Serious Mentally Ill Persons in the Douglas County Jail

DOUGLAS COUNTY, KS

Huskey & Associates
June 29, 2015
Agenda

- Quantify Serious Mentally Ill Persons (SMI) in Douglas County Jail
- Describe Characteristics of SMI
- Quantify SMI who Meet Screening Criteria for Mental Health Court
- Quantify SMI to be Served
- Next Steps
**Staff Credentials**

**Huskey & Associates** — 170 planning studies in 37 states

- **Bobbie Huskey, MSW**
  Corrections Practitioner (30+ years in corrections), Principal Researcher

- **Paula Tomczak, Ph.D.**
  15 years experience, Corrections Researcher

*In association with:*

- **Margaret Severson, JD, MSW** — Professor, KU School of Social Welfare
- **Jason Matejkowski, Ph.D.** — Professor, KU School of Social Welfare
- **Captain Eric Spurling** — Douglas County Sheriff's Office, Operations Division
- **Sharon Zehr** — Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center
Data gathered on all inmates booked during April, July, October 2014 & January 2015

- 1,971 bookings in these 4 months
- Represents 33.3% of total estimated bookings for a 12 month period

Data gathered by Douglas County Jail staff & Bert Nash CMC staff on 12 variables

- Variables included: legal status, age, sex, race, charged with a violent felony/misdemeanor, charged with an escape charge/history of escape, Douglas County resident, found or suspected of having a serious mental illness, prior mental health treatment, prior psychiatric hospitalizations, have co-occurring substance use disorder, length of stay in jail.

SMI Definition

- Participants who at any time during a given year had a diagnosable mental, behavior or emotional disorder that resulted in functional impairment which substantially interfered with or limited one or more major life activities.

SMI Definition Source: Based on national literature
Serious Mentally Ill
As a Percent of Total Jail Bookings

Douglas County, KS
N=493

- SMI: 18%
- Non-SMI: 82%

Five Jails in Maryland & New York
N=822

- SMI: 17%
- Non-SMI: 83%

Sources: Douglas County Jail. 2015; Steadman et al. 2009
Serious Mentally Ill

Average Length of Stay in Jail

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SMI (N=89)</th>
<th>Non-SMI (N=403)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average Length of Stay in Jail</td>
<td>13.9 Days</td>
<td>9.7 Days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: Douglas County Jail. 2015; Note - average LOS taken for April, July & October 2014
Serious Mentally Ill

Average Number SMI Housed in Jail by Sex

- Males
  - N=135
  - 23% SMI
  - 77% Non-SMI

- Females
  - N=33
  - 33% SMI
  - 67% Non-SMI

Sources: Douglas County Jail. 2015
SMI Characteristics

Douglas County

- 8 of 10 awaiting trial
- 35 years — Average age
- 78% White, 17% Black, 5% AI/AN
- 87.4% are Douglas County residents
- 99.4% not charged with escape charge/history of escape
- ~71% had prior psychiatric hospitalizations (8% more males)

Sources for National Jail Data: James & Glaze 2006, Ditton 1996
### SMI Characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SMI Characteristics</th>
<th>Douglas County</th>
<th>National Jail Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not charged with violent felony/misdemeanor offense</td>
<td>80.1%</td>
<td>56% - 70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received prior mental health treatment</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>9% males &amp; 23% females</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Had a co-occurring substance use disorder</td>
<td>~77%</td>
<td>38% - 76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Booked more than one time</td>
<td>16.8% (12.3% non-SMI)</td>
<td>26%-54% (3+ incarcerations)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources for National Jail Data: James & Glaze 2006, Ditton 1996
Screening Criteria for Potential Mental Health Court

1) Any pre-trial defendant or convicted offender age 18 and older
2) Must be found or suspected of having a serious mental illness (SMI)
3) Not charged/convicted with a violent felony or violent misdemeanor offense
4) Not charged/convicted with an escape charge and does not have a history of escape
5) Resident in Douglas County (does not exclude homeless) & within the Court’s jurisdiction
## Screening Criteria

### Number of Douglas County Inmates Who Met Criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Male (N=366)</th>
<th></th>
<th>Female (N=127)</th>
<th></th>
<th>Total (N=493)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N</td>
<td>% of Total</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>% of Total</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>% of Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>11.2%</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>17.3%</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Driving the Projections

- 12.8% met screening criteria for SMI
- 20% (of SMI accepted at screening) excluded during assessment process/opt out
- SMI offenders participate for an average of 90 days in Specialty Court
- Assumes that each SMI admitted to the Specialty Court is counted only once in a given month to avoid double counting
- SMI inmates stay average of 13.9 days

Findings

- Nationally accepted Ordinary Least Squares Regression Model
Projected Number of SMI Individuals Eligible for Alternatives to Jail Annually 2016-2026

Source: Huskey & Associates. Represents jail bookings that meet screening criteria, excludes portion of individuals during assessment and counts SMI individuals admitted to the Specialty Court only once in a given month to avoid double counting.
Douglas County, KS

Projected Average Daily Number of People with SMI in Alternatives to Jail Program 2016-2026

Source: Huskey & Associates. Assumes length of stay of 90 days.
Next Steps

Working Together

- Reach Consensus on Target Population and Eligibility Criteria for Intervention
- Reach Consensus on Type of Special Court (e.g. Mental Health Court or an Integrated Court with Co-occurring Disorders)
- Reach Consensus on Which Court(s) will Operate
- Examine Elements of Court Intervention in Other Jurisdictions
- Site Visits to Other Jurisdictions
- Develop Program Goals and Objectives
- Develop Specific Program Services to Reduce Recidivism