Allegheny County Justice Related Services for Individuals with Mental Illness:

From Point of Initial Contact/Diversion to Specialty Courts to Re-Entry from County and State Correctional Institutions

Allegheny County Department of Human Services
Office of Behavioral Health
Justice-Related Services
Allegheny County--Who Are We?

- Includes the City of Pittsburgh
- Is 730 Square Miles
- Has a Population of approximately 1.2 Million
- Includes 130 Separate Municipalities

including:

- 49 Magisterial District Judges (MDJ)
- 136 Police Departments
- 11 Hospitals with Psychiatric Inpatient Units
Department of Human Services--
Who are we?

- Aging
- Mental Retardation/Developmental Disabilities
- Community Services
- Children, Youth and Families

**Behavioral Health**

- Bureau of Children and Adolescent Services
- Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Services
- **Bureau of Adult Mental Health Services**
  - Justice Related Services
Allegheny County Jail Collaborative

- **Members**
  - Warden
  - Director of Department of Human Services
  - Director of the Health Department
  - Allegheny Correctional Health Services
  - Office of Behavioral Health
  - Office of Community Services
  - Office of Children, Youth and Families
  - Alternative Housing
  - Probation

- **Accomplishments**
  - Monthly “Lunch and Learn”
  - Goodwill Reintegration Program
  - Development of New Housing Programs for Men and Women
  - Improvements on MA Application Process
  - Networking and Problem Solving on Systems Issues
Allegheny County Justice-Related Services for Individuals with a Mental Illness based on the Sequential Intercept Model

Sequential Intercept Model

Intercept 1
Pre-arrest Diversion
Police Based CIT

Intercept 2
Post-arrest Diversion
Pre and Post Booking Diversion

Intercept 3
Court and Jail Diversion
Mental Health Court Drug Court

Intercept 4
Re-entry from Jail
Forensic Support Services CROMI SA

Intercept 5
Re-entry from Prison Probation/Parole
State Forensic Support Services CROMI SA
OBH Justice-Related Services

- CIT---Pre-Arrest Diversion
- Diversion---Front Door to the County Jail
  - Pre-Booking Diversion
  - Post-Booking Diversion
- Support---Back Door to the County Jail
- Mental Health Court
- Drug Court
- Community Reintegration for Offenders with Mental Illness and Substance Abuse (CROMISA)---Parolees from the State Correctional Prisons and Individuals Release from the County Jail
- State Support---Offenders with Mental illness Maxing Out of the State Correctional Prisons
All OBH Justice-Related Services Include:

- Assessment
- Service Planning
- Written Service Plan Presented to the Court
- Case Management
- Housing Options
- Referrals for Treatment and Supports
- Contingency Funds for: Housing Support, Clothes, Bus Tickets
- Reinstatement or Obtain Medicaid and SSI Benefits
  - “Behind the walls” applications and utilization of COMPASS
- 24 Hour Availability of Forensic Team for Crises
- 60 Days Follow-up and Monitoring in the Community
So What Are the OUTCOMES?

- Recidivism Rates
- RAND Evaluation of the Fiscal Impact of the MH Court
Recidivism Rates (2008)

- Mental Health Court: 14.5%
- Drug Court: 9%
- Justice-Related County Support Services: 15%
- Justice-Related State Support Services From Prison: 18.7%
In the short term the MH Court did not result in substantial incremental costs over status quo adjudication and processing for individuals with serious mental illness who would otherwise pass through the traditional court system.

In the long term, the MH Court may actually result in net savings to government associated with reductions in criminal recidivism and reductions in utilization of the most expensive types of mental health treatment.

Full Report: Justice, Treatment and Cost: An Evaluation of the Fiscal Impact of Allegheny County Mental Health Court can be found at www.rand.org
Intercept I: Pre-arrest Diversion
Policed Based CIT

October 2006

- Police Based Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)
  - In collaboration with the City of Pittsburgh Bureau of Police
  - Justice and Mental Health Collaboration grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (US DOJ)
  - 40-hr Training curriculum for police with certification and orientation for dispatchers
  - 24/7 Central Recovery Center (triage site) for respite, assessment, referral. First one operational Aug. 2007; second one to come on line fall 2008
Intercept 2: Post-arrest Diversion
Pre-Booking Diversion

October 2006

- Pre-booking Diversion in collaboration with the Allegheny County Jail
- Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) Jail Diversion Grant
- Primary Diversion Specialist at Jail intake to develop a Service Plan for Diversion from the Primary Arraignment during Night Court
- Behavioral Health Resources Available 24/7 for Respite and Diversion from Court
Intercept 2: Post-arrest Diversion
Post-booking
Initiated in 1988

- 1 Supervisor and 4 Justice Related Services Specialist
- One Justice Related Services Specialist Works 5pm to 1am at the County Jail Intake
- Work with the Consumer from Point of Arrest to the Preliminary Hearing, generally 7-10 Days
- 24 hour availability for authorizing/processing 302 involuntary mental health commitments
- Average Caseload = 20 to 25 per Specialist
Intercept 3: Specialty Courts
Mental Health Court

Initiated in 2001 with a Grant from the Pennsylvania Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) and a Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Grant in 2003

- 1 Mental Health Court Monitor and 2 Probation Liaisons
- Misdemeanor and Non-Violent Felony Offenses
- Court is Held Weekly
- Reinforcement Hearings Held Every 90 Days or When Necessary
- 407 Individuals Served, 129 Graduates
- Average Caseload = 25 to 30 per Specialist
- Recidivism = 14.5%
Intercept 3: Specialty Courts

Drug Court

Developed in 1998 with funding from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD)

- 1 Supervisor and 3 Case Managers/Care Managers
- Level 3 and 4 Offenses
- Case Management and Authorization for Treatment
- Court Is Held for One Week Each Month
- Progress Hearings Held 4 days of the Week of Court
- 182 Graduates
- Average Caseload = 35 per Specialist
- Recidivism Rate for 2006-2008 = 9 %
Intercept 4: Re-entry from Jail
Justice-Related Support Services-Back Door

Developed in 1994 as a Result of a Federal Law Suit at the County Jail

- 1.5 Supervisors and 12 Justice Related Services Specialists
- Medicaid Eligible Service as of April 3rd 2006
- Works with the Consumer between Preliminary Hearing and Trial/Sentencing
- Follows the Consumer 60 Days into the Community
- Average Caseload = 40 to 45 per Specialist
- Recidivism Rate = 15%
Intercept 4: Re-entry from Jail
CROMISA
Community Reintegration for Offenders with Mental Illness and Substance Abuse
Developed in 1999 with a Grant from the Pennsylvania Bureau of Drug and Alcohol (BDAP) and Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD)

Male parolees from the State correctional facilities and releases from the county jail

- 20 bed residential non-hospital rehabilitation program and Continuum of Community treatment and supports
- 2 Justice Related State Support Specialists
- .5 FTE Justice Related State Support Supervisor
- Residential service is Medicaid reimbursable
Intercept 5: Probation/Parole
Justice-Related State Support

Developed in 1999
2005 Winner of the Innovations in American Government Award: a Program of the Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation

- 1 FTE Justice Related State Support Specialists
- .5 FTE Justice Related Services State Support Supervisor
- Works with Consumers with Mental Illness Maxing Out of State Correctional Institutions
- Follows 60-90 Days in the Community
- Voluntary Program
- Average Caseload = 45
- Recidivism Rate = 18.7%
Additional Community Services

- Behavioral Assessment Unit--Evaluation Entity of the Criminal Courts
- Allegheny Correctional Health Services, Inc.-Behavioral and Physical Health Treatment in the County Jail
- Mercy Behavioral Health Sexual Offender Outpatient Treatment
- SCUs Forensic Liaisons/Intensive Case Management
- Supportive Housing
- Part-time Forensic Specialist on each of 4 Community Treatment Teams (CTT)
Questions??????

For Additional Information Please Contact:

Amy McNicholas Kroll
412-350-7337
akroll@dhs.county.allegheny.pa.us

Michael Nock
412-350-4359
Michael.Nock@alleghenycounty.us