INTRODUCTION

The Boulder County Opioid Advisory Group (OAG) was formed in October 2016 with the approval of the Community Justice Management Board (CJMB). The group engages representatives from various agencies, including prevention, law enforcement and criminal justice, treatment and recovery, clinical and pharmacy, business and nonprofit, and community representatives. Boulder County Public Health (BCPH) provides backbone support for the OAG. Through collective process, law enforcement and criminal justice service priorities was identified as the need for a “funnel” to link people who use opioids and other drugs to needed support in order to reduce criminal justice system involvement. Several partners met to plan for a systems mapping activity on October 13, 2017.

ATTENDEES

Christine O’Neill (Mental Health Partners), Matt Jaekel (Mental Health Partners), Jeff Goetz (Boulder County Sheriff – Jail), Melanie Dreiling (Boulder County Sheriff – Jail), Joe Creel (Probation), Marco Prospero (Community Justice Services), Sarah Boylan (Housing and Human Services), Ken Kuphner (District Attorney), Elaina Shively (District Attorney), Jennifer Biss (Community Services), Whit Oyler (Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse), Alison Harvey (Boulder County Connect), Michelle Krezek (Boulder County Commissioners), Chris Lord (Boulder County Public Health), and Carol Helwig (Boulder County Public Health).

Facilitator: Jodi Hardin (The Civic Canopy)

DESIRED OUTCOME

A countywide system map that identifies diversion, linkage to mental health and substance use disorder treatment, and wraparound services, with a focus on intercept 1.

ACTIVITY GOALS

• Confirm existing components of the system.
• Identify connections and/or needs for improved connections across the system.
• Review first draft of systems map & clarify next steps.
• Consistent collaboration across all stakeholders.
• Reduction in jail placement (sustain current reduction).
• Address mental health and substance use disorder needs with support and linkages to treatment and other wraparound services.
• Assessment of mental health or substance use disorder needs in order to match individuals to appropriate services.
• Understanding of available services in the community and how individuals can be linked to services.

SYSTEM MAPPING COMPONENTS & CONNECTIONS

Need for systems navigation and case management

Data and communication resources, needs, and gaps

Relevant convened groups to dovetail & share information consistently

GRAPHS AND OPPORTUNITIES

• Improved referrals from all municipal courts and law enforcement to early intervention services such as SAPI.
• Comprehensive and consistent assessments that link to the appropriate level of service.
• Centralized navigation and coordination of comprehensive wraparound services/supports.
• Improved linkages from jail to Mental Health Partners.
• Shift to harm reduction vs. abstinence only.
• Shift Intercept 2 back to intercept 1.
• 24-hour access scaled to serve all (i.e. Edge, Angel Initiative, other MHP services).
• Increased access to treatment options, including inpatient residential and other innovative models that cover the gap in inpatient, such as coordinating care across various outpatient services and sober living.
• Include existing family members or supporting family members to stay engaged.

NEXT STEPS

• Share with various stakeholder groups (elected officials and department heads at CJMB, OAG, MH Task Force).
• Identify shepherd to champion this work/funding support.
• Consider creating an ongoing subcommittee of OAG or merging with Mental Health Task Force (now Behavioral Health Task Force), or other ongoing subcommittee.
• Identify who else needs to be on the table, engage, bring up to speed (law enforcement, public defender, housing).
• Consider mapping via workflow style per organization/program then as a whole.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Activity participants, members of the Opioid Advisory Group, and MH Task Force partners contributed to planning for this activity.

GROUP PROCESS

• Confirm existing components of the system.
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