



Sequential Intercept Model Mapping Report: Executive Summary

Titus County Roadmap

Community stakeholders can consider the following steps as a roadmap to reduce justice involvement for people with mental illness (MI), substance use disorders (SUD), and/or intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). For more information and resources, review the Titus County Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) Report.

Invest in Strategic Priorities

Priority One: Establish a behavioral health and justice coordinating body and leadership team.

Priority Two: Plan for a crisis or diversion facility.

Priority Three: Enhance jail-based services.

Priority Four: Increase specialized response options.

Support Local Planning, Partnership, and Education

Coordinate

- Strengthen behavioral health and justice partnerships through regular leadership team meetings.
- Establish subcommittees dedicated to implementing the action plans.

Partner

- Identify opportunities to strengthen relationships with new stakeholders (e.g., housing partners, IDD service providers, jail mental health providers).
- Learn from other similar-sized counties implementing best practice models.

Train

- Train stakeholder groups on identifying, responding to, and effectively serving people with MI, SUD, and/or IDD.

Build Upon Existing Efforts

- Build upon the cross-agency collaboration demonstrated during the SIM workshop to formalize a behavioral health leadership team that meets regularly and facilitates coordinated efforts between law enforcement, courts, behavioral health, and community service providers.
- Leverage existing partnerships with Lakes Regional Community Center (Lakes Regional), East Texas Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (ETCADA), and the Texas Workforce Commission to strengthen reentry planning, recovery support, and workforce development efforts for people exiting the jail or under community supervision.
- Utilize ongoing telepsychiatry services and explore expanding clinical partnerships (e.g., Texas Tech University, psychiatric nursing) to reduce delays in medication access and enhance in-jail behavioral health care.

Intercepts 0 and 1: Community Services, Crisis Services, and Law Enforcement

Selected Gaps	Opportunities	Best Practices
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 911 and dispatch systems cannot directly connect callers to mobile crisis outreach team (MCOT) or behavioral health services. Crisis services are fragmented and there is limited access to respite care, transitional housing, or IDD-specific resources. Law enforcement and dispatch staff do not have consistent training on available behavioral health resources, including emergency detention warrant procedures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tailor 911 call protocols to include MCOT dispatch and train staff on behavioral health call routing protocols. Expand access to community-based crisis options, including respite beds, housing supports, and services for people with IDD. Provide Crisis Intervention Team and IDD-specific training to law enforcement and dispatch staff. Educate staff on emergency detention warrants and available diversion options. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In El Paso County, Emergence Health Network created a Crisis Intervention Team that includes a co-responder model, which allows law enforcement to directly engage MCOT and divert people experiencing a behavioral health crisis to the appropriate level of care. The Austin State Hospital Respite Program offers short-term crisis respite beds for people with behavioral health needs, reducing unnecessary hospitalizations and jail bookings. Tarrant County’s Law Enforcement Academy includes advanced Crisis Intervention Team training and ongoing mental health continuing education, resulting in more informed diversion decisions at the point of crisis.

Intercepts 2 and 3: Initial Detention, Jails, and Courts

Selected Gaps	Opportunities	Best Practices
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People are booked into jail without access to psychiatric medications, and delays of up to six to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore new telepsychiatry partnerships (e.g., Texas Tech University, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement a jail-based telepsychiatry program to provide rapid access to

Selected Gaps	Opportunities	Best Practices
<p>eight weeks to telepsychiatry hinder treatment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The county does not currently utilize bond conditions for people with mental health or substance use needs. A specialty court or docket is not currently in place to divert or monitor people with behavioral health needs. 	<p>psychiatric nurse practitioners) to reduce wait times for medication and psychiatric care.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand the use of bond conditions for people with behavioral health conditions by engaging judges and justices of the peace in policy discussions. Explore the implementation of a specialty court or docket (e.g., drug court, mental health court) to support post-booking diversion of people with behavioral health needs. 	<p>psychiatric evaluation and medication.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hidalgo County uses mental health-informed bond conditions as part of its pretrial diversion program, enabling people with behavioral health needs to remain connected to services while awaiting trial. A mental health court can provide structured case management, judicial oversight, and treatment coordination for participants, which can result in decreased recidivism and better mental health outcomes.

Intercepts 4 and 5: Reentry and Community Corrections

Selected Gaps	Opportunities	Best Practices
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is minimal reentry planning in the jail, including limited coordination with external providers. People often leave jail with only life-sustaining medications and no continuity plan for mental health or SUD care. Workforce training and employment opportunities are underdeveloped for people on probation or recently released. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Embed reentry supports in the jail through partnerships with Lakes Regional, ETCADA, and other community service providers. Explore peer reentry support programs or hire certified reentry specialists to support transition planning. Strengthen partnerships with the Texas Workforce Commission to improve access to job training. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement a jail reentry program that can begin discharge planning at booking and connect people to community providers, improving engagement and continuity of care. Incorporate certified peer support specialists in the reentry planning process to build trust and provide continuity post-release. The Texas Workforce Solutions Reentry Program collaborates with probation and parole departments to provide

		job placement and training for people with justice-involvement, improving employment outcomes and stability.
--	--	--