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# **Sacramento County Adult Sequential Intercept Model (SIM)**

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# Sequential Intercept Model (SIM): What It Is

Tool to inform stakeholders, including CCP agencies, about programs and services available at different points along the criminal justice continuum

Standardized mechanism for collecting, analyzing and reporting on key data elements for data-driven/informed decision making - Guides further development of pathways to both reduce current justice involvement and connect people to services to reduce FUTURE involvement

Maps pathways through the justice system to identify gaps, resources, and opportunities at different stages in the justice system for adults with mental and substance use disorders

# SIM: What It Covers

**INTERCEPT 0: Crisis Care and First Response Continuum** - Intercept 0 involves interventions for people with mental and substance use disorders prior to formal involvement with the criminal justice system. The critical components of this intercept include the local continuum of crisis care services and resources that reduce reliance on emergency response, hospitalizations, and law enforcement to serve people in crisis or with low-acuity mental health needs. In jurisdictions where very few resources exist, law enforcement may be involved in Intercept 0 diversion efforts in a *parens patriae*, or “guardian,” capacity, providing first responder services.

**INTERCEPT 1: Law Enforcement Calls and Responses** - At Intercept 1, law enforcement and other emergency service providers respond to people with mental and substance use disorders who are in crisis in the community. In many jurisdictions, when a person in crisis exhibits illegal behavior, law enforcement officers have the discretion to place the person under arrest or to divert them to treatment or services. Effective diversion at Intercept 1 is supported by training, programming, and policies that integrate behavioral health care and law enforcement to enable and promote the diversion of people with mental illness away from arrest and a subsequent jail stay and into community-based services.

**INTERCEPT 2: Intake, Booking, Bail Setting/Review, Initial Court Hearing** - At Intercept 2, individuals who have been arrested will go through the intake and booking process and will have an initial hearing presided over by a judicial official. Important elements of this intercept include the identification of people with mental and substance use disorders being processed and booked in the jail, placement of people with mental and substance use disorders into community-based treatment after intake or booking at the jail, and availability of specialized mental health caseloads through pretrial service agencies .

**INTERCEPT 3: Courts and Incarceration in Jail or Prison** - At Intercept 3, individuals with mental health or substance use disorders who have not yet been diverted at previous intercepts may be held in pretrial detention while awaiting disposition of their criminal cases. This intercept centers around diversion of individuals from the jail or prison into programs or services that allow criminal charges to be resolved while also addressing the defendant’s mental and substance use disorder needs. The intercept also involves jail- and prison-based programming that supports defendants in a trauma-informed, evidence-based manner during their incarceration.

**INTERCEPT 4: Reentry** - At Intercept 4, individuals transition from detention/incarceration in a jail or prison back to the community. This intercept requires transition planning with specific considerations to ensure people with mental and substance use disorders can access and utilize medication and psychosocial treatment, housing, healthcare coverage, and services from the moment of release and throughout their reentry back into the community.

**INTERCEPT 5: Community Corrections** - At Intercept 5, community corrections agencies (probation and parole) provide essential community-based supervision, as an arm of the court, to individuals released from custody. People with mental and substance use disorders may be at risk for probation or parole violations and benefit from added supports at this intercept. Use of validated assessment tools, staff training on mental and substance use disorders, and responsive services, such as specialized caseloads, are vital to reducing unnecessary violations, decreasing criminal re-offense, and improving behavioral health outcomes, through enhanced connections to services and coordination of behavioral health treatment and criminal justice supervision goals.

## **How It's Used:** Local SIM shows how people with mental and substance use disorders flow through six distinct intercept points

Most effective when used to assess available resources, identify gaps in services, develop plans and implement changes

Best accomplished by a multi-system team of stakeholders, including mental health, substance use, law enforcement, pretrial services, courts, jails, community corrections, housing, health, social services, people with lived experiences, family members, and many others

Multi-system team creates the local SIM to identify service opportunities at different sequential points from initial justice system contact through justice system exit/case closure

Promotes cross-system collaboration and coordination  
Used by CCP Advisory Board to better understand existing behavioral health and justice services and inform AB 109 Plan Updates

# **Sacramento County's Multi-System Team is the Mental Health Workgroup**

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## **Mental Health Workgroup was established in 2017**

Efforts focus on collaborative work to identify gaps in services, develop plans and implement changes that enhance diversion and reduce recidivism for people with significant mental health needs - now expanded to include the range of significant behavioral health needs

## **Mental Health Workgroup includes a broad range of positions and agencies:**

Sacramento Superior Court, Public Defender's Office, Probation, City of Sacramento, Sheriff's Office, County Homeless Initiatives, District Attorney's Office, Human Assistance, Health Services - Correctional Health & Behavioral Health

# **Our Mental Health Workgroup Multi-System Team** is Critical to Successfully Address Criminogenic & Behavioral Health Issues

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## **Enduring Misconceptions:**

Mental Health issues cause criminal behavior

Substance Use issues cause criminal behavior

Poverty causes crime

## **Correlation is different from Causation**

## **Research shows:**

Symptoms from mental health & substance use disorders rarely cause crime

Behavioral health services alone rarely reduces crime

Specialized supervision and treatment services together reduce recidivism

**Integrated justice and treatment responses (risk-need-responsivity)  
reduce criminal behavior and increase successful outcomes**

# The SIM Helps Build a Shared Model & Language

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- Criminogenic Needs are risk factors related to reoffending
  - Big Eight: parenting/family relationships, education/employment, substance abuse, leisure/ recreation, peer relationships, emotional stability/ mental health, criminal orientation and thinking, and residential stability
- Recidivism Risk, Mental Health Risk and Substance Use Risk all inform treatment decisions
- Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) is a treatment modality adopted to target criminal thinking and behaviors
- Trauma Informed Practices are techniques to prevent re-traumatization and facilitate success
- Aim of Intervention is the well-being of the client and community

# Shared Foundations – A grounding in:

Science/EBP

experience of people with justice-involvement

experience and culture of justice partners

systems and structures of Justice and BHS

reading and utilizing criminogenic needs assessments

treatment planning based on criminogenic needs

case review and supervision

systems and structures of Justice and BHS

curriculum selection and fidelity

staff development

quality assurance

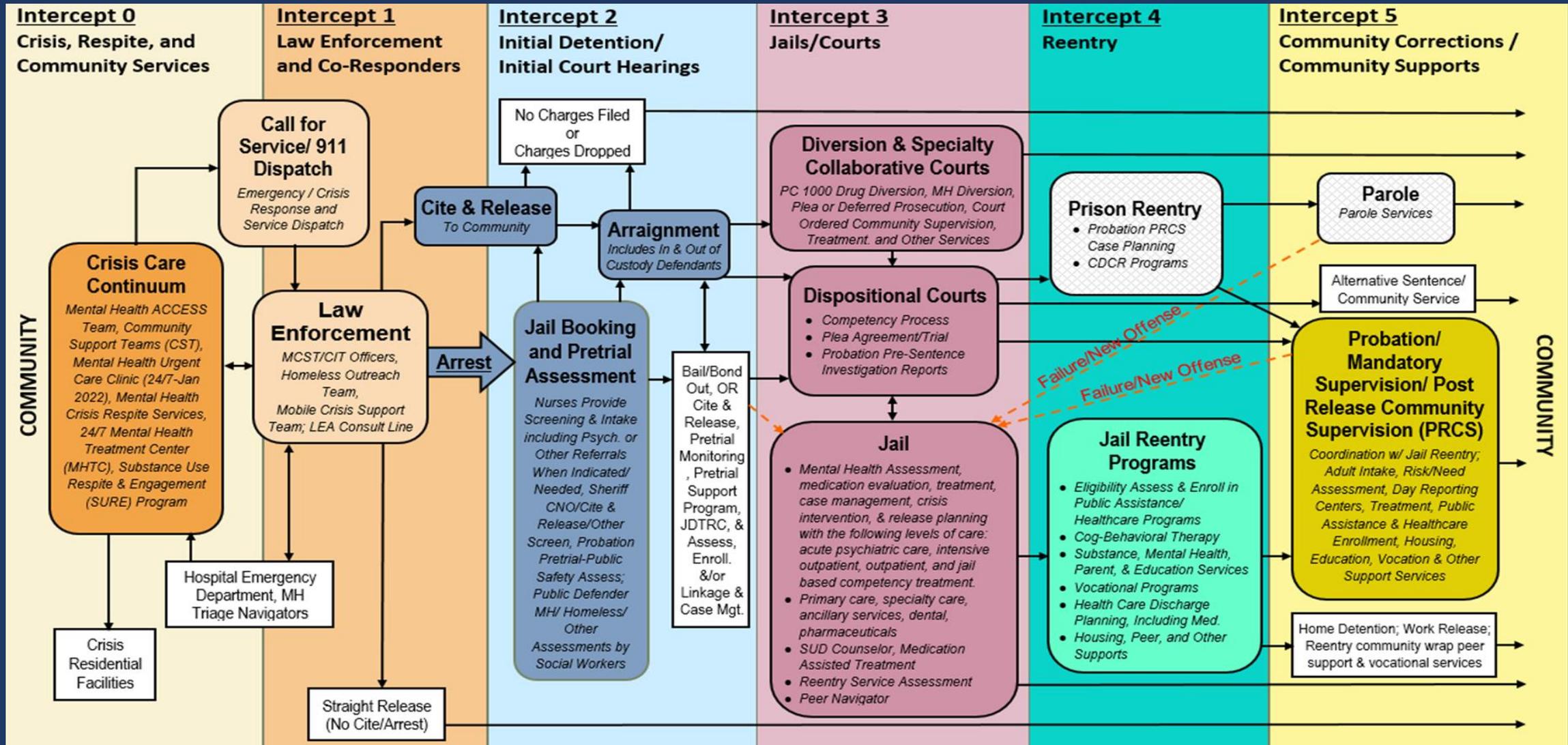
change management

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You Can See the Shared Model &  
Language Come Together in the SIM  
and Its Inventory of Services  
Partnering Behavioral Health and  
Criminal Justice Agencies



# Sacramento County Adult Sequential Intercept: Criminal Justice-Behavioral Health Partnerships



# Extensive Inventory of Services Continues to Grow and Evolve

**Mental  
Health  
Access  
Team**

**Community  
Support  
Team**

**Mental  
Health  
Urgent Care  
Clinic**

**Mental  
Health  
Crisis  
Respite  
Center**

**Substance  
Use Respite  
&  
Engagement  
(SURE)  
Program**

**Sacramento  
County  
Mental  
Health  
Treatment  
Center  
(MHTC)**

**911  
Emergency  
Crisis  
Response  
and Service  
Dispatch**

**Mobile  
Crisis  
Support  
Teams  
(MCSTs)  
Crisis  
Intervention  
Trained  
(CIT)  
Officers**

# **Extensive Inventory of Services Continues to Grow and Evolve**

**Law  
Enforcement  
Consult Line**

**Homeless  
Outreach  
Teams**

**Jail  
Diversion,  
Treatment  
and Resource  
Center  
(JDTRC)**

**Health  
Screening at  
Booking**

**Jail Quick  
Release  
Screening**

**Risk and  
Needs  
Assessments**

**Pretrial  
Monitoring  
(Risk Based)  
– Community  
Based  
Alternative to  
Detention**

**Pretrial  
Support  
Program  
(Needs  
Based) –  
Assessment  
& Community  
Based  
Services**

# Extensive Inventory of Services Continues to Grow and Evolve

Competency  
Process

Diversion  
Programs  
– Drug  
and  
Mental  
Health

Specialty  
Collaborative  
Court  
Programs

Custody to  
Community  
Treatment  
and  
Reentry  
Programs

Alternative to  
Incarceration  
Jail Work  
Release (Work  
Project) and  
Home  
Detention

Alternative  
Sentencing  
Program  
(Community  
Service)

Adult Day  
Reporting  
Center  
Programs

Expungement  
Clinic

# Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health Agencies

Must Partner to Effectively Address Complex and Unique Needs of Residents Who are Justice-Involved

**Our Multi-Disciplinary Workgroup supports this through commitment to:**

- Deliberate acknowledgment and directed discussion to bridge distinct cultures and philosophies of each partnering agency and advancing collaboration
- Provide periodic updates to the SIM as a central resource for identifying the service and program opportunities available AND their access points for individuals who go through our criminal justice system
- Sacramento County's Adult Sequential Intercept Model and Inventory of Services: [LINKED HERE](#)