

Jail Reentry for People with Substance Use Disorder

| Part 2: Creating a Continuum of Care

This project was supported by Grant No. 2017-AR-BX-K003 awarded to the Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR) by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the SMART Office. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of IIR or of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Stronger Counties. Stronger America.



BJA
Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice

PROJECT SAFE POINT

Ed Fox

Project Safe Point Director
edf@ccalbany.org

Project Safe Point

www.projectsafepointcc.org
www.facebook.com/projectsafepoint

Project Safe Point

- ▣ Public Health Program providing Harm Reduction Services for persons who use drugs (PWUD)
- ▣ Grant funded to provide HIV, Hepatitis C and overdose prevention services
- ▣ Services are designed to range from low threshold/passive services (syringe exchange) through Substance use treatment services

Program Goals

- ▣ Respond to disproportionate rates of disease and death in PWUD
- ▣ Reach vulnerable/ disengaged populations
- ▣ Link people who use drugs with services that will decrease the negative impact of their substance use and increase their safety

Lines of Service

- ▣ Drug User Health Hub
 - Syringe Exchange Program
 - Opioid Overdose Prevention Program
 - Outreach/Engagement Services
 - Bridge Clinic (Low Barrier Buprenorphine Clinic)
 - Hepatitis C Virus Patient Navigation Services
- ▣ Peer Navigation Services
- ▣ Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (L.E.A.D.)

Project Safe Point supporting Medications for Opioid Use Disorder Program participants at Albany County Corrections and Rehabilitative Service Center

- ▣ Project Safe Point has been doing OOPT at ACCRCS for years
- ▣ Provide Overdose Prevention Training with Narcan kits being picked up with property upon release
- ▣ Goals: Re-connecting in the community and providing other services as needed
- ▣ Harm Reduction Case Manager supported by other program staff including Harm Reduction Outreach Specialists and Peer Navigators
- ▣ Access to low threshold Buprenorphine through Bridge Clinic

Background

- ▣ January 2019 – Albany County jail begins Phase 1 of MOUD provision in collaboration with NYS Department of Health (NYSDOH)
- ▣ Re-entry services provided to participating inmates by Project Safe Point
- ▣ “Harm Reduction Re-Entry Wrap Around Services Program”
- ▣ November 2019 – Phase 3 begins, MOUD available to all eligible individuals incarcerated at ACCRSC
- ▣ Additional funds needed to continue and expand re-entry support services
- ▣ Overdose Response Strategy (ORS) Pilot Project
- ▣ 2019-2020 Implementation Award
- ▣ 2020-2021 Continuing Award

How In reach works

- ▣ Referral emailed to Project Safe Point
- ▣ Visit scheduled for same day or next day
- ▣ Needs assessment completed
- ▣ Work on linkage to provider in the community
- ▣ Overdose Prevention Training completed during assessment with Naloxone kit placed in participant property for collection upon release
- ▣ Plan for release and identify other barriers
- ▣ More visits as needed

Outreach and community engagement -

- ❑ Connecting in the community
- ❑ Individuals leave facility with a 30 day prescription for Buprenorphine
- ❑ Project Safe Point staff are available to pick up individual upon release
- ❑ Working on other service needs (Department of Social Services, Primary Care, Insurance, sheltering and more)
- ❑ Safety planning and Harm Reduction Services
- ❑ Peer Support

Goals for program

- ❑ Connect with everyone at ACCRCS suffering from Opiate Use Disorder
- ❑ To alleviate unnecessary suffering while incarcerated
- ❑ Reduce the risk of overdose upon return to the community and connect to necessary services

Barriers/Challenges

- ▣ Reconnecting in the community – phone not working – unable to find individual through outreach or other efforts
- ▣ COVID 19 – Quarantine
- ▣ Unexpected release
- ▣ Not picking up or filling scripts
- ▣ Lost ID's
- ▣ Shelter/Transportation

Program Achievements/Successes

As of Monday 03/07/22, the program has received a total of 750 referrals, of which 334 have engaged with program staff, since January 2019.

The ability to in-reach and outreach is crucial to engagement and service delivery.

All participants referred receive OD training and Naloxone at discharge, including those going onto State Prison.

Each engagement offers the opportunity to reinforce harm reduction strategies and safety planning.

Participant successes vary according to each individual. Opportunities to educate, advocate and reinforce harm reduction and address stigma within the correctional setting have been invaluable.

Ed Fox

Email: edf@ccalbany.org

Phone: 518-449 3581

THANK YOU!

This project was supported by Grant No. 2017-AR-BX-K003 awarded to the Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR) by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the SMART Office. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of IIR or of the U.S. Department of Justice.

