

Kentucky Judicial Commission on MENTAL HEALTH



Sequential Intercept Model

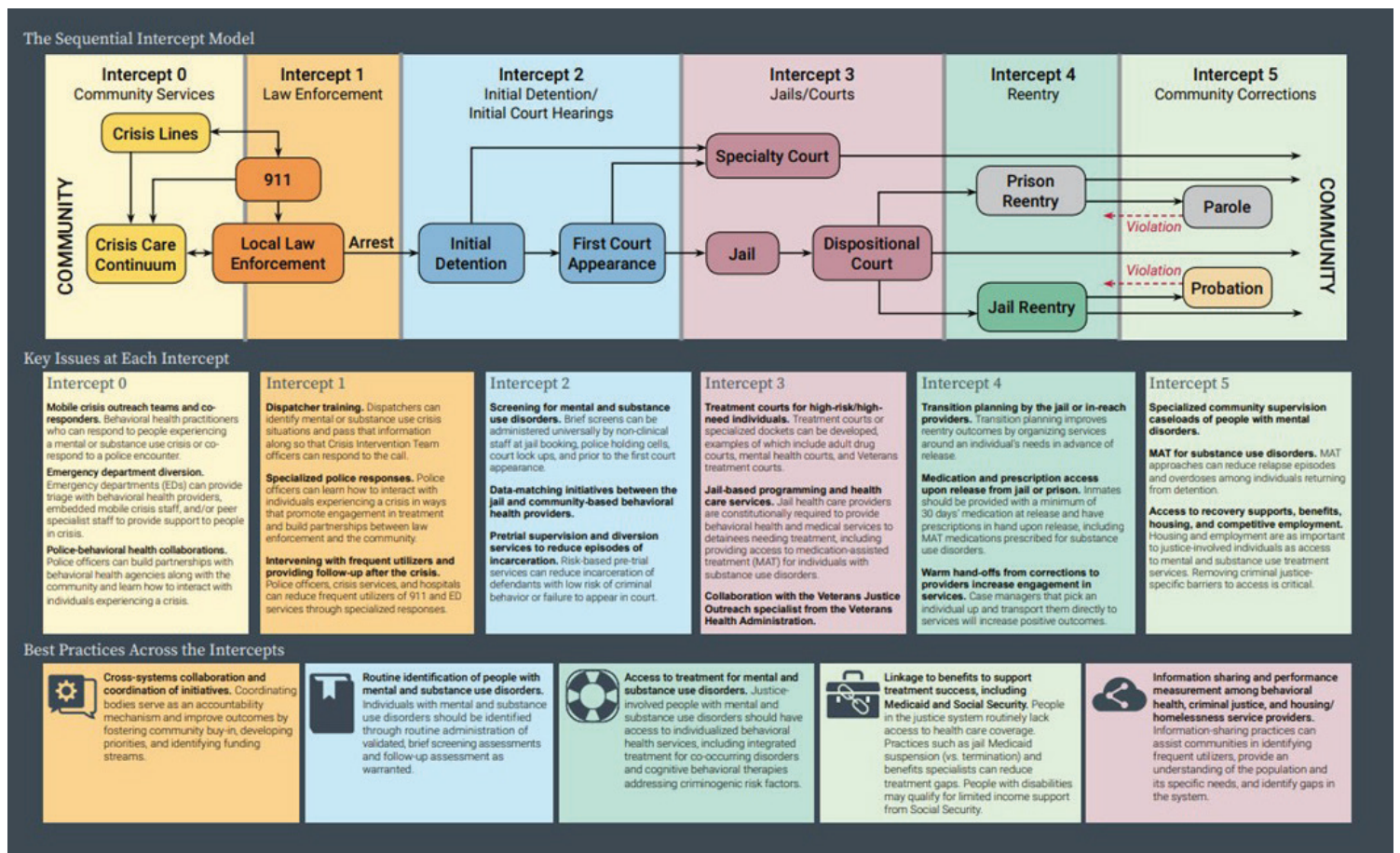
The Sequential Intercept Model is most effective as a community strategic planning tool used through an interactive, facilitated workshop to assess available resources, determine gaps in resources, and plan for community change. These activities are best accomplished by a team of multidisciplinary stakeholders that cross over multiple systems, 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. Employed as a strategic planning tool, communities can use the Sequential Intercept Model to:

- Develop a comprehensive picture of how people with mental and substance use disorders flow

through the criminal justice system along six distinct intercept points: (0) Community Services, (1) Law Enforcement, (2) Initial Detention and Initial Court Hearings, (3) Jails and Courts, (4) Reentry, and (5) Community Corrections;

- Identify gaps, resources, and opportunities at each intercept for adults with mental and substance use disorders; and
- Develop priorities for action designed to improve system and service-level responses for adults with mental and substance use disorders.

The culmination of the mapping process is the creation of a local strategic plan based on the gaps, resources, and priorities identified by community stakeholders.



Kentucky Judicial Commission on MENTAL HEALTH



Kentucky Judicial Commission on Mental Health 2023 Statewide Sequential Intercept Model Mapping Workshop

Kentucky has a history of embracing change, and the Kentucky Judicial Commission on Mental Health has embraced a comprehensive approach to engagement in various activities. On February 16 and 17, 2023, Kentucky held a statewide SIM Mapping Workshop led by the National Center for State Courts with the following recommendations for Kentucky.

Courts as Conveners

- Encourage judges to use their leadership role as convenors to foster collaborative community and court strategies to promote community safety and improve outcomes for individuals with behavioral health needs.
- Coordinate and communicate between the behavioral health and justice systems to examine their systems and community resources to determine the best path forward to provide the best care and responses to individuals with behavioral health needs.
- Explore ways to encourage and support cross-system communication, resource sharing, and further development and implementation of sequential intercept strategies. Invite cross-system involvement in committees and meetings to further inform needs across systems.

Education and Training

A key component to enhancing the court and community response to justice-involved individuals with behavioral health needs is providing access to training for professionals charged with providing community supervision, care, and support. Judges and court professionals also need knowledge, data, research, and resources regarding behavioral health.

- Engage criminal justice professionals and partners to develop training programs that enhance court and community responses to justice-involved individuals with behavioral health needs.

Data-Driven Decisions

Data collection is critical for enabling outcome tracking and should be discussed across both civil and criminal matters. Priority should be given to data collection that supports addressing the behavioral health needs of individuals within the community before they become justice involved.

- Create partnerships between the Supreme Court, Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Justice Cabinet, and Kentucky Department of Corrections to share information and data.
- Assess what entities are collecting data, what data is being collected, and how that data is being used. Identify entities

that are doing a good job with data collection and use them as a model. Also identify entities that are successfully sharing information and data between agencies and systems. Examine their information and data sharing agreements to create a model for other agencies and systems to replicate.

- Develop Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) between agencies that provide for information and data sharing.

Behavioral Health Continuum of Care

The vision for behavioral health continuum of care is grounded in a public health model that addresses the social determinants of health, system and service coordination, health promotion, prevention, screening and early intervention, treatment, resilience, and recovery support to promote social integration and optimal health and productivity. The goal of a behavioral health continuum of care is to provide a full range of high-quality services that address age, gender, cultural, and other needs presented. Create a statewide vision of what a behavioral health continuum of care should look like in Kentucky. Advocate for a comprehensive behavioral health continuum of care that includes both outpatient and inpatient services as well as recovery-oriented community housing.

- Promote deflection and diversion to treatment options at the earliest point possible and institutionalize those alternative diversion pathways to treatment, including civil alternatives such as assisted outpatient treatment, involuntary commitment, and outpatient treatment.
- Ensure services being provided to users are based on evidence-based practices and follow fidelity to established models that have been researched.

Peers, Individuals with Lived Experience, and Families

Too often, the voices of families and individuals with lived experience are not included in implementation and improvement efforts, and the court's responses suffer as a result.

- Create opportunities to listen to and gather input from individuals with lived experience and their families in all efforts to improve court and community responses. Individuals with lived experience have valuable information to inform the justice and behavioral health systems about what worked and did not work for them.
- Encourage the integration of trained peers at all appropriate points in the treatment, case management, and justice processes including hiring trained peers in programs, services, and operations to improve the responses for individuals with behavioral health needs.