

FROM ARREST TO TREATMENT:

The Collaboration Between Behavioral Health and Criminal Justice Systems

Derek Aranyos, MSW, LSW
James Johnson, BA S, Forensic Team Lead

THE ROLE OF THE SCU/FORENSIC LIAISON



THE ROLE OF THE SCU/FORENSIC LIAISON



Forensic Liaisons:

- Provide information to ACJ as well as treatment team
- Link with Probation officers, JRS, and Mental Health court, and SCs.
- Meet with consumers in ACJ
- Calls in proper meds to jail social workers.

FROM ARREST TO TRIAL

Question: How and why do our consumers get arrested?



ARREST

New charges
(caught committing a crime)



ARREST



Warrants

Arrest warrant issued. Can be for many different reasons. Violating parole/probation, bench warrant's, not reporting for court date, etc.

ARRAIGNMENT



*Occurs within
72 hours of arrest*

What happens at the ARRAIGNMENT?



Bond is set:

- ROR, bond posted and released *or*
- Unable to post bond and jailed
- Judge can be assigned at this level

ARRAIGNMENT

Detainers can be placed by magistrate/judge which would prohibit release prior to scheduled hearing date even if bond is paid.



AFTER ARRAIGNMENT

If released, must register in person with public defender's office prior to hearing date



INTAKE/PROCESSING

- MH identification
- JRS Diversion
- Behavioral Assessment Unit



INTAKE/PROCESSING

MH Identification

- Self
- Police
- Correctional officers



INTAKE/PROCESSING

Justice Related Services Diversion

- Evaluate current MH status
- Recommend placement on MH pod *or*
- Initiate 302 to community hospital and bedside arraignment

WHAT ELSE CAN HAPPEN AT ARRAIGNMENT?


Pre-trial Services

Behavioral Assessment Unit (BC)


- Formerly called Behavior Clinic
- Psychiatric arm of the court system
- Hold issued for further evaluation
- No bond until cleared (like a 302)

What the BC does....

Behavioral Assessment Unit (BC)

If cleared: Legal movement continues 

If not cleared will pursue hearing for:

- Further evaluation/ commitment at Torrance State Hospital Forensic Unit.
- 304= danger to self/others
- 402= incompetent to stand trial
- Return to ACJ for re-evaluation by BC before legal movement resumes 

PLACEMENT within THE JAIL

- General population
- Mental health/ Drug and Alcohol
- Acute Mental Health
 - Stabilization
 - Safety
 - Detox



ACJ STAFF WORKING IN THE BEHAVIORAL UNIT (5C & 5D)

- Mental health social workers
- Correctional caseworkers
- Mental health Registered nurse
- Psychiatrists



PRELIMINARY HEARING



*Held within 3 to 10 days
after arrest.*

Can be postponed.

PRELIMINARY HEARING

- Determines validity of charges, evidence of accused
- Bond reduction or ROR, charges reduced or dismissed, fine assessed
- Held at City Court or local magistrate's office
- Could return for review and charges could be reduced or dismissed
- Public defender typically meets incarcerated consumer for first time at court

PRELIMINARY HEARING

Hearing without JRS Diversion representation:



You can represent your self but otherwise a private attorney or public defender is your only advocate for release

FORMAL ARRAIGNMENT

(DIFFERENT THAN "REGULAR" ARRAIGNMENT)

- Paper date at county courthouse
- Pre-trial conference date and judge assignment is set
- If incarcerated, the consumer does not attend, subpoena is sent via mail
- JRS Diversion will transfer case internally to JRS Support or MH court

PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE

- Trial date and assignment of attorney/public defender is set
- If incarcerated, the consumer does not attend, subpoena sent via mail
- Enter plea of guilty or not guilty
- Consumer chooses jury or non-jury trial or accepts plea bargain



TRIAL



Approximately 6 months after arrest if commitment is not sought

TRIAL

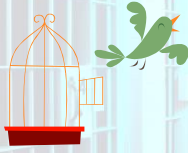


If consumer is found guilty:

*Sentencing can be done at trial
or
Postponed for a pre-sentence
investigation report
(about 8-10 weeks)*

TRIAL

Consumer may not be released from jail until:



All court documentation is received by the jail and filed within his chart, whether released into the community or into a program.

MENTAL HEALTH COURT

Basis for this type of court is treatment rather than incarceration



MENTAL HEALTH COURT

Has a consistent judge, public defender, and district attorney



MENTAL HEALTH COURT

JRS service plans are developed and presented as in regular court



MENTAL HEALTH COURT

- Term of probation determined by the MHC judge (Lazzara)
- Consumers are followed throughout length of probation and compliance monitored via periodic reinforcement hearings
 - MHC Probation liaison
 - Probation officer
 - Forensic liaison confirms TX attendance

JRS SUPPORT OR MENTAL HEALTH COURT

- All eligible pending charges will be consolidated and heard within MH Court
- Mental health court will not engage the consumer until after the formal arraignment



JRS SUPPORT OR MENTAL HEALTH COURT



- Development of service plan with consumer and JRS Staff input to present at trial
- Residential and SC referrals can be submitted at this time if release is likely

THE CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM (CIT POLICE OFFICERS)

&

MERCY'S CRC

CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM

- Developed as part of the strategic plan for Allegheny County to decriminalize mental illness within criminal justice and mental health systems
- Referred to as CIT
- Grant received from U.S. Dept. of Justice
- Implemented in City of Pittsburgh, 2007
- Non violent juveniles and adults.
- Hope is to de-escalate situation w/o arrest

CENTRAL RECOVERY CENTER

- Voluntary admission
- No reject/eject policy
- Open 24 hours/day, 7 days/week
- Serves adults and juveniles, ages 14-17
- Provides diversion beds for up to 72 hours

CENTRAL RECOVERY CENTER

- Access through Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) officer, pre-booking diversion specialist, walk in, RESOLVE
- Provide crisis intervention, screening and assessment, referrals and linkages
- Up to 11 beds within Allegheny County (MBH CRC and RESOLVE/WPIC)

RESOURCES FOR OFFENDERS

TREATMENT OPTIONS AND SUPPORTS

AOD/ Dual Residential:

- Halfway house
- ¾ house
- MISA CRR



TREATMENT OPTIONS AND SUPPORTS

MH Residential:

- Supportive Housing
- CRR
- Group homes
- PCBH



TREATMENT OPTIONS AND SUPPORTS

*All levels of outpatient from PHP to
INDIVIDUAL THERAPY/ Med. Management*



TREATMENT OPTIONS AND SUPPORTS

*Forensic Outpatient Unit
'The Gatehouse'
(if appropriate)*



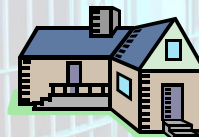
COMMUNITY REINTEGRATION

Community Corrections Centers



COMMUNITY REINTEGRATION

*Renewal Center Inc.
(utilized by both state and county)*



JRS

All Justice Related Services (JRS) are voluntary



JUSTICE RELATED SERVICES PRE BOOKING DIVERSION PROGRAM

- Developed as part of the strategic plan for Allegheny County to decriminalize mental illness within criminal justice and mental health systems
- Implemented in June 2007

JUSTICE RELATED SERVICES PRE BOOKING DIVERSION PROGRAM

- Misdemeanor offenses or non-violent felony charges only
- Must have Axis I MH diagnosis to qualify
- Service plan presented at arraignment

Presentation of JRS service plan to magistrate



If plan denied:

- Charges waived to trial
- Bond may or may not be reduced
- Remain in ACJ

Presentation of JRS service plan to magistrate



If plan accepted:

- Plan becomes condition of release, legally binding
- Immediate release to JRS if safe housing and treatment are in place
- Return to ACJ and release to JRS
 - once housing and treatment secured
 - for inpatient rehab.

JRS SERVICE PLANS

The responsibility of the consumer is to actively participate in all treatment recommendations,



A final note on JRS.....

JRS support specialist remains involved for 60-90 days after trial/sentencing once community supports are in place.



PA UNIFIED JUDICIAL SYSTEM

- Maintains website with criminal docket info available for public review
- Not as accurate as PA state police background check
- To access records at District Justice level
- <http://ujportal.pacourts.us/docketsheets/mdj.aspx>
- To access records at Court of Common Pleas level
- <http://ujportal.pacourts.us/docketsheets/cp.aspx>

THE END