

# Good Morning!

*'Which Way Out?'*

Conference Nov. 14-17, 2007

## Welcome to Pittsburgh

**The Forensic Behavioral  
Health Subcommittee  
of the  
Allegheny County Criminal  
Justice Advisory Board**

**Strategic Plan**

**Period: 2005—2010**

# Strategic Plan:

Decriminalize mental illness within  
the criminal justice & mental health  
service systems

# PURPOSE

To improve the effectiveness of the criminal justice and mental health systems by fostering cooperation among officials, staff, providers, families and persons receiving behavioral health services and advocates so that the systems decriminalize individuals with mental illness and are responsive and accountable to persons receiving mental health services and the public.

# GUIDING PHILOSOPHY

Jails are not treatment facilities, and public and individual interests are best served when individuals with behavioral health disorders receive treatment in community-based treatment facilities.

# ROLES

## **The Allegheny County Criminal Justice Advisory Board (CJAB)**

Provides a broad perspective of the criminal justice system in Allegheny County, encompassing all components and aspects of law enforcement, adjudication, incarceration and diversion, with attention to each system working in tandem with each other.

## **The Forensic Behavioral Health Subcommittee (FBHS)**

Provides guidance to the CJAB about the impact of current and potential policies and procedures of the criminal justice system, including diversion options, with suggestions and recommendations/strategies to improve services and the treatment of persons with mental illness who become involved in the criminal justice system.

# GOALS and OBJECTIVES

Build a system that:

- Spans criminal justice and mental health service and support programs *to intercept and divert* individuals with mental illness when they might be arrested or jailed—and that moves them to appropriate services.
- Ensures that individuals with mental illnesses have *access to appropriate treatment*
- Provides *evaluative information* that CJAB and FBHS members can use to determine effectiveness, needed changes and improvements.

Seek and employ the guidance of individuals receiving behavioral health services and their family members and friends who support them and are knowledgeable about the impact of the current systems upon individuals with mental illness and co-occurring disorders.

# PLANNING OPTIONS

- Develop trauma and gender specific services including increasing trauma specialists, especially for victims of domestic and/sexual abuse and consumers of forensic services
- Open a licensed D/A unit for women prisoners
- Develop a walk-in clinic within the jail, available to offenders with serious mental illness as well as individuals living in alternative housing
- Create space for individual and small group treatment
- Provide treatment services within the ACJ for individuals with mental illness and/or substance use disorders
- Expand forensic Community Treatment Teams (CTT)
- Skills training for police responding to emergency calls to avoid arrest or booking when a therapeutic intervention is more appropriate (CIT)
- Expand supported residential and employment resources for individuals leaving structured programs/institutions, e.g., step-down programs
- Develop probation-violation court
- Develop a pre-booking diversion program

# ALLEGHENY COUNTY RESPONSE

## Sequential Intercept Model

- Intercept 1
  - Policed Based Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) --- Did not have
- Intercept 2
  - Forensic Diversion Program
  - Jail Diversion (Pre-booking) Program --- Did not have
- Intercept 3
  - Mental Health Court
  - Drug Court
- Intercept 4
  - Forensic Support Services
  - CROMISA
- Intercept 5
  - State Forensic Support Services
  - CROMISA

# INTERCEPT 1

## *Law enforcement & emergency services*

- Identify effective models
- Identify elements of the model for adaptation to Allegheny County
- Review resource implications of adoption of the model
- Secure resource commitments for adoption of model
- Secure resources for long-term funding of the model
- Integrate program with the rest of the intercepts

**Allegheny County  
Office of Behavioral Health  
Forensic Services Grant**

**Criminal Justice Mental Health  
Collaborative of Allegheny County and the  
City of Pittsburgh**

**Bureau of Justice Assistance  
U.S. Dept. of Justice**

# Summary of New Grant

## CJ/MH Collaborative

**\$250,000 + match**

Police-based diversion at the time of an incident based on the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) model

- City of Pittsburgh
- 40 Hour Training Curriculum for Police
- Central Recovery Center(s)/Triage Sites

# Criminal Justice Mental Health Collaborative Allegheny County and City of Pittsburgh

Funded by the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, under the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (P.L. 108-414)

Category II - Planning and Implementation Grant  
30 months grant – One award

- Joint Proposal from Allegheny County DHS/OBH and the City of Pittsburgh Bureau of Police
- Target Population: Non-violent persons (adults and juveniles) with mental illness
- Planning during first 6-8 months by a CIT Steering Committee
- Implementation over remainder of months

# GOALS

**System Goal:** To divert non-violent individuals with mental illness and co-occurring disorders to treatment by building a system that prevents arrests, incarceration and conviction and links them with the treatment and support that they need in the community.

## **Project Goals:**

- Reduce the rate of arrest of youth, men and women in the target group
- Reduce the number of incidents in which the police or the public are injured

# OBJECTIVES

- Select a Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Model
- Develop a Pittsburgh/Allegheny County focused curriculum
- Conduct trainings with Pittsburgh Bureau of Police and 9-1-1 Dispatchers
- Pilot the CIT Model in the City of Pittsburgh

# STEPS

## as outlined in the proposal

- Establish a CIT Steering Committee
- Conduct Additional Research
- Complete Site Visits to other CIT Cities
- Develop Training Curriculum Based on Best Practices
- Develop Dispatcher, Police and Mental Health Staff Protocols
- Develop Memorandums of Understanding with the Partners
- Select Trainers
- Conduct Training
- Develop Appropriate Community Behavioral Health Supports for a Central Recovery Center(s)
- Conduct Public Awareness and Education

# OUTCOMES

## Planning Outcomes:

- Complete the Strategic Plan
- Complete MOUs with partner agencies

## Project Outcomes:

- Decrease the arrests of the target group
- Increase mental health supports to individuals in crisis and in contact with the police
- Reduce the percentage of persons with mental illness at the ACJ and Shuman Center
- Reduce recidivism among the target population

# CIT OUTCOMES

- Train 50 police officers as CIT Officers
- Orient 50 dispatchers to the CIT Program
- Train 20 “others” in CIT

# CIT PROCESS

- Call into 9-1-1
- Trained/oriented dispatcher identifies call as potentially involving an individual with mental illness
- Call is relayed to CIT Officer(s) if available in their respective Police Zone
- CIT Officer(s) are on site to defuse situation
- Individual is transported to a Central Recovery Center (or, based on charges or dangerousness to self or others, possibly to a hospital or jail)

# AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES

- CIT Steering Committee Representation
- Evaluation (internal and external)
- Sustainability
- Public Awareness and Education
- Recognition for CIT Officers, Dispatchers and others involved with the CIT Program.

# CENTRAL RECOVERY CENTER

-Triage Site -

Opened August 6, 2007

- Alternative to jail and hospital
- Available 24 hours/day, 7 days/week
- Provides intake, screening, assessment and crisis intervention
- Access to respite beds
- Referrals for behavioral health services
- Coordination with Police and Behavioral Health Forensic Services
- Communication with family and significant others

# For more information. . . .

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The background is a solid teal color. In the lower half, there is a faint, semi-transparent silhouette of two hands shaking, suggesting a handshake or agreement. The text is centered horizontally and slightly above the vertical center.

**Questions?????**