House County Affairs and House Corrections Hearing

Sonja Gaines
Deputy Executive Commissioner

June 15, 2022
Substance Use Disorder Services

- FY22 Contracts Value: $336,220,334
- FY22 Contracts: 490
- 16 Service Types

FY 2021
1,693,580 Clients Served
Identifying Inmates with Behavioral Health Needs

Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunications System

HHSC and TDPS use a web-based data exchange process providing a real-time method of identifying special needs offenders.
Identifying Inmates with Behavioral Health Needs

**Screening Form for Suicide and Medical/Mental/Developmental Impairments**

Administered by correctional staff at booking to:

- Triage those who may be at significant risk for suicide;
- Identify individuals who may be in distress related to symptoms of mental illness, IDD, or complications from recent substance use; and
- Assist with the continuity of care of special needs offenders.

**Collection of Information Form for Mental Illness and Intellectual Disability**

Must document:

- Prior history of mental illness and/or intellectual disability;
- Current information such as diagnosis and outcome of the Screening Form for Suicide and Medical/Mental/Developmental Impairments; and
- Other observations and findings.
• Texas Department of Criminal Justice operates the TCOOMMI continuity of care program.
• Addresses mental health continuity of care needs for:
  ▸ those adjudicated to the juvenile justice system;
  ▸ adults sentenced to probation; or
  ▸ incarcerated adults who have a serious or persistent mental illness.
Jail In-Reach Collaborative Pilot

- Pilot began September 2021
- Goal of reducing the forensic waitlist and increasing clinical collaboration with jails.
- Partnership with State Hospitals, HHSC Office of Chief Forensic Medicine, Judicial Commission on Mental Health, HHSC Office of the State Forensic Director, and 10 LMHA/LBHAs.
Mental Health Grant for Justice Involved Individuals

- Addresses unmet physical and behavioral health needs of people in crisis to prevent initial or subsequent justice involvement and promote recovery.
  - 47,692 served in FY21;
  - 23 LMHA/LBHA grant recipients; and
  - 45 counties.
Jail-Based Competency Restoration

- Provides competency restoration services in a jail setting to adults deemed incompetent to stand trial.
  - Six programs;
  - 537 served in FY21; and
  - 222 defendants restored to competency in FY21.
Outpatient Competency Restoration

• Diverts individuals from criminal justice system.
• Provides competency restoration and mental health treatment, and promotes community reintegration.
  • 18 LMHAs provide OCR;
  • 253 served in FY21; and
  • 57% were restored to competency or had charges dropped in FY21.
Peer Re-Entry Program

• Certified peer specialists with prior justice involvement provide services to individuals with a mental illness that are incarcerated in county jails.

• Supports the successful transition of incarcerated individuals with a mental illness from the county jail into community-based care.

• 71.4% reduction in jail admissions after receiving MH Peer Re-Entry Services in FY21.
Substance Use Disorder: Outreach, Screening, Assessment, Referral

- Offered to those incarcerated
- Prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery referrals
- Virtual and in-person services
Texas Targeted Opioid Response: TDCJ Project

• Goal is to improve medication assisted treatment and recovery support services for individuals preparing for release from Community Corrections Facilities.

• This pilot program will help identify best practices for providing comprehensive care for opioid use disorder in Texas criminal justice settings.
Texas Targeted Opioid Response: Re-Entry Program

- 11 peer-based recovery support organizations.
- Provide peer support, access to recovery housing, employment support, and reentry from criminal justice and rehabilitative settings.
- Since FY21
  - 2,300 people served with direct recovery support services; and
  - 741 people served with in-reach recovery support services in jails/prisons and rehabilitative settings.
Thank you

Sonja Gaines, MBA
Deputy Executive Commissioner
www.MentalHealthTX.org