

## Referral and Approval Process

TEEM, the Oklahoma County Public Defender's Office, the Oklahoma County District Attorney's Office, Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS), and members of the Oklahoma County judiciary will collaborate in the following manner:

- Working with the Oklahoma County Public Defender's Office and the OK County Jail, a certified and licensed treatment provider contracted with ODMHSAS shall perform pretrial release assessments for newly incarcerated individuals in the Oklahoma County jail. The assessments ascertain substance abuse issues, mental health needs and criminogenic risk factors of justice-involved individuals in OK County. Additionally, an attorney in the Public Defender's office will review the results of the assessments to identify individuals for recommendation in the Oklahoma County Pretrial Release Initiative.
- This information will be presented to the Oklahoma County District Attorney's office and Oklahoma County Presiding District Judge to determine eligibility and participation in the program.
- An Oklahoma County District Judge will order selected participants to report to and complete TEEM's pretrial release program. It is recommended participants selected to participate be required to report to TEEM within 48 hours of release for enrollment in the service model. If a participant absconds, refuses to participate in services or treatment, or demonstrates noncompliance of programmatic requirements, the District Attorney and/or District Judge will be notified and informed as soon as possible.
- Partners will meet as needed to discuss project status and confer about pending cases when necessary.

## Program Design

The Education and Employment Ministry (TEEM) proposes to assist women and men selected for the Oklahoma County Pretrial Jail Release Initiative by providing immediate access to education, job training, legal assistance, case management services, and job placement services through its self-sufficiency and work readiness service model. In addition, TEEM, working in conjunction with ODMHSAS and in accordance with the Department's eligibility criteria and standard referral protocol, will connect participants to appropriate levels of substance abuse treatment and mental health care. Participants below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level are eligible to receive treatment through ODMHSAS indigent services when treatment criteria is met. Participants above 200% FPL will be responsible for the cost of their treatment.

Working in partnership with Oklahoma County judges, the Oklahoma County District Attorney, and the Oklahoma County Public Defender and ODMHSAS this initiative will serve as a pilot program to demonstrate improved outcomes for selected pretrial participants in Oklahoma County

jail which will, in turn, highlight the value of treatment and assistance over incarceration for certain individuals impacted by the criminal justice system. This model will equip and empower low-level offenders with the skills necessary to become productive members of society. We would like the project to begin July 3, 2017.

*TEEM Duties*

TEEM shall provide four weeks (80 hours) of reentry services to program participants as follows:

- Cognitive Behavior Classes
  - *Winning the Workplace Challenge*
  - *Thinking for a Change*
  - SAMSHA Anger Management
- Job and Life Skill Classes
  - *Ready for Work*
  - Financial Literacy
  - Keyboarding/navigation
  - High school equivalency (HiSET®) preparation and testing (as applicable)
- Occupational Certifications
  - OSHA-10
  - Forklift
  - ServSafe®
- Direct Services
  - Case management, including job placement services
  - Transportation
  - Transitional housing/housing assistance (The initial four week phase of the Pretrial Release Initiative requires at least five hours of in-house participation at TEEM four days per week. TEEM will cover the cost of sober living expenses for participants who cannot work and are without suitable housing options.)
  - Legal assistance (e.g., help in obtaining state IDs or driver's licenses, public benefits, family law matters)
  - Community-based services and resources provided by local nonprofits and communities of faith to meet immediate needs, obtain employment, and achieve stability and self-sufficiency
  - Connect participants with appropriate levels of credentialed substance abuse treatment and mental health care
  - Supervise and monitor compliance of treatment plan, court order, and employment performance

TEEM administrative duties for the project include the following:

- Provide the Oklahoma County district judge a progress report prior to sentencing that outlines the experiences with the participant throughout the prerelease period of time
- Provide a quarterly report to the Presiding District Judge including:
  - The total number of persons screened, evaluated or otherwise considered for pretrial release
  - The total number and nature of recommendations made

- The number of persons admitted to pretrial release that failed to appear
- Additional information deemed appropriate by the Presiding District Judge
- Participate in partner meetings as needed to establish effective communication and ensure the success of this project
- Perform a program and process evaluation and adjust program accordingly to ensure best outcomes
- Provide project funders with progress reports as requested

## Goals and Objectives

### GOALS

1. Reduce length of pretrial stay for Oklahoma County jail; reduce jail overcrowding
2. Reduce Oklahoma Department of Corrections population
3. Decrease disruption of family unit
4. Increase outcomes for Pretrial Reentry Services participants

### OBJECTIVES

Decrease operational costs and negative effects on participants by shortening or eliminating the length of pretrial stay for certain individuals incarcerated in the Oklahoma County jail

Advocate for consideration of participant success demonstrated through program compliance, employment, and appropriate prosocial behavior during sentencing hearings  
Lessen stress and adverse childhood experiences on children and other household members due to incarceration

Minimize obstacles to employment, stability, self-sufficiency