How the American Rescue Plan Helps Criminal Justice Stakeholders Respond to Behavioral Health Crises

June 15, 2021

Alex Blandford, Program Director, Behavioral Health, CSG Justice Center

Mark Larson, Senior Vice President, Leadership and Capacity Building, Center for Health Care Strategies

Steve Allen, Behavioral Health Director, Oregon Health Authority

Brinda Penyak, Deputy Executive Director, County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania
Presentation Outline

I. Setting the Stage: Background and American Rescue Plan Overview

II. Opportunities and Collaboration in Context: Local, State, and National Perspectives

III. Getting Involved: Specific Strategies and Considerations

IV. Q & A and Resources
Speakers

Alex Blandford, Program Director, Behavioral Health, CSG Justice Center

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Brinda Penyak, Deputy Executive Director, County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania
The Council of State Governments Justice Center

We are a national nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that combines the power of a membership association, serving state officials in all three branches of government, with policy and research expertise to develop strategies that increase public safety and strengthen communities.
How ARP Helps Criminal Justice Stakeholders Respond to BH Crises
Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program

The Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHCP) promotes innovative cross-system collaboration and provides grants directly to states, local governments, and federally recognized Indian tribes. It is designed to improve responses to people with mental illnesses and substance use disorders who are involved in the criminal justice system.
The U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance

**Mission:** BJA provides leadership and assistance to local criminal justice programs that improve and reinforce the nation’s criminal justice system. BJA’s goals are to reduce and prevent crime, violence, and drug abuse and to improve the way in which the criminal justice system functions. In order to achieve such goals, BJA programs illustrate the coordination and cooperation of local, state, and federal governments. BJA works closely with programs that bolster law enforcement operations, expand drug courts, and provide benefits to safety officers.

Visit the [BJA website](#) to learn more.
Presentation Outline: I

I. Setting the Stage: Background and American Rescue Plan Overview

II. Opportunities and Collaboration in Context: Local, State, and National Perspectives

III. Getting Involved: Specific Strategies and Considerations

IV. Q & A and Resources
Setting the Stage: Background
A Comprehensive Crisis Strategy with Essential Components of Local Crisis Responses

**Prevention**
- Preventing people from experiencing future crisis

**Response**
- Providing immediate, short-term assistance to people experiencing a crisis
  - Critical elements that must be incorporated throughout comprehensive crisis systems:
    - Person-centered and strengths-based
    - Community response and peer supports
    - Law enforcement collaboration
    - Trauma-informed care and recovery

**Early Intervention**
- Intervening at the first sign of crisis to reduce long-term impacts

**Post-Response**
- Supporting connections to ongoing services and care following a crisis

- A high-tech 24/7 crisis call center that can connect people with services, provide on-the-spot telehealth support, and coordinate the crisis response network. Reachable through:
  - Dedicated crisis line (e.g., 988)
  - Existing emergency line (e.g., 911) with dedicated response staff

- Round-the-clock mobile crisis team responses that provide services to anyone, anywhere in the community. May include community responders or co-responses with law enforcement.

- Short-term crisis stabilization services that provide intensive treatment and supports in collaboration with emergency departments for people experiencing a behavioral health crisis. This may include crisis stabilization units (CSUs), drop-off centers, or even in-home crisis stabilization.
Diversion with connections to community care and supports

Pre-booking
- Law Enforcement
  - Initial Contact with Law Enforcement
  - Arrest

Post-booking
- Jail
  - Jail Intake
- Pretrial
  - Pretrial Detention
- Court
  - Initial Appearance
  - Dispositional Court

Community-Based Treatment and Support Services

Including, but not limited to:
- Case Management
- Mental Illness Treatment
- Substance Use Treatment
- Supportive Housing
- Vocational and Educational Services
Setting the Stage: American Rescue Plan Overview
American Rescue Plan Overview

- **$1.9 trillion** American Rescue Plan to invest in public health and safety programs and promote stronger, more equitable communities

- **More than $59 billion** can help increase access to health care treatment and services for people in the justice system

- **More than $2 billion** to incentivize states and localities to invest in community crisis systems
Collaboration Based on Public Health and Safety Goals

• Funding from a variety of sources

• Working across communities, systems, sectors, levels of government

• Partner effectively
Presentation Outline: II

I. Setting the Stage: Background and American Rescue Plan Overview

II. Opportunities and Collaboration in Context: Local and State

III. Specific Strategies and Considerations

IV. Q & A and Resources

How ARP Helps Criminal Justice Stakeholders Respond to BH Crises
State and Local Perspectives

Brinda Penyak, Deputy Executive Director, County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania

Steve Allen, Behavioral Health Director, Oregon Health Authority
Presentation Outline: III

I. Setting the Stage: Background and American Rescue Plan Overview

II. Opportunities and Collaboration in Context: Local, State, and National Perspectives

III. Getting Involved: Strategies and Considerations

IV. Q & A and Resources
Getting Involved: Strategies and Considerations

Group Discussion
Essential Strategies for Crisis Care and Diversion

**Strategy 1:** Helping communities build comprehensive crisis response and early diversion systems for people with BH needs

**Strategy 2:** Supporting community-based programs and models to help build a full continuum of care and services post-crisis
Essential Strategies: Considerations and Next Steps

- Review eligible entities
- Determine community needs
- Identify opportunities to represent the needs of the community
- Make connections to share info and join forces

How ARP Helps Criminal Justice Stakeholders Respond to BH Crises
### Key: Strategies & Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Crisis system components</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Crisis Response</td>
<td>24/7 Crisis Call Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Capacity of and Connections to Community Care</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Essential Strategy 1

Strategy 1: Helping communities build comprehensive crisis response and early diversion systems for people with BH needs

Strategy 2: Supporting community-based programs and models to help build a full continuum of care and services post-crisis
## Strategy 1: Relevant Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Source</th>
<th>Strategy &amp; Components</th>
<th>Specific Considerations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State and Local Fiscal Recovery</td>
<td></td>
<td>Talk to local government and explore how all allowable uses could be leveraged, especially for short-term needs exacerbated by pandemic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding for Expansion Grants for Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Explore ways to work with CCBHCs, especially given requirement that they provide mobile crisis services. Identify providers that already qualify as CCBHCs or those that could be eligible to explore partnership opportunities (map of existing CCBHCs in handout).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding for State Planning Grants</td>
<td></td>
<td>Connect locally; make the case to the state Medicaid agency.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Strategy 1: Relevant Funding (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Source</th>
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<th>Specific Considerations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Mental Health Services Block Grant</td>
<td>![Community Mental Health Services Block Grant Icon]</td>
<td>Connect with administering agency in your state/territory to determine how funds will reach local level, esp. with “set aside” (list in handout). Determine how to best access and leverage these funds, making the case for supporting crisis services and early diversion activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding for Expansion Grants for Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs)</td>
<td>![Funding for Expansion Grants for Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs) Icon]</td>
<td>Explore ways to work with CCBHCs, especially given requirement that they provide mobile crisis services. Identify providers that already qualify as CCBHCs or those that could be eligible to explore partnership opportunities (map of existing CCBHCs in handout).</td>
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## Strategy 1: Relevant Funding (final)

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<tr>
<th>Funding Source</th>
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<th>Specific Considerations</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Funding for COVID-19 Testing, Contact Tracing, and Mitigation Activities</td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
<td>Reach out to your local public health department. Explore whether funds can be leveraged to sustain or expand local efforts to divert people with behavioral health needs from incarceration as part of efforts to “mitigate the spread of COVID-19”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
State & Local Reflections

- Brinda Penyak, *Deputy Executive Director, County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania*
- Steve Allen, *Behavioral Health Director, Oregon Health Authority*
National Reflections

• Mark Larson, Senior Vice President, Leadership and Capacity Building, Center for Health Care Strategies
Essential Strategy 2

Strategy 1: Helping communities build comprehensive crisis response and early diversion systems for people with BH needs

Strategy 2: Supporting community-based programs and models to help build a full continuum of care and services post-crisis
### Strategy 2: Relevant Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Source</th>
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<th>Specific Considerations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Funding for Expansion Grants for CCBHCs (repeated)</td>
<td>🏥🚗🌳🍃 🏥🚗🌳🍃</td>
<td>Explore ways to work with CCBHCs as they help expand community access to range of integrated, evidence-based addiction and mental health services. Identify providers that already qualify as CCBHCs or those that could be eligible to explore partnership opportunities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding for Community Health Centers and Community Care</td>
<td>🏥🚗🌳🍃 🏥🚗🌳🍃</td>
<td>Reach out to awardees and identify ways to incorporate into a continuum of services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Strategy 2: Relevant Funding (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Source</th>
<th>Strategy &amp; Components</th>
<th>Specific Considerations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Funding for Community-Based Local Behavioral Health Needs</td>
<td></td>
<td>Collaborate with behavioral health crisis response partners to ensure they apply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding for Community-Based Funding for Local Substance Use Disorder Services</td>
<td></td>
<td>Coordinate with local organizations on applying for harm reduction funding</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Presentation Outline: IV

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III. Getting Involved: Specific Strategies and Considerations

IV. Resources and Q & A
Resources
Taking the Call Conference

• National conference on innovative community responder models

• Register now: https://csgjusticecenter.org/taking-the-call/
Upcoming Webinar on Community Engagement

• Community Engagement: Planning and Ongoing Support for Community Responder Programs

• July 1, 2021, 1:00–2:30 p.m. ET

• Register now: https://csgjusticecenter.org/events/community-engagement-planning-and-ongoing-support-for-community-responder-programs/
Funding Opportunity: Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program

Apply Now!

- Supports cross-system collaboration to improve public safety responses and outcomes for individuals with mental illnesses or co-occurring mental illness and substance use disorders who come into contact with the justice system
- Apply Here: https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/opportunities/o-bja-2021-95004

Informational Webinar

- Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2020
- Time: 3:00-4:30 p.m. ET
- Register now: https://justicecenter.webex.com/justicecenter/onstage/g.php?MTID=e7b5b28b99a355e66f66e1bc82793663f

How ARP Helps Criminal Justice Stakeholders Respond to BH Crises

- Details five actions state policymakers can take to fund and sustain local crisis systems and provides case examples

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021: Guide to Advancing Justice-Related Goals

- Outlines need-to-know information about how state and local leaders can leverage American Rescue Plan funding to advance eight key criminal justice priorities.
Building a Comprehensive and Coordinated Crisis System

- Highlights the continuum of responses and offers guidance for building a system that addresses local needs
New Center to Help Build and Strengthen Justice and Mental Health Partnerships

Free center that offers assistance and resources to jurisdictions to help improve collaborative responses for people in the criminal justice system who have mental illnesses or co-occurring substance use disorders

- Provides on-demand support via request form within three business days
- Assists jurisdictions at varying intensities
- Can include peer connections, consultation with subject matter expert, training, and tailored resources

Visit: [https://csqjusticecenter.org/resources/justice-mh-partnerships-support-center/](https://csqjusticecenter.org/resources/justice-mh-partnerships-support-center/)
Law Enforcement-Mental Health Collaboration Support Center

Free center that provides training, resources, and support to communities wanting to improve their law enforcement responses to people with behavioral health conditions or intellectual and developmental disabilities

• Offers on-demand support via request form
• Responds to requests in three business days
• Provides light, moderate, and intensive assistance
• Includes training, peer connections, and subject matter expert connections

Visit: https://csgjusticecenter.org/resources/le-mh-collaboration-support-center/

Photo courtesy of Matt Popovich via Unsplash
Questions and Answers
Thank You!

Join our distribution list to receive updates and announcements:

https://csgjusticecenter.org/resources/newsletters/

For more information please contact Alex Blandford at ablandford@csg.org

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