



Berks County Stepping up Initiative: A Comprehensive County Approach

December 4, 2017

WHY is Berks County doing this?

- ▶ A recent study done in September 2017 by Treatment Advocacy Center, Treat or Repeat
- ▶ A State Survey of Serious Mental Illness, Major Crimes and Community Treatment
- ▶ Pennsylvania scored a “D” grade
- ▶ The non-profit group graded states based on how they adhered to certain policies the group says have proven to reduce recidivism
- ▶ PA received a “D” most significantly for its chronic shortage of beds at state mental hospitals – according to the report, we have less to offer those who suffer from serious mental illness

Outline

- ▶ Stepping Up Initiatives
- ▶ CCAP Comprehensive Behavioral Health Task Force
- ▶ Sequential Intercept Mapping
- ▶ Forensic Diversion Program
- ▶ Forensic Services
- ▶ Law Enforcement Initiatives
- ▶ Jail Initiatives
- ▶ Data Driven Justice Initiative

Stepping Up Initiative

Advance the six program objectives:

- Secure committed team leadership
- Ensure implementation of timely screening and assessments
- Obtain baseline data
- Complete a comprehensive process analysis and inventory of services
- Prioritize policy, practice and funding improvements
- Identify strategies to track and evaluate progress

Priority – Urgent Response Needed

- ▶ – State capacity to meet the needs of incarcerated individuals with MH/DD is significantly insufficient
- ▶ – Counties and the state must work together to develop immediate additional capacity
- ▶ – This is a long term issue requiring long term planning
- ▶ – Humanitarian issue and a public safety issue

CCAP Comprehensive Behavioral Health Task Force

- ▶ Employ Successful Strategies to reduce the need for incarceration
- ▶ Expand training, education & awareness efforts to improve public perception & understanding
- ▶ Provide effective supports and services to reduce entry into the criminal justice system & to improve outcomes for re-entry
- ▶ Understanding special populations & unique circumstances
- ▶ Address the needs of returning veterans
- ▶ Research larger policy issues and develop longer range policy strategies to assist county efforts

Sequential Intercept Mapping

- ▶ Forensic services can assist at any Intercept:
 - Intercept 1 – Law Enforcement and Emergency Services
 - Intercept 2 – Initial Detention / Initial Court Hearing
 - Intercept 3 – Jails / Courts
 - Intercept 4 – Re-Entry
 - Intercept 5 – Community Corrections / Community Support

Forensic Diversion Program

- ▶ Established January 2012 through a collaboration between Berks Connections/Pretrial Services (BCPS) and Berks County MH/DD Program to:
 - Decrease the incarceration rate of our non-violent mentally ill population by diverting them from jail and linking them to appropriate treatment services, monitoring and supervision through BCPS when applicable.
 - Maintain community safety – only non-violent individuals are chosen.
 - Save taxpayer money by reducing incarceration and justice system costs.

Forensic Diversion Program

Program Statistics January 2012 to September 2017

Total Number of Referrals to the Program:	741
Unsecured Bail Diversions:	130
Number of Diversions using Treatment Resources:	229
Number of Follow up Contacts Provided:	4252
Total Diversions for the 5 Year period:	359
Total Number Re-arrested:	25 (7%)
Total Re-arrested post diversion program:	12
Total Re-arrested during diversion program:	13

Forensic Services

- ▶ Forensic Blended Case Management
 - 4 Forensic BCMs and 1 Forensic BCM Supervisor
- ▶ Forensic Peer Specialists
 - Trained professionals with lived experience
- ▶ Forensic Transitional Housing Program
 - Established December 2012 with capacity to house 4 individuals in a supervised setting
- ▶ Provider Coalition
 - Comprised of various law enforcement officials and representatives from community agencies and the County.
 - Collaborating to establish new resources and programming for the forensic population with MH diagnoses



Law Enforcement



- ▶ –Smart on Crime Approach
- ▶ –History of Working with the Mental Health System
- ▶ –Police Trainings – Crisis Intervention
- ▶ –Berks County Emergency Response Team

Jail System

▶ History

- Limited Data
 - % on Psychotropic Medications
 - # of Requests to See Psych Staff



▶ Increased Contacts & Demand on Resources

- Need for Data with Definitions and Purpose
 - Mental Health Stability Rating (12/1/17)
 - Total General Population: 1047
 - **A:** 118 – history of mental illness, over 5 years ago, doesn't need treatment
 - **B:** 45 – had treatment for mental illness over 5 years ago, doesn't need treatment
 - **C:** 517 – Active mental illness diagnosis and needs treatment
 - **D (SMI):** 89 – Severe/Specific diagnosis and needs treatment
 - Total 769

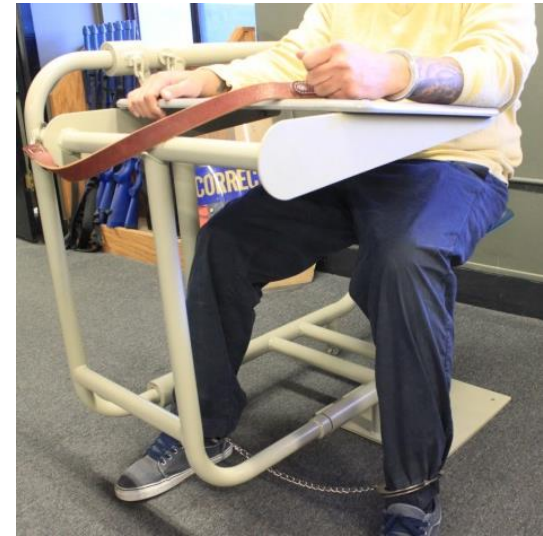
Jail System

▶ Data Drives Change

- Obtained Training
- Increased Staffing
- Enhanced Programs
- Obtained Safety Equipment

- Received 7 Secure Interactive Treatment Chairs In Feb. 2017 (\$19,355)

- 20 hours out of cell time
 - 10 structured: Group/Individual therapy, medication education, structured activities
 - 10 unstructured: Regular recreation for most inmates, additional hours required to be added for disciplinary inmates



Data Driven Justice Initiative

- ▶ Priorities:
- ▶ Gather data to access, quantify and articulate the service delivery and consumption of behavioral health, EMS and criminal justice services in the County
- ▶ Identify measures of success for each component: emergency medical services, behavioral health and criminal justice
- ▶ Identify the cost dimension of each component

HIGH UTILIZER CASE STUDY

Berks County, 414,812



About	
Gender	Female
Age	26
Ethnicity	Non-hispanic

TOTAL CONTACTS IN THE LAST 365 DAYS



Date	System	Interaction
10/3/16-6/19/17	Jail	Aggravated Harassment, Assault – time on the MH Unit, contact from Forensic Case Management x4 in jail
6/19/17	Case Management	Spent night in Shelter – reports all belongings stolen – reaches out to Grandmother
6/21/17	Crisis; Police; ER	Aggressive to GM who calls Crisis and PD; PD has open warrant offers Psych ER as alternate
6/22/17 6/22– 6/29/17	EMS; BH Hospital	Signs 201 Voluntary Admit; transported to Behavioral Health Hospital
6/22-6/29/17	Case Management	Hospital does not return calls to case management to arrange f-up care
7/19/17	Change to Forensic CM	Forensic case management working with APO to find housing, dual MH & D/A treatment
7/22/17	Police; Crisis; ER	Police called – loitering at bus station; Crisis called; offered choice of arrest or Psych ER chooses ER – not admitted
7/27-7/31/17	Police; Jail	On Hold for public drunkenness-taken to jail
8/2/17 – 8/23/17	APO; Case Management	Unable to locate – 8/23/17 APO prepares warrant for arrest

HIGH UTILIZER CASE STUDY

Berks County PA, 414,812



About	
Gender	Male
Age	33
Ethnicity	Other

TOTAL CONTACTS IN THE LAST 365 DAYS

4/18 days	44	58
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EMS/Hospitals



unknown

Homeless Services



Police



#21

Behavioral Health



Jail



unknown

Other....

Date	System	Interaction
3/10/17	Crisis; PD	N.B. Police Dept. called to residence – call Crisis to diffuse situation – paranoid
3/10/17	Crisis; PD; EMS; ER	S.P.D. called re Domestic Violence event; crisis and EMS called for ER
3/11-3/12/17	Crisis; PD; EMS	Involuntary Commitment in ER; transport to BH Hospital
3/12 – 3/15/17	BH Hospital	Inpatient stay for 4 days with D/C to outpatient follow-up
4/10/17	Crisis; EMS; ER;	Delusional, threatening wife; EMS to Psych ER; Involuntary Commit to BH Hospital
4/10 – 4/13/17	Officers/ Several PDs	
4/27/17	2 PDs; ER	Threatening Girlfriend; taken to ER by Officers for evaluation
4/28 – 5/6/17	Jail	DUI; Assault
6/2/17	Crisis	Family concerned with threats PFA suggested and initially declined
6/8/17	Crisis; PD	Punched hole in Mom’s cabinets; broke neighbor’s property
6/11/17	Crisis; PD; ER; EMS; Hospital	Hallucinations -family afraid; call to PD and Crisis; PFA completed; Involuntary Commit to BH Hospital
6/12 – 6/23/17		
7/9/17 to present	Jail	DUI; Violation of Parole; Criminal Mischief; Defiant Trespass

Data Driven Justice Initiative

Action Required:

- ▶ Identify a data sharing technology plan utilizing the Open Lattice platform
- ▶ Create top consumer reports for each system
- ▶ Capture and share cost information for top consumers
- ▶ Document and track success by intercept
- ▶ Evaluate cost vs. success factors to identify areas for improvement

**Consider joining over
400 countries in signing
the Stepping Up Pledge**

Thank You!