U-MATTER

A UNIFIED MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT TARGETED ENGAGEMENT RESPONSE to the opioid epidemic in Pima County

Impacts at 18 Months

Feb 18th 2021, Tucson AZ
Presenter

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University of Arizona
Southwest Institute for Research on Women (SIROW)
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• **Disclaimer**: The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed here are the authors and do not necessarily represent the official policies of SAMHSA; nor does mention of trade names, commercial practices, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.
Opioid Epidemic

• The most fatal drug crisis in U.S. history (National Safety Council, 2018)
• In 2018, 10.3 million people misused an opioid pain reliever in the past year (SAMHSA NSDUH)
• 2.1 million people have opioid use disorder (SAMHSA NSDUH)
• Arizona is among the states with the highest and fastest increasing rates of primary treatment admissions for heroin and opioids per capita (TEDS)
• In November 2020, Pima County Health Department projected 456 drug overdose deaths in 2020, up from 337 in 2019 and 286 in 2018 (Pima County Health Department, Nov 2020)
• Of the 376 drug overdose deaths Jan-Nov 2020, 297 (79%) involved opiate compounds (Pima County Health Department, Nov 2020)
U-MATTER Overview:

**Goal 1:**
Enhance and Expand Access to MAT

TPD Deflection Program:
- Deflection
- Outreach
- “Angel” Program

Pretrial Services of the AZ Superior Court, Pima County

**Goal 2:**
Improve well-being, decrease opioid misuse and related risk behavior

MAT Treatment and Recovery Support Services (CODAC & other providers)

Well-being
Opioid misuse & recidivism
Related Risk Behaviors

Pima County Administrator’s Criminal Justice Reform Unit: Project management & Infrastructure development

Project Monitoring and Evaluation
Goal 1: Enhancing and Expanding Access to MAT
Tucson Police Department (TPD) Deflection Program

TPD Deflection Program – 1st 18 months (Nov 1 2018 - Apr 30, 2020)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unique Individuals</th>
<th>Total Incidents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deflections</td>
<td>921</td>
<td>1044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Angel&quot; Program</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1225</strong></td>
<td><strong>1385</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In total, there were 1385 times that TPD officers and the law enforcement or behavioral health peer support co-responder teams identified individuals with substance use problems and encouraged them to get treatment through the Deflection Program.
## Goal 1: Enhancing and Expanding Access to MAT

### Results of Deflection Incidents

**TPD Deflection Program – 1st 18 months**  
(Nov 1 2018 - Apr 30, 2020)

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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1225</strong></td>
<td><strong>1385</strong></td>
</tr>
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</table>

- **50%** Officer transported (or called for transport of) individual immediately to treatment provider
- **14%** Officer gave individual treatment provider information encouraging treatment
- **3%** Deflection accepted, but individual arrested or not eligible for deflection
- **2%** Deflection accepted, but result unknown
- **1%** Officer transported individual to hospital
- **31%** Individual did not agree to deflection to treatment
Goal 1: Enhancing and Expanding Access to MAT Diagnosis at CODAC

468 deflected individuals transported to CODAC.

299 (64%) of these 468 individuals completed a clinical assessment:

• 7 in 10 of the deflected individuals assessed by CODAC had an opioid use disorder.

• 6 in 10 of the deflected individuals assessed by CODAC had a substance use disorder, other than opioids, cannabis, and tobacco.

• 99% of the deflected individuals assessed by CODAC were diagnosed as having a substance abuse issue or as having a substance use disorder.

• 56% were diagnosed with a co-occurring mental health issue.
Goal 1: Enhancing and Expanding Access to MAT Treatment at CODAC

As of April 30, 2020, of the 468 deflected individuals who were transported to CODAC:

• **87** (18.6%) were currently engaged in CODAC’s medication-assisted treatment (MAT) program for people with opioid use disorder.

• **126** (26.9%) of the deflected individuals transported to CODAC were currently in longer term substance use treatment at CODAC.

• **274** (58.5%) received services from CODAC with **215** receiving more than one type of service, such as case management, medical management or service; lab, radiology, and medical imaging; health promotion; and family support.
Goal 1: Enhancing and Expanding Access to MAT Recovery Support Services

In coordination with TPD SURT officers, the co-responding Outreach & Engagement Specialists provide recovery support services, such as peer support, re-engagement encouragement/support, and case management.

• **717** recorded attempts to provide recovery support services as of April 30th 2020.

• **435 (61%)** of these attempts resulted in the provision of at least one recovery support service.

• **1027** recovery support services have been provided.
Goal 1: Enhance and Expand Access to MAT

Goal 2: Improve well-being, decrease opioid misuse and related risk behavior

TPD Deflection Program:
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Pretrial Services of the AZ Superior Court, Pima County

MAT Treatment and Recovery Support Services (CODAC & other providers)

Well-being
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Related Risk Behaviors

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Project Monitoring and Evaluation

U-MATTER Overview:
In this section we review the impacts of U-MATTER on various outcomes of interest. The information used to assess these impacts is gathered from program participants of U-MATTER—individuals who were clinically determined to be eligible for MAT for opioid use disorder.

Survey Completion - November 1, 2018 - April 30, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Referral Source</th>
<th>Program intake</th>
<th>3-months post-intake</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deflection Program</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-referred to CODAC</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referred from Pretrial Services</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Goal 2: Improving Well-Being, Reducing Opioid Misuse
Program Participants

Demographics at Baseline – N = 45
Goal 2: Improving Well-Being, Reducing Opioid Misuse Abstinence (N = 29)

- Proportion of participants who abstained from recent alcohol use did not change from intake to 3 months post-intake (83% to 79%).
- Proportions of participants who abstained from recent use of illegal drugs and from recent use of injection drugs increased from intake to 3 months post-intake, 7% to 55% and 48% to 93%, respectively.
Goal 2: Improving Well-Being, Reducing Opioid Misuse

Housing (N = 29)

- The proportion of participants reporting that they were housed most of the time increased from 55% at intake to 76% at 3 months post-intake.
Goal 2: Improving Well-Being, Reducing Opioid Misuse Mental Health (N = 29)

- The average number of recent days that participants experienced serious depression, not due to the use of drugs or alcohol, decreased on average from 14 days at intake to 9 days at 3 months post-intake.
- The average number of recent days that participants experienced serious anxiety, not due to alcohol or drugs, decreased on average from 17 days at intake to 11 days at 3 months post-intake.
Goal 2: Improving Well-Being, Reducing Opioid Misuse Recidivism & Justice System Involvement (N = 29)

- The proportion of participants who reported committing any crimes during the past 30 days decreased from 93% at intake to 41% at 3 months post-intake.
- The proportion of participants who reported having been arrested during the past 30 days decreased from 45% at intake to 10% at 3 months post-intake.
Conclusions – Goal 1

In regards to the 1\textsuperscript{st} goal of enhancing and expanding MAT access, in the first 18 months of U-MATTER:

• There were 1385 times that law enforcement or behavioral health co-responders identified individuals with substance use problems and encouraged them to get treatment through the Deflection Program.

• 524 deflected individuals were transported to a treatment provider.

• The majority (7 in 10) of deflected individuals assessed by CODAC had an opioid use disorder.
Conclusions – Goal 1 (cont.)

• As of April 30\textsuperscript{th} 2020, 87 (18.6\%) of the 468 deflected individuals who were transported to CODAC were currently engaged in CODAC’s medication-assisted treatment (MAT) program for people with opioid use disorder.

Overall U-MATTER has been successful in providing individuals with substance use issues enhanced opportunities to engage in treatment.
Conclusions – Goal 2

In regards to the 2nd goal of improving well-being and reducing opioid misuse and related risk behaviors, in the first 18 months of U-MATTER:

• Initial findings indicate that U-MATTER appears to have been substantially impactful in terms of reducing drug use and criminal activity among program participants. It appears to have been particularly successful in reducing opioid use, a central goal of the program.

• Participants in U-MATTER have also registered improvements on other outcomes of interest—housing stability and mental health.
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