Stepping Up: Practical Solutions for Shutting the Revolving Door of Jail & Mental Illness
Justice Evelyn Lundberg Stratton, Retired, Project Director for Stepping Up Ohio

CCAO Second Wednesday Webinar
September 13, 2017
Stepping Up Webinar

Topics:
- Background and statistics on the issue of jails and mental illness
- Stepping Up: what is it all about and Ohio's version
- Forming the state and community partnerships to make it work
- Practical tools and solutions, many costing little or no money
- Lessons learned on how to break the cycle
- Challenge to audience to create their own solutions and how to do so
Stepping Up

- Stepping Up - a national movement to reduce the number of people with mental illness in jails
- Ohio has joined this movement
- Launched by the Council of State Governments Justice Center, National Association of Counties and American Psychiatric Association Foundation with support from the U.S. Justice Department Bureau of Justice Assistance.
  - In Ohio, the initiative is funded by the Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation.
- For more information: [www.mha.ohio.gov/steppingup](http://www.mha.ohio.gov/steppingup)
Nationally

- 2 million people with mental illness arrested annually
- Inmates in jail with mental illness do not get the help they need
- 75% have co-occurring substance abuse disorder
- Most released without services
Locally

- 30% of Ohio’s inmates have mental illness
- All 78 county jails have become de-facto inpatient psychiatric facilities
- They often stay longer
- More recidivism
Get Started!

- Access the Stepping Up Toolkit
- Receive a visit with your community leaders from the Stepping Up Team
- Participate in a free readiness assessment with an expert team member
- Receive free technical assistance
Veterans Justice programs

- Why are these needed?
  - Veterans are 9.3% of the incarcerated population in the U.S.
  - 70% of offenses were for non-violent crimes
  - Close to 60% of inmates have mental health problems
  - 82% of incarcerated persons are eligible for VA services on release
What are the Veterans Justice programs?

- Programs within the Department of Veterans Affairs strive to make sure that justice-involved Veterans get individualized care.
- Link veterans to community services to help homelessness, behavioral health issues and recidivism.
- Two main programs:
  - Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO): for those entering the local jail or court system.
  - Health Care for Re-entry Veterans (HCRV): for those coming out of the prison system.
Crisis Intervention Teams (CIT)

- CIT model widely adopted in Ohio
- Partnerships between law enforcement and mental health systems
- Ohio CIT Technical Assistance Center
- Assist those with mental illness
- CIT training improves officer attitude, skills and level of preparedness
- Voluntary, specialized 40-hour training
- Ohio has trained over 10,000 law enforcement officers in CIT
- Goal = CIT trained officers available in all communities 24 hours a day
- Officers need alternatives other than arrest and jail
Ohio Consortium of Crime Science (OCCS) and the Stepping Up Initiative

- A group of researchers from colleges and universities across Ohio who are available to work with local criminal justice agencies
- Available to all local criminal justice entities, from law enforcement and corrections to courts and victim services
- For more information: www.ocjs.ohio.gov/oecs
Ohio Compassion Map: Social Service and Faith-Based Resources in Your Own County

- The Compassion Map was constructed by researchers at Clay Productions under contract with the Ohio Governor’s Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

- The Ohio Compassion Map assimilates information on faith-based and community nonprofits in all 88 Ohio counties into one easy-to-reference location

- For more information: www.ohiocompassionmap.org
Ohio Benefit Bank

- Links people with resources and programs to help meet their basic needs
- Repository of information for the various aid systems in Ohio (food assistance, veteran benefits, prescription drug costs, etc.)
- Walks people through the process of finding and accessing aid to help them become more stable and self-sufficient
- Serves those who have trouble meeting their basic needs
- For more information: www.ohiobenefits.org
Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIM)

- What is the Sequential Intercept Model? Within the criminal justice system there are points at which persons can be “intercepted” and diverted to the mental health treatment system.

- Sequential Intercept Mapping is a day and a half exercise during which the resources a community has at each intercept point are identified, as are gaps in services.

  - The gaps are prioritized and then a preliminary action plan to address the priorities begins.
Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIM)

- Why is the Sequential Intercept Model needed?
  - Brings leaders needed to initiate community change together in a systematic, structured way
  - Helps foster collaboration among key stakeholders
  - Provides clear direction on how to approach what otherwise may feel overwhelming
  - SIM can take the goals of Stepping Up and provide a road map on how they can be achieved
- For more information: [www.neomed.edu/cjccoel](http://www.neomed.edu/cjccoel) or call 330-325-6670
Four Ways you can Benefit from Ohio Stepping Up

- Access the Stepping Up Toolkit
  - Sign up to receive Stepping Up announcements at [https://stepuptogether.org/take-action](https://stepuptogether.org/take-action)
  - Receive a link to the Stepping Up toolkit (written planning guides, training webinars, and relevant publications)
  - Create actionable plans to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in jails

- Participate in a free readiness assessment to determine what you have and what you need
  - For more information, contact Melissa Knopp, Esq. - knoppm@hocking.edu
Four Ways you can Benefit from Ohio Stepping Up

- Receive free technical assistance with your county plan
  - For more information, contact Julie Spohn - Julie.spohn@mha.ohio.gov

- Ohio Stepping Up Conference - September 28, 2017
  - One-day conference that brings state and local leaders from across Ohio together with national partners
  - For more information, contact Melissa Knopp, Esq. - knoppm@hocking.edu
Justice Evelyn Lundberg Stratton retired

- Retired from the Supreme Court of Ohio after 23 years in the Judiciary to pursue criminal justice reforms, particularly as they relate to mental health, juveniles and veterans.
  - Born to missionary parents in Bangkok, Thailand, Stratton spent her childhood in Southeast Asia.
  - She attended boarding school in South Vietnam at the height of the Vietnam War and later in Malaysia, visiting America on occasion with her parents.
  - At age 18, she returned to America alone with only a few hundred dollars in her pocket. Working her way through school, she earned a Juris Doctor degree from The Ohio State University College of Law.
  - Stratton’s most interesting accomplishment was her first-place finish in a college Stampede Girls Goat Tying Competition—a talent she later put to good use as a trial lawyer.
Acknowledgment

- Funders
  - The Stepping Up program is generously supported by the following funders and sponsors.
  - Funders are contributing to the 2017 Stepping Up Conference, to be held September 28th in Columbus.
    - Remaining funds are being used to host Stepping Up county visits throughout the course of the year and to provide materials and hand-outs.
    - Sponsors are committed to supporting the general work of the initiative.
State and National Sponsors

- **State**
  - Ohio MHAS
  - The Stepping Up Ohio Steering Committee

- **National**
  - Justice Center
  - NACo
  - American Psychiatric Association Foundation