HHSC Offers All Texas Access Regional Groups the Opportunity to Host a Sequential Intercept Mapping Workshop in Their Community

What is the Sequential Intercept Model?
The Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) details how people with Mental Illness (MI), Substance Use Disorder (SUD), and Intellectual and Developmental Disability (IDD) encounter and move through the criminal justice system. The SIM helps communities identify resources and gaps in services at each intercept and develop local strategic action plans. The SIM mapping process brings together community leaders and different agencies and systems to identify strategies to divert people with MI, SUD, and IDD away from the justice system into treatment.

What is Sequential Intercept Mapping?
Sequential Intercept Mapping is a cross-system approach to strengthening local strategies to implement core services that will address behavioral health, criminogenic, and social factors for justice-involved persons with MI, SUD, and IDD. Sequential Intercept Mapping promotes stakeholder collaboration by tying existing efforts together from pre-arrest through re-entry; identifying strengths and gaps; addressing issues relevant across all intercepts and identifying solutions, many of which do not add costs.

*The SIM was developed by Mark Munetz, MD, Patricia A. Griffin, PhD, and Henry J. Steadman, PhD, of Policy Research Associates, Inc (PRA). PRA is a national leader in behavioral health services research and its application to social change. Since 1987, PRA has assisted over 200 communities nationwide through a broad range of services to guide policy and practice.*
What should participants expect from a SIM Workshop?

Throughout the 1.5-day workshop, trained facilitators will tap into local expertise to:

• Plot resources and gaps across the SIM;
• Identify local services to support diversion from the justice system;
• Introduce community system leaders and staff to evidence-based practices and emerging best practices related to each intercept;
• Enhance relationships across systems and agencies; and
• Create a customized local map and action plan to address identified gaps.

Testimonials

"SIM mapping has meaningfully engaged elected officials, law enforcement and justice leaders for the common purpose of identifying the gaps within the points of interface between the criminal justice and the mental health systems in our communities. By offering an open door through the SIM mapping, we have experienced invaluable conversations, healing of wounds between agencies, insights into common pressure points deserving a collaborative response, and strategic planning opportunities alongside the powerhouses of our communities. Today, in following up with previous SIM mappings with leaders, we build upon the roadmap by measuring our progress and renewing continued commitment to common goals.” - Andrea Richardson, Executive Director, Bluebonnet Trails Community Services

"SIM mapping brought many agencies to the table to discuss critical needs in our city and surrounding counties. A major accomplishment of our local relationships was the development and implementation of the Community Response Team (CRT). This partnership between Betty Hardwick Center, Abilene Police and Fire Department has improved crisis responses, prevention and intervention services in our area. One team quickly expanded to two full time teams. The CRT has served to build bridges and fill gaps for individuals needing mental health assistance and has strengthened relationships between many partnering agencies.” - Jennifer Farrar, Chief Operating Officer, Betty Hardwick Center

How to Apply

Interested communities should complete the HHSC SIM Mapping Application no later than December 31, 2021. For more information on the SIM, review the Policy Research Associates SIM Brochure (PDF) or email forensicdirector@hhs.texas.gov.