Mental Health Interventions and the Criminal Justice System: Utah's Experience

Representative Jim Dunnigan
Utah House of Representatives
August 3, 2015
Programs/Services Continuum

- **Diversion**
  - Prevention & Community Treatment
  - Crisis System
  - Law Enforcement
  - Prosecutorial Pre-Diversion Pilot*

- **Criminal Justice System**
  - Specialty Courts
  - Supervision
  - Intensive Supervision Pilot*

*Programs funded by the Justice Reinvestment Initiative (2015 H.B. 348)

Source: Salt Lake County Behavioral Health Services, 7/17/15
CORE II – Women
(Commencing Re-entry & Empowerment)

Potential CORE II Client

Sarah
Homeless
Schizophrenia
Off medications
Self-medicating

Sarah has cost
SLCo more than
$120,000 in jail
costs alone at
$92/day in jail

GOAL
Improved re-entry
Reduced recidivism

OUTCOMES FOR MALES
• New charge bookings: ↓48%
• Length of stay: ↓70%

SERVICES
• Coordinated discharge
• Alternatives to incarceration transport to facility
• Assertive community outreach team program
• 1:10 staff/patient ratio and 24/7 availability.
• Multidisciplinary team: LCSW, APRN, RN, case managers and
NAMI mentors
• Access to new supportive housing units with dedicated case
management and home visits

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The Role of Medicaid

- Utah is considering Medicaid expansion
- Utah is trying to develop an integrated care model for physical and behavioral health services
Questions or Comments?

Contact Representative Jim Dunnigan
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