



AOPC

AOPC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INITIATIVE

JUSTICE KEVIN M. DOUGHERTY

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

COURTS LEADING CHANGE

- **Convene**
- **Collaborate**



TODAY'S PRESENTERS:
Members of The BH Initiative's Executive Committee

Honorable Rose Marie Defino-Nastasi
Supervising Judge, Trial Division –
Criminal Division, City of Philadelphia

Honorable Wilden H. Davis
Magisterial District Judge,
Delaware County

Honorable Margherita P. Worthington
Court of Common Pleas, Monroe

Jennifer Napp Evans, Psy.D.,
Children and Youth Services
Administrator, Snyder County

AOPC OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Facilitate Judicial Leadership

Improve Court and Community Responses

Deflection, Diversion & Early Interventions

**First Judicial Summit on Behavioral Health
October 2024**

- 500 leaders
- Best Practices
- Action Planning

Magisterial District Courts

- **Truancy & Citations**
- **LL&T**
- **Preliminary Arraignments & Bail**

Screening & Assessments

Mental Health Liaison & Peer Engagement

Continuums of Care & Accountability

Behavioral Health Regional Councils

Regional Council Members

- **Strengthen State & County Partnerships**
- **Spread Success**
- **Identify & Address Priorities**

Launching in 2025 with Seven Regional Summits

- **All 3 Branches**
- **Engage Leaders**
- **Stream to Stakeholders**

Making Sense and Cents:

- What is predictable is preventable.**
- Key for rural areas:**
 - collaborative relationships;**
 - effective approaches;**
 - access to resources;**
 - use established groups of stakeholders and meeting times and venues local children's roundtable and CJAB**

Union County District Attorney Brian Kerstetter:

“I am proud to be a part of our local and state efforts to address needed changes in the court system's responsiveness to individuals and families with mental health needs while ensuring the safety of the public at large and obtaining justice for victims of crime. The District Attorney's Office supports deflection and diversion programs, collaboration with mental health professionals and referral to trauma resources for those in need. As we have seen in our DUI/Drug/Mental Health Treatment Courts, effective treatment reduces recidivism.”

Secrets to Success...

- **Every contact is an opportunity to access early touchpoints of prevention and intervention**
- **Connect to Redirect – family and community connections and networks of support are the key**
- **Take advantage of training opportunities (when we know better, we do better.)**
- **Engage in dialogue on benefits and challenges of programs/services**
- **Share a purpose with interagency collaborative partners**

Mind Over Matters: (CLEAR)

- Communication Matters
- Leadership Matters
- Engagement Matters
- Attitude Matters
- Relationship Matters

“Now” Matters

Five Cs of Engagement

- Choice
- Collaboration
- Control
- Challenge
- Connection

Effective Communication

- Ask
- Listen
- Validate
- Act

-Things that keep us from hearing one another: assumption, experience, education, implicit bias, feelings.

Truancy Within The Inner-City Youth

Chester Upland School District



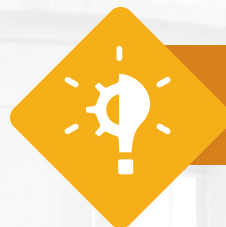
What's missing
from your tool
bag?





Title 24 P.S. Education

- **Truancy is having three or more unexcused absences in a school year as defined under Title 24 P.S. Education.**
- **The person in parental relations with the child should be notified by the School within 10 school days of the third unexcused absence.**



Habitual Truancy

- In Pennsylvania, a student is considered habitually truant if they have six or more unexcused absences during the school year, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Truancy



- Three or more unexcused absences in a school year. Even if those absences are not consecutive. Truancy is defined by the number of unexcused absences, not the order in which they occur.



The Penalties of Truancy



Parents, guardians, or those in parental relation to a child are responsible for ensuring the child's attendance at school.

- **First Offense:** Fines up to \$300, plus court costs.
- **Second Offense:** Fines up to \$500, plus court costs.
- **Third and Subsequent Offenses:** Fines up to \$750, plus court costs.
- Students 15 and older may face suspension of their driver's license.
- Parents can also be ordered to complete a parenting education program or perform community service.
- If a parent fails to comply with a court order, they may face up to five days in county jail.

Diversionsary programs



- If a student is considered habitually truant, the school may refer the student to the County Children and Youth Agency.
- Schools are encouraged to hold SAICs (School Attendance Improvement Conferences) with parents and students to address attendance issues and create improvement plans.
- Justice Works Youth Care - offers a comprehensive truancy program that aims to identify the root causes of truancy and develop partnerships between schools, families, and youth, according to their website.

Additional Programs and Intervention



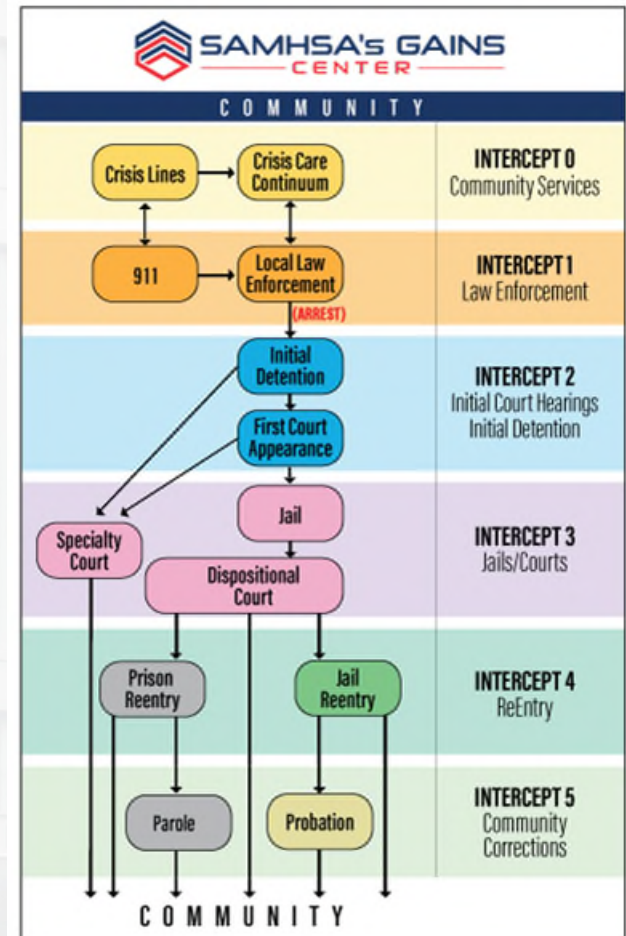
DSCYF
Department of Services for
Children, Youth & Their Families

- **The Academy**
- **Delaware County Intermediate Unit (ACIU)**
- **Children and Youth Services**

Behavioral Health Initiative – Philadelphia Action Team

- Pre-Summit
 - Identification of Local Stakeholders & Preliminary Discussions
 - Developed Working Document:
 - Compiled existing resources and programs at each intercept of the Sequential Intercept Model
 - Identified gaps in resources and programs at each intercept of the Sequential Intercept Model
 - Identified stakeholder needs at each intercept of the Sequential Intercept Model
 - Review by Stakeholders and follow up discussions
 - Local stakeholders engaged in in-depth discussions that informed and familiarized each stakeholder of the resources, programs, gaps and needs at every intercept
 - Stakeholders worked together to prioritize Philadelphia's needs and resource gaps for discussion at statewide behavioral health summit

- Post-Summit
 - Expansion to five working groups based on Sequential Intercept Model
 - **Civil Mental Health Courts and Deflection Working Group**
 - Sequential Intercept Model Levels 0-1
 - **Diversion and Specialty Court Programs Working Group**
 - Sequential Intercept Model Levels 2-3
 - **Mental Health Court Working Group**
 - Sequential Intercept Model Level 3
 - **Reentry Working Group**
 - Sequential Intercept Model Levels 3-5
 - **Data Collection Working Group**
 - Supports all other Working Groups



Behavioral Health Initiative – Philadelphia Action Team

- Civil Mental Health and Deflection Working Group
 - Focus Issues:
 - Navigator and Peer Specialist Initiatives
 - Increase Public Education on Civil Commitment Process
 - Review Involuntary Commitment Procedures under MHPA
 - Review Programs and Admission Procedures for Individuals with Addiction and Co-Occurring Disorders
 - Stakeholders Included:
 - Judicial Leadership (Common Pleas and Municipal Court)
 - Court Administration (Common Pleas and Municipal Court)
 - Philadelphia Police Department
 - Office of the District Attorney
 - Defenders Association
 - Philadelphia City Solicitor
 - Philadelphia Office of Public Safety
 - Philadelphia Department of Behavioral Health & Intellectual Disability Services
 - Crisis Related Services and Systems
 - Behavioral Health & Justice Division Representatives
 - Representatives from Crisis Response Centers
 - Representatives from University Centers for Addiction Medicine & Policy
 - Representatives from Peer Specialists and Community Treatment Programs

Behavioral Health Initiative – Philadelphia Action Team

- Diversion and Specialty Court Programs Working Group
 - Focus Issues:
 - Reviewing Diversion Programs and Admission Criteria
 - Expansion of qualifying nonviolent crimes
 - Limiting disqualification criteria
 - Stakeholders Included:
 - Judicial Leadership (Common Pleas and Municipal Court)
 - Municipal Court Judges presiding over diversionary programs
 - Court Administration (Common Pleas and Municipal Court)
 - Office of the District Attorney
 - Defenders Association
 - Philadelphia City Solicitor
 - Philadelphia Office of Public Safety
 - Philadelphia Department of Behavioral Health & Intellectual Disability Services
 - Behavioral Health & Justice Division Representatives
 - Forensic Program Representatives
 - Philadelphia Adult Probation & Parole
 - Philadelphia Pretrial Services

Behavioral Health Initiative – Philadelphia Action Team

- Mental Health Court Working Group
 - Focus Issues:
 - Reviewing Norristown State Hospital Waitlists and Identifying Gaps in Services and alternative treatments/programs available in the community
 - Norristown State Hospital Waitlist Roundtable
 - Reviewing and developing case management protocols for Mental Health Court
 - Competency Track, Re-entry Track
 - Stakeholders Included:
 - Judicial Leadership (Common Pleas and Municipal Court)
 - Court Administration (Common Pleas and Municipal Court)
 - Common Pleas and Municipal Court Judges presiding over cases assigned to Mental Health Court
 - Office of the District Attorney
 - Defenders Association
 - Philadelphia City Solicitor
 - Philadelphia Office of Public Safety
 - Philadelphia Department of Behavioral Health & Intellectual Disability Services
 - Clinical Assessment Services Representatives
 - Behavioral Health & Justice Division Representatives
 - Philadelphia Department of Prisons
 - Chief of Medical Operations
 - Pennsylvania Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OHMSAS)

Behavioral Health Initiative – Philadelphia Action Team

- Reentry Working Group
 - Focus Issues:
 - Increasing availability of housing and treatment programs
 - Developing Coordinated Re-entry Services and Strategies
 - Stakeholders Included:
 - Judicial Leadership (Common Pleas and Municipal Court)
 - Court Administration (Common Pleas and Municipal Court)
 - Philadelphia Department of Prisons
 - Deputy Commissioner of Programs, Education, and Re-entry)
 - Prison Psychology Unit
 - Office of the District Attorney
 - Defenders Association
 - Philadelphia City Solicitor
 - Philadelphia Office of Public Safety
 - Philadelphia Department of Behavioral Health & Intellectual Disability Services
 - Residential and Transition Services
 - Homeless Services
 - Behavioral Health & Justice Division Representatives
 - Philadelphia Adult Probation & Parole
 - Representatives from University Centers for Addiction Medicine & Policy
 - Representatives from Peer Specialists and Community Treatment Programs
 - Philadelphia Office of Reentry Partnerships

Behavioral Health Initiative – Philadelphia Action Team

- Data Collection Working Group
 - Focus Issues:
 - Guided by Recommendations developed through National Judicial Task Force to Examine State Courts' Response to Mental Illness
 - Supports Committees with data collection
 - Stakeholders Included:
 - Judicial Leadership (Common Pleas and Municipal Court)
 - Court Administration (Common Pleas and Municipal Court)
 - Philadelphia Police Department
 - Office of the District Attorney Data Lab
 - Defenders Association
 - Philadelphia City Solicitor
 - Philadelphia Office of Public Safety – Overdose Response Unity
 - Philadelphia Department of Behavioral Health & Intellectual Disability Services
 - Business Intelligence Unit Representatives
 - Policy & Planning Representatives
 - Behavioral Health & Justice Division Representatives
 - Philadelphia Department of Prisons

CARBON-MONROE-PIKE INTERCEPT MODEL

INTERCEPT 0

Community Service

- Telephone Crisis-including 988
- Mobile Crisis
- Crisis Stabilization Centers
- Crisis Residential
- ACT- Assertive Community Treatment
- Outpatient
- Case Management
- SUD Treatment
- MAT Providers
- Detox
- RTF-A
- Other residential programs
- CIT Program
- Warm Line
- Street2Feet
- Shelters and Warming Centers
- Veteran's Supports and Services

INTERCEPT 1

Law Enforcement

- Police Training
- Police BH Data Sheets
- BH CIT Coordinator
- CIT Program in each County
- Law Enforcement CIT Coordinator
- Resource Cards
- Law Enforcement Resource Card
- Forensic Case Management
- Law Enforcement Treatment Institute. (LETI)
- First Responders
- 911
- Stepping Up
- CJAB

INTERCEPT 2

Initial Detention / Initial Court Hearing

- Evidence Based Screening
- Diversion
- Pop Sheets
- Jail Meetings
- Forensic Case Management
- Pretrial Services
- CIT
- Drug Court
- Veterans Court
- PATH

RURAL COUNTIES

- **Build on the strengths**
 - Usually know each other well.
 - Use to doing more with less (we get creative).
 - May be easier to find the “champions”.
 - Often stronger connections.
- **Address barriers**
 - **Distance**
 - Response time for crisis services are often long depending on where the person lives.
 - **Funding**
 - Under funded systems with little access to large foundations,
 - **Staffing**
 - Small police departments with few officers working at one time.
 - Covered by state police
 - Hard to find BH Staff in county and provider agencies
 - **Resources and services are limited**
 - Difficult to make ends meet when billing fee for service models.

CRUCIAL COMPONENTS

- **Champions in Behavioral Health**
- **Champions in Law Enforcement/Courts**
- **Formal process for addressing technical issues and processes**
- **Formal process for addressing clinical issues**
- **Meeting to problem solve at both policy and person level**
- **Creativity and Flexibility**
- **Relationships**
- **Solid foundation of services and supports**

CHALLENGES/BARRIERS

- **Not enough BH Supports and Services**
 - **Housing**
 - **Psychiatry**
 - **Peers**
- **Grow and develop Crisis Services**
- **Address staffing issues Crisis, Treatment Providers, Police**
- **Develop Competent & Confident Staff**
- **Participation in CIT Meeting from All Partners (Hospitals, police, social services, Peers)**
- **Cost/Funding**
- **Time**
- **Data Collection**

WHERE WE GO FROM HERE

- **Develop Certification for Crisis Workers**
- **Certification for CIT Officers**
- **PA State Chapter of CIT**
- **Grow Collaboration/Trust/Relationships**
- **Engage 911 Staff**
- **State Police**
- **Engage additional local LE Agencies**
- **Data Collection and Analysis**
- **Specialized training (Youth 40 Hour Pilots)**
- **Continue to develop relationships**
- **Advocate for Base Funding for BH and better rates for our HC Dept. to expand community supports and services.**

WHAT ANY COUNTY CAN DO

- **Start small**
- **Build Relationships with partners**
 - If you haven't already, do a county mapping
 - Pick ONE priority and work on it as a team.
- **Have a lunch meeting-make it a monthly date!**
- **Offer a shift change exchange of information**
- **Call/visit a county similar to yours to chat about what they are doing.**
- **Ask questions of other systems**
 - What could our system/program do to make your lives easier.
 - What is your biggest complaint about our system.
- **Recognize that we are all in this together.**
- **Recognize and celebrate good work in other systems.**
- **Talk to each other with respect. Be honest and kind.**

