On the note card write down why you choose your profession or why do you do what you do?



Partnering with Santa Cruz County Adult Behavioral Health Services to serve Justice Involved Population

Jasmine Najera, LCSW – Forensic Services Program Manager Katie Mayeda, LCSW – Collaborative Courts Manager ADA Alexander Byers







FOR CHILDREN & ADULTS

History of Santa Cruz Behavioral Health & Criminal Justice Partnerships

### Key partnerships from mid 1990's



Santa Cruz County Probation: dedicated Probation Officer assigned to Mental Health



City of Santa Cruz: dedicated Mental Health "Downtown Outreach Worker"



#### **Jail Behavioral Team**

Development of the Forensic Assertive Community Treatment Team Model late 1990's



MOST Team: Maintaining Ongoing Stability through Treatment



County received several rounds of State Mentally III Offender Crime Reduction grant funding Mentally III Offender Task Force in 2012



Local stakeholders inclusive of elected officials, department heads, various law enforcement chiefs



Resulting in expanded collaboration and programming



Santa Cruz County Behavioral Health Forensic Continuum was developed

### Santa Cruz County Adult Behavioral Health Forensic Services Continuum

PREVENTION & EARLY INTERVENTION	DIVERSION & TREATMENT	INTENSIVE FSP TEAMS	ACCOUNTABILITY
TEAMS: Downtown Outreach Workers Mental Health Liaison Program HOPES Team-Homeless Outreach and Proactive	<b>TEAMS:</b> •Jail Behavioral Health Team •Jail Discharge Planning, Court Liaison, Court Clinician	TEAMS: MOST Team – Maintaining Ongoing Stability & Treatment	SPECIALTY COURTS: PACT Court - Partnership, Accountability Connection & Treatment Behavioral Health Court
Engagement & Services PARTNERS: City of Santa Cruz Santa Cruz Sheriff's Office City of Watsonville Encompass Services	PARNTERS: Corrections Division - Santa Cruz Sheriff's Office Santa Cruz Superior Court Santa Cruz Probation Department	<b>PARTNERS:</b> Santa Cruz County Probation Department	PARTNERS:Santa Cruz Superior CourtSanta Cruz CountyProbation DepartmentDistrict Attorney's OfficePublic Defenders OfficeDefense Counsel

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### Behavioral Health Court Collaboration

#### Judge Heather Morse

Considered a national best practice model to address needs of mental health consumers in the criminal justice system

Santa Cruz County Behavioral Health Court started in June 2014 presided by the Honorable Judge Morse

Collaborative process between Santa Cruz Superior Court, District Attorney's Office, Defense Counsel, Santa Cruz Probation Department & the Santa Cruz Sheriff's Office

# Information & Data Sharing

#### Information Sharing

All participants receiving services with County Behavioral Health and who are part of the legal system (collaborative courts, probation, in-custody) sign Releases of Information in order to allow staff to discuss their cases and participate collaboratively in treatment planning

#### Data Sharing

We need to streamline the data sharing process in order to efficiently gather and share data across teams

## Developing an Environment for Collaboration



#### We all have the same goal

- Know why people love their jobs. It gives you the prospective of where they are coming from.
- Respect that everyone is burdened by overwork

#### Language Matters

- Know your partners acronyms
- Learn best practice language
- People, People, People
- Person first language

### Developing an Environment for Collaboration

- Learn your county mandates
  - Ask why?
  - Over explain in order to teach
- Be open to change- but not stupidity
  - Use research-based approaches
  - Remember that you can and will cause harm if the team ignores the research
  - Trust the experts in the room

    This is why we collaborate

## **Developing an Environment for Collaboration**



#### **Assume Ignorance**

- People don't know what you know!!!
- People have great intentions but don't fully know the consequences of their actions
- Educate your partners

#### Communicate, Communicate, Communicate

- Pre-meetings that gives enough time for discussion
- Email updates
- Quarterly trainings
- Quarterly meetings with partner agency updates about changes

## **Steps for Successful Communication**



**Problem** Define the problem

#### **Ask Questions**

Ask questions to see all prospective



#### Safety

What is the safety concern for both the community and the participant



#### Listen

Hear each other out and trust the expertise

When "I" is replaced by "we" even illness becomes wellness.

- Malcolm X (1925 - 1965)





