

Presentation to the Senate Committee on Criminal Justice

Lauren Lacefield Lewis, Assistant Commissioner for
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

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- During incarceration, services provided are the responsibility of the jail, which generally utilizes contracted providers or services provided by the jail's medical staff. Sometimes Local Mental Health Authorities (LMHAs) are the contracted psychiatric providers.
 - During a mental health crisis, some jails request that LMHAs conduct a mental health crisis screening.
 - Although these screenings are not specifically required by DSHS rule or contract, some LMHAs have established an agreement with jails to perform crisis assessments.
 - Contracts do require that LMHAs have a jail diversion plan.
 - At discharge, jails are asked to notify the LMHA 24 hours before release, so the LMHA can schedule a face-to-face contact within seven days.

Population and Need: Incarceration and Mental Health

- As of August 1, 2015, approximately 66,625 individuals were in Texas county jails.
- An estimated **30%** of inmates have one or more serious mental illnesses.
- This equates to nearly **20,000** people in Texas county and jails with serious mental illnesses.

Population and Need: Individuals Arrested with Mental Illness

- In 2015, over 76,000 people with a previous mental health encounter were arrested.
- Approximately 67% of individuals arrested who have had a previous mental health encounter were receiving DSHS-funded ongoing services.
- Of those receiving ongoing services, approximately 72% were only receiving medication management and/or skills training.

Population and Need: Cost Comparison

Cost per Client in the Criminal Justice System vs. Community Mental Health Services

| Population or Program | Cost per Day per Client | Estimated Cost per Month per Client | Estimated Cost per Year per Client |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Prison (system-wide) | \$54.89 | \$1,674 | \$20,035 |
| Jails (county) | \$60.01 | \$1,830 | \$21,904 |
| LBB Costs for LMHAs | \$13.52 | \$412 | \$4,946 |

Data Exchange and Coordination

- The Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (TLETS) is a data exchange system that supports continuity of care for individuals with a mental illness who become involved in the criminal justice system.
- When a person is booked into a county jail, they are entered into TLETS. Persons with a history of interaction with an LMHA or state hospital are identified.

- TLETS matches information (name, date of birth, social security number, sex, and race) against databases managed by DSHS.
- Matches can be exact (perfect correlation) or probable (high correlation).
- For exact/probable matches, jails receive information with some mental health treatment history for the individual, including location of most recent services.

Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (TLETS) Data Exchange

| Year | Match Requests | Exact Matches | Probable Matches |
|--------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| FY 13 | 1,122,091 | 58,356 | 527,148 |
| FY 14 | 1,079,238 | 76,561 | 386,591 |
| FY 15 | 991,073 | 73,844 | 369,013 |

Notes: Match requests are adults only
FY 15 is September 1, 2014-August 11, 2015

TLETS Impact on Continuity of Care

- May result in jails requesting assessment by the local mental health authority, if needed.
- Information can be utilized by jails to plan for mental health care during incarceration and ensuring better planning for continuity of care.

Getting the Word Out

- SB 1507 (84R) requires DSHS to develop a training curriculum for judges and attorneys on treatment alternatives to inpatient commitment to a state hospital.
 - DSHS is developing a training curriculum
 - DSHS is collaborating with the Texas Municipal Courts Education Center and the Court of Criminal Appeals to participate in mental health summits/conferences.
- The training is required to include a guide to treatment alternatives.
 - The Community Support Guide for Alternatives to Inpatient Mental Health Treatment is available at: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/Mental-Health/Mental-Health-Data-Research-and-Reports/>.



Moving the System Forward: Major Initiatives Related to Jail Diversion

- Crisis and Inpatient Beds
- Increased Access to Mental Health Services
- Harris County Jail Diversion Program
- Home and Community-Based Services (1915i)
- Mental Health Peer Supported Re-Entry
- Judicial Education
- Forensic Director/Workgroup
- Outpatient Competency Restoration
- Jail Based Competency Restoration
- Local Initiatives