Broward County, Florida: Improving Services for Adults with Mental Illnesses and Substance use Disorders involved with the Criminal Justice System

Sequential Intercept Mapping

Introduction

This report summarizes the Cross-Systems Sequential Intercept Mapping workshop held in Broward County, April 29th and May 1st, 2015. The workshop was facilitated by the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse (CJMHSA) Technical Assistance Center at Florida Mental Health Institute (FMHI), University of South Florida (USF). This report includes:

- A brief review of the origins and background for the workshop
- Information gathered at the workshop based the Sequential Intercept Model or Cross-Systems Mapping
- An action planning matrix as developed by the group
- Summary, consensus, and observations by the CJMHSA Technical Assistance Center to assist Broward County achieve its goals
- A cross-systems intercept map based on the perceptions of the Broward County mapping participants

Background

Commissioner Lois Wexler, along with the full support of Broward Behavioral Health Coalition (Managing Entity), multiple local stakeholders, including several judges requested that the CJMHSA Technical Assistance Center facilitate the Cross-Systems Sequential Intercept Model Mapping in Broward County, Florida to provide assistance with:

South Florida (USF - FMHI), Mark Engelhardt, M.S., MSW, ACSW, John Petrila, J.D., LL.M., and Jessica Mitchell, Ph.D. facilitated the workshop session.

Objectives of the Cross -Systems Mapping Exercise

The Cross-Systems Mapping Exercise had three primary objectives:

1. The development of a comprehensive picture of how adults with mental illness, substance abuse and co-occurring mental health and/or substance use disorders flow through the Broward County criminal justice system along five distinct intercept points: Law Enforcement and Emergency Services (Intercept 1), Initial Detention/Initial Court Hearings (Intercept 2), Jails and Courts (Intercept 3), Community Re-entry (Intercept 4), and Community Corrections/Community Support (Intercept 5).

2. The identification of gaps, resources, and opportunities at each intercept point for individuals in the target population.

3. The development of priority areas for activities designed to improve system and service level responses for individuals in the target population.

The Broward County Cross-Systems Map created during the workshop is on the last page of this document.

Resources and Opportunities

There are several features of the Broward County Systems Map that are particularly noteworthy. These include, but are not limited to the items listed below.

Existing Cross-Systems Partnerships include:

Public Safety Planning Council and Task Force
Established Diversion Programs

- Drug Court
- Mental Health Courts (felony and misdemeanor)
- Veteran's Court
- Competency Restoration Court
- Domestic Violence Court

Broward County Strengths Identified:

Long history of working together in various planning committees and task forces
Emphasis on diversion of those with co-occurring disorders from the criminal justice system
Implementation of mental health and substance use screening at the jail
Dedication to CIT Training among several law enforcement agencies
Strong working relationship between mental health and substance abuse community providers and the jail provider
In jail medical/behavioral health and discharge planning

Broward County Cross -Systems Map Narrative

The following information reflects the information gleaned during the Cross-Systems Mapping Exercise. These participant notes include a description of potential interventions at each intercept point in the Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health System as perceived by the participants during the mapping process. Gaps in service delivery and resource opportunities are identified at each intercept point. These notes may be used as a reference in reviewing the Broward County Cross-Systems Map and as a tool in developing a formal strategic action plan and/or updated Memorandum of Understanding among community stakeholders and local planning entities.

Intercept I: Initial Contact w/ Law Enforcement , Prevention Programs, or Emergency Services

Identified Strengths

15 CIT Trainings available throughout the year
Mental health mobile crisis unit will conduct follow-up or well visits
Mental health mobile crisis very responsive
Secure Marchman Act (MA) Facility (Ft. Lauderdale Hospital – 10 beds) – co-occurring capability
Baker Act (BA) overflow policy

Identified Gaps – Law Enforcement / Emergency Services (Intercept 1)

Lack of linking chronically homeless persons with co-occurring disorders with services
Lack of CIT training in some of the smaller agencies
Divert to where? Limited hours at locations to drop-off
Respite services from the Freedom Project closed due to underutilization

Intercept II: Initial Detention / Initial Detention and Court Appearance

Identified Strengths

Veterans are identified at booking and information is sent to Veterans' Court

Identified Gaps – Initial Detention and Court Appearance (Intercept 2)

Lack of information given to State Attorney's Office (SAO) regarding offenders mental illness
File cases before any info on mental illness – opportunity to intervene earlier or not file
At booking there is a mental health and substance use assessment completed by in-house personnel, however, the screening tool was developed

by jail provider (not a standard screening instrument) and is internal only (not shared with anyone else)

Intercept III: Jails / Courts

Identified Strengths

A variety of specialized courts, including both felony and misdemeanor mental health courts

Identified Gaps – Jails/Courts (Intercept 3)

A number of cases that should go to MHC are being sent to non-specialized courts
A high number of competency evaluations for clientele
Public Defender's Office has stopped referrals to the Felony Mental Health Court

Intercept IV: Re- Entry

Identified Strengths

Sharing of information between jail and providers
One person is SOAR trained and will start the process in jail – hand off from jail to provider – data is kept in OATS system to track success/progress
Medication Formulary – will contact private providers outside for better meds

Identified Gaps – Re-entry (Intercept 4)

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between providers and Armor
Dedicated SOAR position (Benefits Planning)
Specialized teams – currently generic case management

Intercept V: Home and Community Supervision and Support

Identified Strengths

Low Violations of Probation (VOPs) in Felony MHC
Linking of inmates to providers if previous clients

Priority Area: Diversion [Intercept 1 & 2]			
Objective	Action Step	Who	When
Expanded CIT Training and Data Collection	CIT Data Collection (# of people impacted by CIT and follow-up) Identify agencies not using CIT	Broward Regional and BBHC	In Process
Diversion Options	Call Meeting w/ Community	BBHC and Criminal Justice Committee	June 2015
Magistrate and Filing Division	Determine options to communicating CIT involvement and MH		

Priority Area: Felony Mental Health Court [Intercept 3 & 4]			
Objective	Action Step	Who	When
Redesign Felony Mental Health Court	Create a Working Committee w/ Possible Facilitator Redesign Meeting	Commissioner Lois Wexler	By July 1st, 2015

Priority Area: F

Conclusions : Summary

The Cross-Systems Mapping workshop resulted in the acknowledgment of a challenging list of service gaps and opportunities for systems and program improvements. Broward County has a long history of collaborative relationships, yet it must resolve some specialty court issues, a system of numerous competency evaluations, and expand CIT and Supportive Housing for this population.

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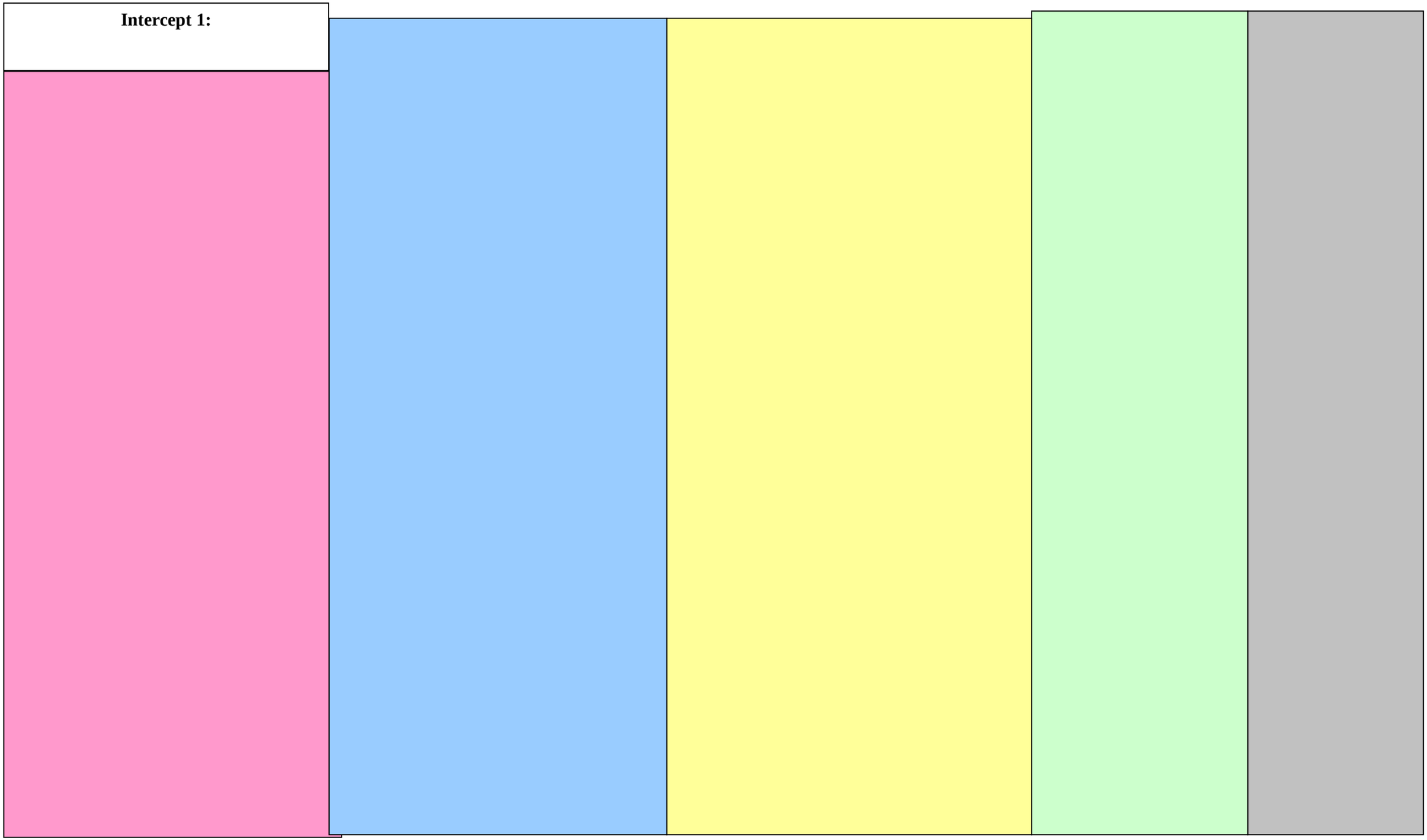
Resources

Website Resources and Partners	
Florida Criminal Justice Mental Health and Substance Abuse Technical Assistance Center	www.floridatac.org
Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute Department of Mental Health Law and Policy	http://mhlp.fmhi.usf.edu
Florida Partners in Crisis	http://www.flpic.org
Justice Center	www.justicecenter.csg.org
Policy Research Associates	www.prainc.com
National GAINS Center/ TAPA Center for Jail Diversion	www.gainscenter.samhsa.gov

Other Web Resources

List of Workshop Participants

Name	Agency/Affiliation	Email Address
Allen, Valerie	DCF/SAMH	Valerie.Allen@myflfamilies.com
Blumstein, Mari	SAO	/MBlumstein@(C)2//TT3

Intercept 1: