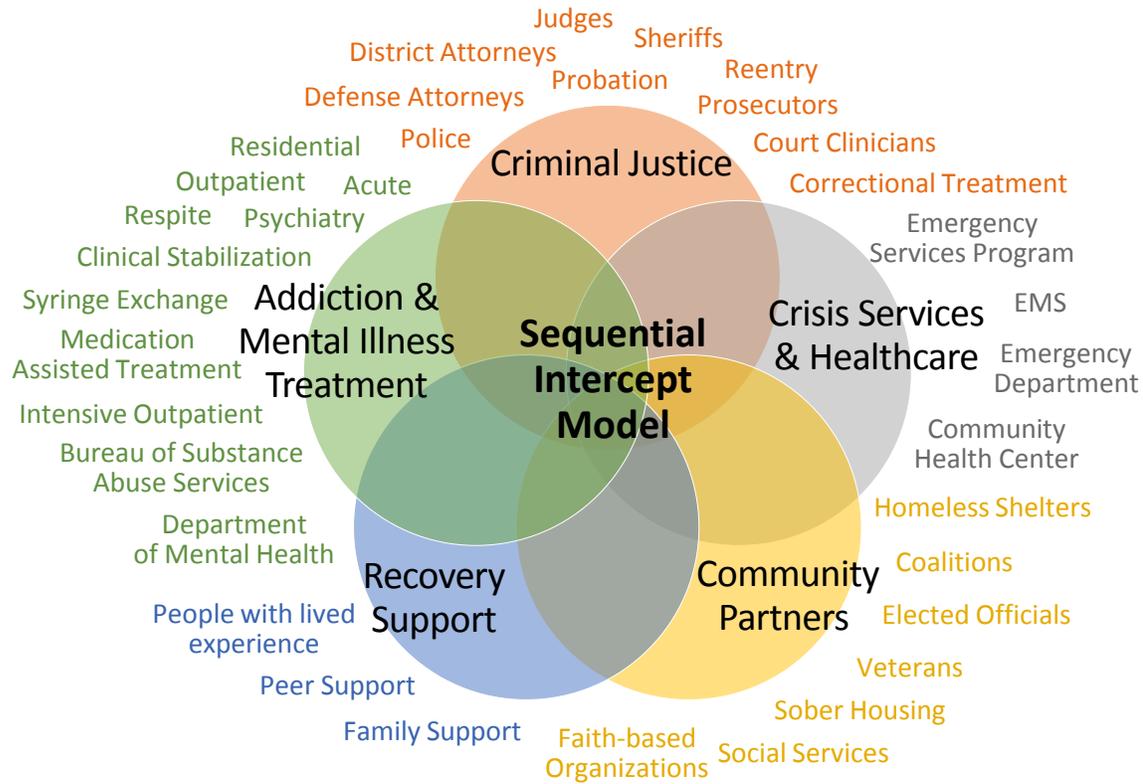


The Massachusetts Community Justice Project

is working with communities statewide to promote recovery for people with behavioral health needs, enhance public safety and support quality of life for all.

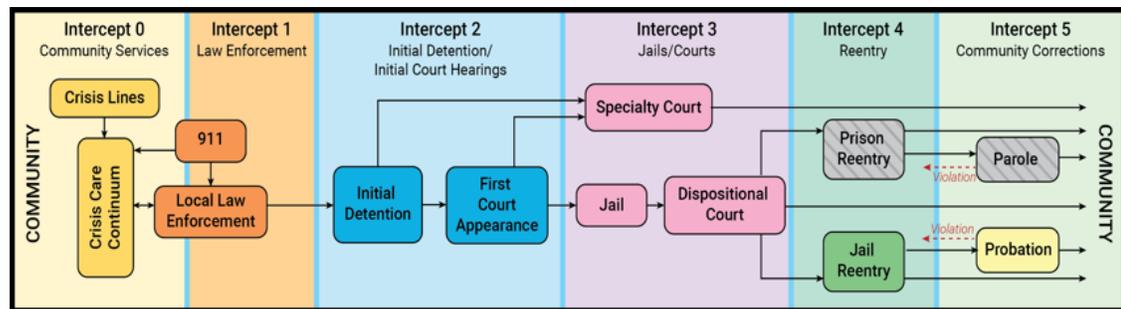
Project staff collaborate with local stakeholders to plan and conduct two-day Community Justice Workshops that bring together local criminal justice, treatment, recovery, crisis, healthcare, and social service partners.

Using the *Sequential Intercept Model*, stakeholders collectively identify local resources and gaps in services, and create an action plan to enhance collaboration and reduce the risk of justice-involvement and recidivism for people with addiction and/or mental illness.



Sequential Intercept Model

A conceptual framework for communities to organize targeted strategies for justice-involved individuals with behavioral health disorders



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- Reflects how individuals move through the criminal justice system
- Indicates points for intervention or diversion of people with addiction and/or mental illness
- Provides a visual depiction of the ways in which treatment systems interact with the criminal justice system

Community Intercepts

All workshops include an inventory and examination of Community Intercepts: places in the community where people with behavioral health issues can have their needs identified and be connected with treatment and recovery resources *before* intersecting with the justice system.

- Active User Engagement
- Healthcare
- Behavioral Health Treatment
- Homeless Shelters
- District Court (civil commitments)
- Social Services
- Probate and Family Court
- Housing Court
- Faith Leaders
- Community Meals
- Peer Support Services
- Street Outreach

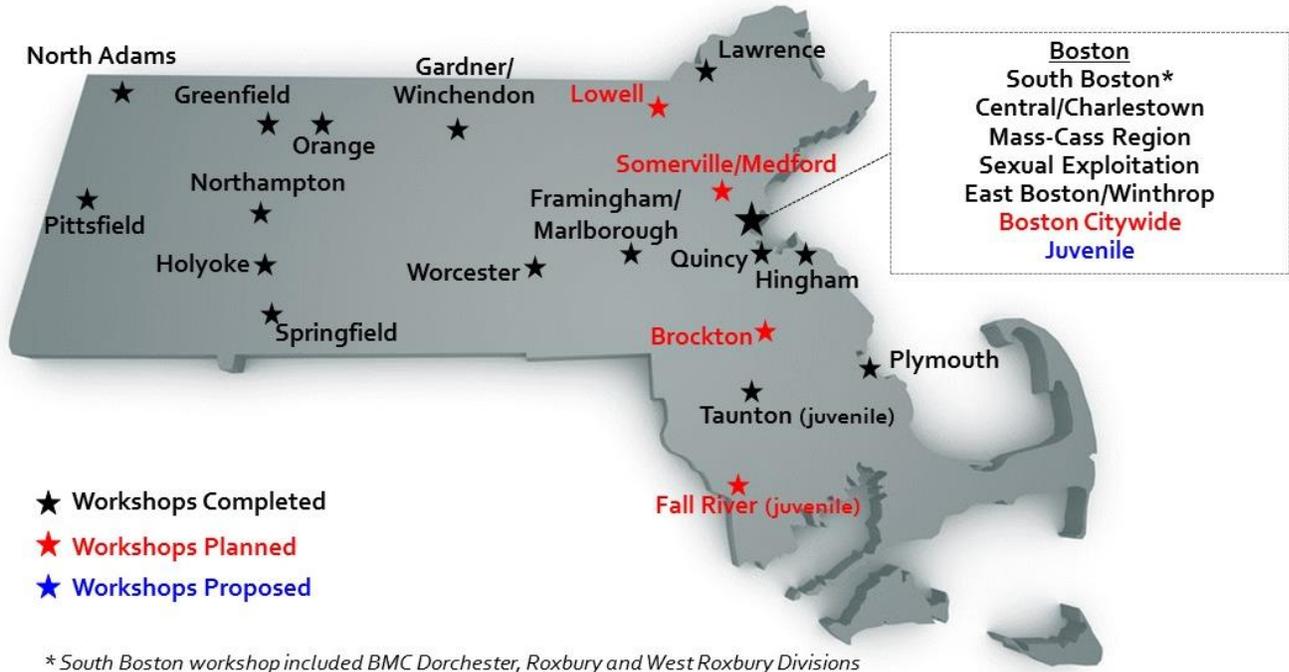


The Massachusetts Community Justice Project is a Massachusetts Trial Court initiative, developed and realized through the efforts of the Interagency Trial Court Task Force on Mental Health and Substance Abuse.

Community Justice Workshops in Massachusetts

Since the fall of 2014, twenty Community Justice Workshops have been conducted in District Court and Boston Municipal Court jurisdictions statewide, encompassing 113 towns, cities, and neighborhoods.

The most recent fifteen workshops have been conducted as part of the Massachusetts Community Justice Project. The initial five workshops, which laid the foundation for the current Project, were planned in collaboration with the Trial Court and were led by the SAMHSA GAINS Center or the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health.



Taking Action for Change

Each Community Justice Workshop culminates in stakeholders collectively determining priorities for change and developing an action plan to implement those priorities. A sample of post-workshop efforts on priorities include:

Greenfield: Northwestern District Attorney’s Office developed a drug diversion and treatment program. The voluntary program is designed for non-violent offenders with substance use disorders, charged with certain drug-related offenses; offers evaluation, treatment and intensive case management and provides eligible candidates with an opportunity for comprehensive treatment in lieu of prosecution through traditional court process.

Springfield: Staff from local police departments, the Hampden County Sheriff’s Office and the Springfield mental health court participated in a train-the-trainer SAMHSA workshop: “How Being Trauma Informed Improves Criminal Justice System Responses.” This training is designed to increase understanding and awareness of the impact of trauma; develop trauma-informed responses; and provide strategies for developing and implementing trauma-informed policies in justice settings.

Holyoke: The Holyoke Access to Treatment committee formed as part of the already-established and Sheriff-sponsored Holyoke Safe Neighborhood Initiative. Committee includes staff from Probation, treatment, local peer support center, BSAS, healthcare providers and more. Group meets monthly and, in collaboration with BSAS, DMH and local treatment providers, trained Hampden County Probation Officers and attorneys on levels of care in behavioral health treatment, information exchange/consent forms, accessing treatment expeditiously, and more.

Boston: Steering Committee formed after the first of three workshops, co-chaired by a member of the Boston Police Department and an Attorney-in-Charge from the Committee for Public Counsel Services. Committee includes staff from the Trial Court, Suffolk District Attorney’s Office, Pine Street Inn, City of Boston’s Office of Recovery Services, Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery, Gavin Foundation, Suffolk County Sheriff’s Office and more. Steering Committee members chair subcommittees focused on priorities identified in workshops. Efforts are underway to: create and implement model trainings for attorneys on mental health, addiction and trauma; improve information sharing between providers; integrate peer support into court processes; and more.

Hingham: The newly developed South Shore Peer Recovery Center hired a full-time coordinator, applied for a federal grant to expand peer services in the region, and continues to collaborate with the Probation Department and regional Police Departments. Scituate Police, Scituate FACTS (local coalition) and the South Shore Peer Recovery Center hosted a Northern Region of Plymouth County meeting focused on a police and recovery coach follow-up visits to people who have overdosed, shared database reporting, and drop in centers.

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For more information contact Marisa Hebble, MPH (857) 350-0467 • marisa.hebble@jud.state.ma.us

