

# SLCO Behavioral Health Services

## Alternatives to Incarceration Initiatives

**Project RIO** (Right Person In/Right Person Out) began in 2006 when the Salt Lake County Criminal Justice and Mental Health Systems concurred with Munetz and Griffin, that in the ideal, persons with mental illness would have the same rate of contact with the criminal justice system as does any other person. Systemic improvements were implemented that involved all five of the “sequential intercepts” in which persons with mental illness contact the criminal justice system, with the goal of diverting persons who are seriously and persistently mentally ill (SPMI) and who are non-dangerous offenders from inappropriate incarceration. These programs supported an already active CIT program and Mental Health Court, and were the product of a rich collaboration of numerous agencies.

Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI) Programs Include:

- **Community Response Team (CRT)** - This Valley Behavioral Health (VBH) team works with clients who are currently in jail, recent releases and also clients in the community who may be diverted from jail. CRT staff visit inmates prior to release to develop an APIC Plan, a pre-release relationship with the inmate, assure medication continuity upon release, pre-determine eligibility for benefits and assist with transportation from the jail.
- **Jail Diversion Outreach Team (JDOT)** - This VBH assertive community outreach team has a 1:10 staff/patient ratio and 24/7 availability. The multidisciplinary team has an LCSW, APRN, RN, case managers and NAMI mentors, and assist SPMI individuals that are frequent recidivists in the county jail.
- **CORE (Co-occurring, Re-Entry & Empowerment)** - VBH CORE offers services to adult male criminal offenders suffering from co-occurring disorders including substance use disorders and mental health. This 16 bed facility is designed to provide wrap around services both onsite and in the community, integrating mental health and substance abuse treatment approaches with the ultimate goal of successful reentry and a reduction in recidivism.
- **Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (MCOT)** - A University Neuropsychiatric Institute (UNI) interdisciplinary team of mental health professionals who provide face-to-face crisis resolution services for individuals in Salt Lake County who are experiencing, or at risk of, a mental health crisis, and who requires mental health intervention. MCOT staff often provide law enforcement alternatives to incarceration or hospitalization when responding to patients in crisis, allowing the individual to remain in the least restrictive setting.
- **Receiving Center (RC)** - A UNI short stay facility (up to 23 hours) designed as a single point of entry into the Salt Lake County crisis response system for assessment and appropriate treatment of adult individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis. It is designed to be used by law enforcement officers, EMS personnel and others as the primary receiving facility for individuals who are brought there as voluntary or on an involuntary hold. The RC is an innovative program that provides a secure crisis center featuring the “Living Room” model, which includes peer support staff as well as clinical staff. The goal of the center is to reduce unnecessary or inappropriate utilizations of ER visits or inpatient admissions by providing a safe, supportive and welcoming environment that treats each person as a “guest” while providing the critical time people need to work through their crisis.
- **Wellness Recovery Center (WRC)** - This UNI program is a voluntary, 16 bed residential program designed to provide crisis intervention support to Salt Lake County residents experiencing a mental health crisis. This is a voluntary program to assist individuals in a crisis situation by providing crisis triage and intervention, assessment services, medication intervention, safety, security and assistance in alleviating the crisis. It is staffed by a team of nurses, social workers, psychiatric technicians, consulting psychiatrists and certified peer specialists. The WRC is based on a recovery (Living Room) model which is designed to provide a crisis alternative type of assistance in a more natural environment that uses the unique talents and life experience of certified peer specialists to provide hope and support to individuals in the program.
- **Crisis Line & Warm Line** - The UNI Crisis Line is in operation 24/7, 365 days of the year and is staffed by experienced Licensed Mental Health Therapists. The Warm Line is a peer-run listening phone line staffed by individuals in recovery. Peer operators are trained to attentively and empathically listen to anonymous callers, offer compassion and validation, and assist callers in connecting with their own internal resources, strengths, and direction.

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- **RIO Housing Program** - A housing first initiative for clients of the Jail Diversion Outreach Team and CORE dual diagnosis residential program. Scattered units throughout the valley house homeless individuals with serious mental illness and those with co-occurring substance use disorders, allowing them to address behavioral health treatment needs and court obligations once basic survival needs are met. This program is a collaboration with multiple partners including Behavioral Health Services, the Housing Authority of Salt Lake and Valley Behavioral Health.
- **HARP Housing** - HARP, a collaborative effort between a number of agencies within Salt Lake County government and the Housing Authority of Salt Lake, finds housing units in the community for homeless individuals/families who:
  - Have mental illness
  - Are incarcerated in the Salt Lake County Jail,
  - Participate in a substance abuse program, and/or
  - Are supervised in a criminal justice program.
- **Mental Health Court Housing** - a collaborative effort between Salt Lake County Criminal Justice Services and the Housing Authority of Salt Lake, providing scattered unit housing to defendants in Mental Health Court with serious mental illness and co-occurring substance use disorders.
- **Top Ten**—Once a month this group meets to staff the most frequently booked individuals with serious mental illness. Partners include the Legal Defender's Office, Valley Behavioral Health, Criminal Justice Services, UNI Crisis Programs, Jail Mental Health, SL Co Behavioral Health Services, OptumHealth, Roadhome, Volunteers of America and 4th Street Clinic. Team goals are to:
  - Ensure jail mental health is aware of medications prescribed in the community prior to arrest, and vice-versa, ensure community mental health programs are aware of medications prescribed in jail prior to release
  - Develop a pre-release relationship with the inmate prior to release whenever possible
  - Work to assertively engage the client in treatment upon release, address continuity of care/medications and transport if appropriate
  - Refer into appropriate programs (Mental Health Court, CORE, JDOT, Other Outpatient, RIO Housing, etc.)
  - Communicate with the individual's attorney
  - Communicate with county supervising case managers, state AP&P officers or other private supervising agency
  - Coordinate jail releases when appropriate (LDA or CJS)
  - Support the client to resolve open court cases
  - Coordinate with medical providers when appropriate
  - Coordinate with other community providers (VA, private providers, etc.)
  - Assist with housing, entitlements, and other needed supports
  - Address individuals as pre-contemplative rather than non-compliant when unable to engage them into services. That is, try, try again.
- **Jail Mental Health Release Process** - A collaboration of jail, jail mental health, Criminal Justice Services, Behavioral Health Services and Valley Behavioral Health to identify individuals with serious mental illness, and facilitate a specialized supervised release marrying treatment with supervision.
- **Case Resolution Coordinator** - an attorney through Criminal Justice Services, housed in the Legal Defenders Office, that helps individuals with serious mental illness to resolve court cases throughout the valley. Through close coordination of treatment and judicial oversight, individuals are diverted from incarceration, avoiding changes or lapses in their medications, loss of housing and associated emergency room visits or hospitalizations.
- **Rep Payee Services** - a supportive service to individuals in need of assistance in managing their finances.

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- **Family Dependency Drug Court** - The mission of the Family Dependency Drug Court is to treat substance abuse addiction through an intense and concentrated program to preserve families and protect children. This is achieved through court-based collaboration and an integrated service delivery system for the parents of children who have come to the attention of the court on matters of abuse and neglect. A drug court team, including the Judge, Guardian Ad Litem, Assistant Attorney General, parent defense counsel, DCFS drug court specialist, Salt Lake County substance abuse specialist, and the court's drug court coordinator, collaborate to monitor compliance with treatment and court ordered requirements.
- **Felony Drug Court** - The establishment of drug courts in the State of Utah is part of an ongoing effort to increase public safety by supporting recovery. Judges observed the same offenders appear in their courts time and time again, and it became evident traditional methods of dealing with individuals with a substance use disorder, such as strict probation or mandatory imprisonment did not seem to address the fundamental problem of addiction. Drug Court teams work through a close collaboration between the court system, supervising agencies and treatment providers.
- **Social Services Position Housed in the Legal Defenders Office** - this position, funded through Behavioral Health Services, coordinates connecting individuals with serious mental illness involved in the criminal justice system to community treatment, ATI Releases, referrals to Mental Health Court, etc.
- **Mental Health Court** - Mental Health Court is collaboration between criminal justice and mental health agencies in Salt Lake County. The Mental Health Court provides case management, treatment services, and community supervision for the purpose of improving the mental health and well being of participants, protecting public safety, reducing recidivism, and improving access to mental health resources.
- **DORA** - A collaboration between Adult Probation and Parole, the court system and service providers utilizing smarter sentencing guidelines for better treatment outcomes.
- **VOA Assertive Community Treatment Team (ACT)** - Salt Lake County/Optum has contracted with Volunteers of America (VOA) to implement an Assertive Community Treatment Team (ACT) service delivery model for Salt Lake County residents. The ACT Team is taking on new clients and will serve 50 consumers initially, but could potentially develop to serve 100 Salt Lake County residents. The team provides intensive home and community-based services. The ACT Team offers a "hospital without walls" by a multi-disciplinary team. The emphasis is to provide support to those who are high utilizers of services and to offer stabilization within the community. The program is being implemented to fidelity to the evidence-based model as outlined by SAMHSA.
- **VOA Detox** - This program partners with the Salt Lake City Police, West Valley City Police, UTA Police and the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Department to offer individuals who have been picked up for public intoxication an alternative to jail and a safe environment focused on recovery. Officers can call for bed availability, van pick-up hours and availability. To meet the criteria for Jail Diversion Program, clients must be intoxicated, non-combative, medically stable and willing to come to the detox center.