

Trauma Informed Approach to Care through the use of Mental Health Court





Jackson County Public Safety Coordinating Council

The Problem

- ▶ Sharp increase in Police Contacts relating to mental illness
- ▶ Nature of those contacts were repetitive and not trauma informed
- ▶ Identified Needs from Law Enforcement Experience
 - ▶ Individuals not willing to receive treatment
 - ▶ Did not meet commitment criteria
 - ▶ Active substance abuse
 - ▶ Poor adherence to treatment recommendations including medications
 - ▶ Unable to stay in respite/foster care/ transition housing due to intensity of issues



PSCC

Mental Health Subcommittee Members

- ▶ Local Police Department
 - ▶ Sheriffs Office
 - ▶ Community Justice
 - ▶ Mental Health
 - ▶ A and D providers
 - ▶ Judges
 - ▶ District Attorney
 - ▶ Veterans Administration
 - ▶ DHS staff
 - ▶ CCO
 - ▶ Jail
 - ▶ Private Providers
 - ▶ Hospital
 - ▶ Development Disabilities
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Original Charter

- Reports back to PSCC
- Identifying “frequent fliers”
- Shared Release of Information
- Multi Disciplinary Team staffings
- Shared Responsibility
- Training Needs Identified



Baby Steps Towards Mental Health Court

- Began reviewing “Tim’s List”
- Choosing those that “Kept Us Up At Night”
- Developing a Core Group of Individuals
- Promoting Trauma Informed Approaches
- Implementation of Crisis Intervention Training across the county for all law enforcement
- Judge Greif began with a few “minimal mental health court cases” to show value and worth
- 10 cases to start with



Million Dollar Member

- Client # 1 – first participant in “mini mental health court”
- Revolving in and out of jail for public nuisance and petty crimes
- Local Law Enforcement driving client around in back of police car to keep track of her
- Multiple stays in Psychiatric Unit
- Substance Abuse History along with Schizophrenia diagnosis
- All agencies attempting to serve her with little success



Intermountain Mental Health Court Conference July of 2014

- ▶ Participants included:
 - ▶ Mental Health
 - ▶ Community Justice
 - ▶ Law Enforcement
 - ▶ Public Defender
 - ▶ District Attorney
 - ▶ Court Administrator
 - ▶ Court Clerk
 - ▶ District Judge



Monthly Planning Meetings

- All phases of the program were consider from a trauma informed lens
- Incentives to participate such as plea and abeyance, reduced fines
- Dedicated judge, defense attorney and prosecuting attorney
- Court Coordinator with experience with this population
- Staffing's are strengths based and looking for individual motivation
- Consistent members on the treatment team
- Celebrating Success – gift cards, lunch with the judge, etc.
- Graduation Ceremony – most participants will be involved for minimum of a year



MHC Officially Begins April of 2015 Treatment Team Members

- Designated LCSW from Jackson County Mental Health
- District Court Judge
- MH Court Coordinator – joint supervision by court and mental health
- Designated Probation Officer from Community Justice
- Designated Assistant District Attorney
- Designated Public Defense Attorney
- Officer Curtis Whipple from Medford PD
- Jail Commander
- Rotating service providers



Where are we now...

- ▶ 6 participants
 - ▶ Screen out for Measure 11's; exceptions can be made
 - ▶ Make no assumptions, some people that you think will not do well often do the best – many have never experienced positive support or success
 - ▶ Ongoing training for treatment team in mental health issues and in trauma informed care
 - ▶ The judge is a community leader in the promotion and embracing of trauma informed care
 - ▶ Shared resources and buy in make us all stronger and increase outcomes for the individuals who have long histories of criminal mischief and public nuisance crimes
 - ▶ Advisory Board inclusive of all stake holders
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Continuous Improvement



- Add peer support and family voice to treatment staffing's as appropriate
- On-going Trauma Informed Care training for members of the treatment team and the advisory council
- Track outcomes to support potential future growth and increased numbers
- Additional supports to Jail Diversion population and services
- Development of housing supports for these participants
- Supported Employment and Education opportunities for participants
- Continued participation in the Intermountain Mental Health Court Consortium

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