion



- * **Post booking diversion** targets individuals with mental illness who have been charged/arrested/detained in jail.
- * Typically charges are minor; disorderly or petit disorderly persons and some lesser degree indictable offenses.
- * Intervention with the police, prosecutor and or court may result in release, dismissal or shortened sentences so that the consumer can be connected to more appropriate community based mental health treatment and intervention.
- * Atlantic, Mercer, Ocean, Union, Essex, Passaic, Hudson provide these services although all DMHS JIS providers do some post booking diversion



Re-entry services

Effective Transition Planning for Re-entry

- * **Effective transition planning in county jails is critical!** Latest study by Steadman & Osher (2009) estimates the rate of current serious mental illness for male inmates was 14.5% and for female inmates 31.0%.
- * **Engages** corrections and community treatment staff in developing and implementing comprehensive transition plans.
- * **Services begin in jail** with coordination, linkage, and follow up into the community.
- * If intake classification is done well, transition planning process **has already begun**.



Re-entry services from County Jails



- * **Re-entry services** from county jails where DMHS JIS exists are based upon the, APIC model, **A**ssess, **P**lan, **I**dentify and **C**oordinate.
- * Services include identification/case finding, pre-release planning and successful linkage to critical mental health, social service, employment and housing upon release to the community.
- * **State/county funded services: Atlantic, Cumberland, Gloucester, Camden, Mercer, Somerset, Middlesex, Union, Essex, Bergen, Morris & Hudson**

The APIC Model



A	A ssess the inmate's clinical and social needs, and public safety risks
P	P lan for the treatment and services required to address the inmate's needs
I	I dentify required community and correctional programs responsible for post-release services
C	C oordinate the transition plan to ensure implementation and avoid gaps in care with community-based services

Re-entry services from State Prison

- * **Prisoner Re-entry:** some 1,100 ex-offenders with mental illness are released each year after serving their sentences.
- * **Department of Correction max-out, pre-release planning and collaboration**
 - * A monthly meeting of representatives of DOC, DMHS and AKFC to review inmates who are coming up for release to determine the need for continued hospitalization @ AKFC or identifying an array of community services to link the ex-offender to upon release.
 - * Has reduced the number of referrals to AKFC to 10% of previous volume

Re-entry Collaboration with the State Parole Board (SPB)

- * **Program for Returning Offenders with Mental Illness Safely and Effectively (PROMISE) parole program:**
 - * Transitions offenders with mental illness from incarceration to the community as part of their parole plan.
 - * Connects parolees to supported housing, mental health services, employment, training, and other community services.
 - * Is a collaborative, joint program of the SPB, HMFA, DMHS, DOC and VOA of Delaware Valley
 - * Has fostered other efforts between SPB & DMHS

Cross Training & Information Sharing

- * Police trainings; overview & in depth
- * Overview of the Criminal Justice System for providers
- * Adapting Employment Services for Consumers who are Justice Involved
- * Overview of Mental Health for Administrative Office of the Courts, Division of Adult Probation
- * Overview of Mental Health for State Parole Board
- * Information sharing and collaboration – AOC
- * [NAMI Guide for Families](#) (division funded)
- * [NAMI Police training video](#) (NAMI Funded)

Veteran's Initiatives



- * DMHS served 7,260 veterans in 2008
- * **Veterans Assistance Initiative** - Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)
 - * A program to identify returning veterans with & without mental illness who become entangled in the criminal justice system & connect them to veterans and mental health services.
- * **Stigma Council** sponsored 4 Regional provider Trainings on PTSD/TBI in crease awareness
- * **Increase collaboration** with Federal, State & County to increase access to veterans services



Collaborative System Development: Criminal Justice, Mental Health & Substance Abuse

Cross Systems Mapping

- * A method to view the **interface between the Criminal Justice, Mental Health & Substance Abuse Systems** and enhance access to services:
- * Produces a **map of the county** and an **action plan** for modifications & additions to the system for better access to treatment versus incarceration
- * Counties completed include:
 - * Cumberland, Warren & Bergen
- * Counties in process:
 - * Middlesex, Burlington, Ocean & Sussex



County Jail Diversion/Criminal Justice Task Forces

A number of counties have established or newly established groups to grapple with how to address persons with mental illness and or mental illness and co-occurring disorder. Current counties include;

- * Bergen, Monmouth
- * Warren,
- * Hunterdon,
- * Middlesex,
- * Ocean,
- * Gloucester
- * Cumberland