

Development of the Opioid-Treatment Linkage Model Resource Guide to Strengthen Parole Officers' Role in Promoting Linkage to Community Services for Individuals Involved in the Justice System

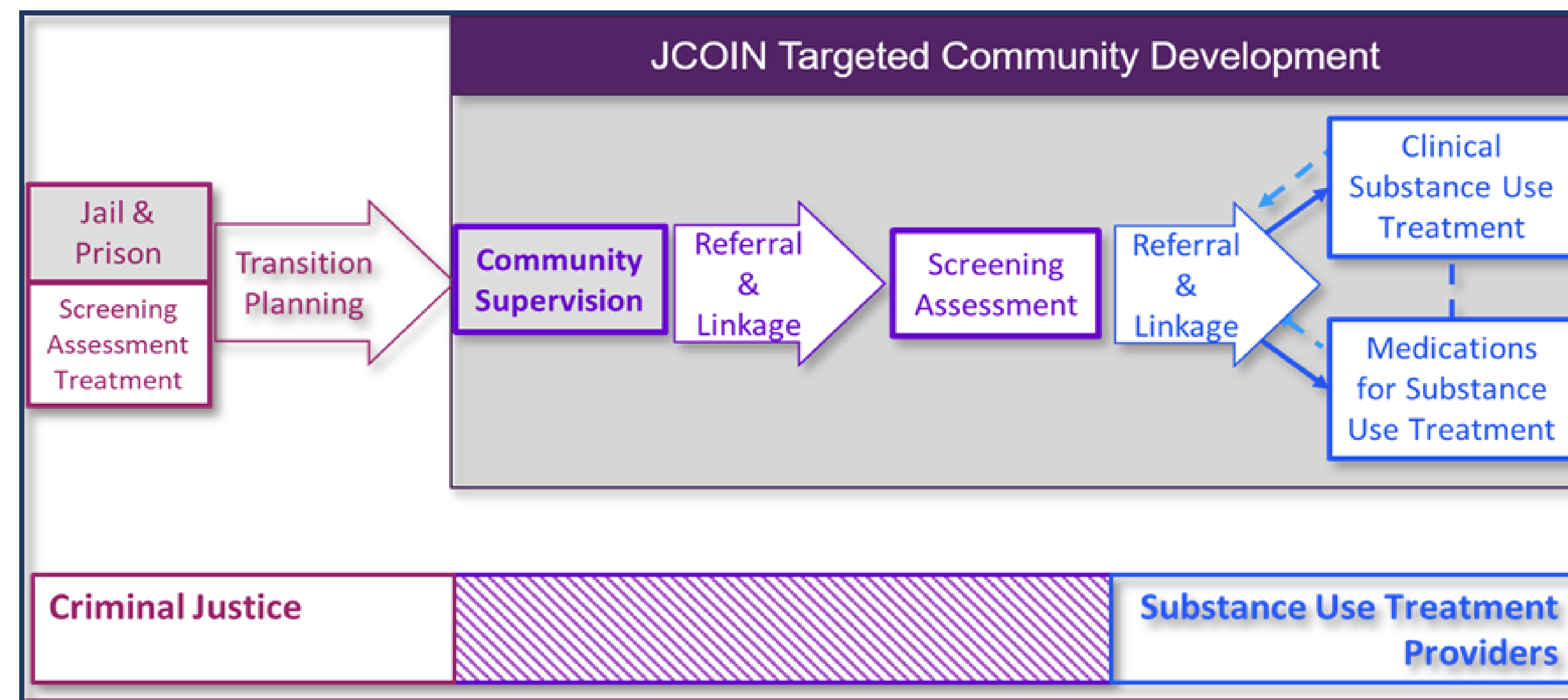
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Purpose

- Justice Community Opioid Innovation Network (JCOIN) aims to increase access to and retention in clinical behavioral health (CBH) and medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) services for individuals upon release from prison.
- The Opioid-Treatment Linkage Model (O-TLM) Resource Guide offers best practices and innovative solutions for delivering substance use (SU) and opioid use (OU) services.
- The O-TLM Resource Guide is specifically designed to help community corrections staff, CBH providers, and MOUD clinicians expand and enhance SU and OU treatment services for individuals reintegrating into communities upon release from correctional facilities.

Behavioral Health Services Cascade for Substance and Opioid Use



Each community's model of the services cascade may look different, but the cascade should include universal services as well as benchmarks for SU and OUD services. Ideally, clients would receive the following services in a logical sequence similar to that of the model presented. The O-TLM Resource Guide focuses on improving service linkage among individuals placed into community supervision.

Development

The Resource Guide compiles several performance measures into one universal set of service indicators along the Service Cascade:

- The Behavioral Health Services Cascade (Belenko et al., 2017), as informed by agencies including the National Commission on Quality Assurance (NCQA) and National Quality Forum (NQF)
- The Opioid Cascade of Care (Williams et al., 2017), utilizes criteria developed by HEDIS to assess SAMHSA's State Targeted Response (STR) to the Opioid Crisis Grants
- American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) National Practice Guideline (2020)
- National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCCHC; 2018)
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA; 2019)
- The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE; 2015)

Implications

- As part of the larger JCOIN project, communities will participate in a project-facilitated Needs Assessment documenting current rates of SU and OU services along the cascade including screening, assessment, referral, and treatment initiation and retention.
- The O-TLM Resource Guide helps point out services and innovations that will fill the identified service gaps in communities.

Best Practices Along the Services Cascade as Highlighted in the O-TLM Resource Guide

Screening and Assessment: agencies should aim to employ a screener and assessment for SU and OU upon placement to community supervision that builds upon screening and treatment records conducted while incarcerated.

Best practices include:

- Screeners should be evidence-based, easy and quick to administer, and should be given to everyone.
- Assessments should include client-specific characteristics that may contribute to relapse or criminal recidivism (e.g., cultural background and ethnic differences, social supports, housing status, socioeconomic status and resources, employment history, transportation, and gender differences).
- Ongoing assessment should begin as soon as a client starts treatment.

Service Referral: agencies should aim to offer treatment to all individuals diagnosed with a SU or OU disorder.

Best practices include:

- Refer the individual with a diagnosis to treatment services.
- Select a treatment option that addresses the individual's specific need(s).
- Encourage individuals to access treatment after referral is made using active referral practices (e.g., conducting a call with the provider and individual to set-up the initial appointment).

Treatment Initiation and Continuity of Care: all individuals with a SU or OU diagnosis should receive an appointment for treatment, with agencies working together to ensure individuals attend the appointments.

Best practices include:

- Encourage individuals with a diagnosis to initiate and stay in treatment services.
- Establish contact with service provider to obtain information about a client's progress in treatment.
- Be aware of the importance of systematic communication and collaboration, between justice and provider, regarding approaches for individuals involved in the justice system.

Sample Pages

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