

# Multnomah Meeting the Health Care Needs of the Recently Incarcerated



## **Coordinated Intervention:** Health Assessment and Treatment (HAT) Team

Over 200,000 Oregonians spend time in a Many justice-involved people still face complex barriers to health insurance enrollment and correctional facility each year. Many suffer from untreated chronic illness/disease, mental access to care, despite recent eligibility for the Mission: **Objectives:** health, and/or substance abuse disorders. Oregon Health Plan under Medicaid expansion. To assist formerly Assist with Oregon incarcerated Health Plan individuals with a enrollment; finding a chronic disease and PCP, dentist, /or mental health pharmacist or Oregon Medicaid policy requires Oregon issues successfully therapist; and securing Health Plan benefits to be suspended while transition back into the 70-90% of justice involved adults were other basic needs. an individual is incarcerated, often creating community. uninsured before the Affordable Care Act. re-enrollment delays and confusion upon release. Model: Partnership between Multnomah Coordinated interventions aimed at ensuring County Health Department and Oregon Health Plan eligibility does not equate to timely access to health insurance and health the Department of Community adequate health care utilization due to low levels care services upon release have a major Justice. Includes a nurse, health of health literacy among a population accustomed worker, PPO, counselor, and dual impact on population health and recidivism to visiting the ER when in need of medical care. diagnosis expert. rates.

### **Outcomes since August 2014:**

- 200+ individuals enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan
- 500 individual drug and alcohol evaluations
- 44 individual referrals to Primary Care, including initial and secondary appointments
- Clients in the intervention are more likely to show up for their medical appointments, pick-up prescriptions, and use their medications correctly
- Reduction in jail bed usage

#### For more information:

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### Recommendations & Lessons Learned:

- Coordinated efforts between correctional facilities and CCOs provide effective transition supports.
- The justice system, CCOs, policy makers and funders need to address gaps in access to health insurance and health care for individuals upon release.
- There are numerous opportunities for health related interventions across the justice continuum, such as police and parole interventions and diversion courts.
- CCOs should consider Innovative models e.g., Community Health Workers which provide effective outreach and health system navigation support services.
- Collect, analyze, and disseminate critical data, including incarceration history, health care utilization and metrics.
- Cultural competency training for CCO staff, specific to the needs of justice-involved individuals.