

Responding to the Nation's Opioid Crisis: Justice and Community Solutions

The Center for Health and Justice at TASC (CHJ) helps communities that are suffering from the opioid crisis by bringing together criminal justice, behavioral health, and community partners to create practical solutions to reduce drug use, overdose and death from opioids, and drug-related crime. CHJ offers training and technical assistance across the criminal justice continuum in the following areas:

LAW ENFORCEMENT	<p>Law enforcement personnel in the community are on the front lines of the opioid epidemic. They save lives by carrying naloxone and reviving people who have overdosed, and they save lives again by connecting people to treatment.</p> <p>Solutions we offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naloxone Plus Model: A pre-arrest diversion model that rapidly connects people to treatment after an overdose. • Opioid Drug Screen: Use of officer drug screening tools for pre-arrest diversion, including the Texan Christian University (TCU) Drug Screen 5 Opioid Supplement.
JAILS AND COURTS	<p>Jail and court systems have seen increasing numbers of individuals with opioid use disorder in need of treatment.</p> <p>Solution we offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Justice Leaders Systems Change Initiative (JLSCI): Team-based education for local justice leaders to promote systems-based strategies to identify, prioritize, and link justice-involved individuals with evidence-based treatment in the community at the earliest point possible. Teams of leaders draft a unique Solutions Action Plan for customized approaches to meet the needs of the local community as they address the opioid epidemic.
REENTRY AND COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS	<p>Individuals with opioid use disorder are returning to the community from a jail or prison setting at elevated risks for overdose and death immediately following release.</p> <p>Solutions we offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opioid Overdose Prevention Plan: Framework of critical activities to prevent opioid overdose and death at reentry. • Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT): Implementation of MAT in probation and parole.

Solutions that Span the Criminal Justice Continuum

RAPID ASSESSMENT	<p>Treatment, justice, law enforcement, and other partners need to rapidly assess, in real time, the severity of an individual's opioid use disorder in order to determine who needs immediate intervention.</p> <p>Solution we offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texas Christian University Drug Screen 5 Opioid Supplement: Training for an agency or team in the effective use, scoring, and administration of this rapid opioid screening tool.
TREATMENT CAPACITY EXPANSION	<p>Limited or inaccessible community-based opioid use disorder treatment capacity results in challenges getting people into treatment quickly. Ongoing engagement and recovery supports are essential.</p> <p>Solutions we offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment Capacity Gap Analysis: Identification of opportunities for system alignment and expansion to meet community demand for treatment and related services. • Treatment Capacity Expansion Solutions: Strategies for bridging existing resources and increasing future local treatment capacity.

To learn more about CHJ or request training and technical assistance, please contact Jac Charlier, National Director for Justice Initiatives, at jcharlier@tasc.org or (312) 573-8302. v. Oct 2017