

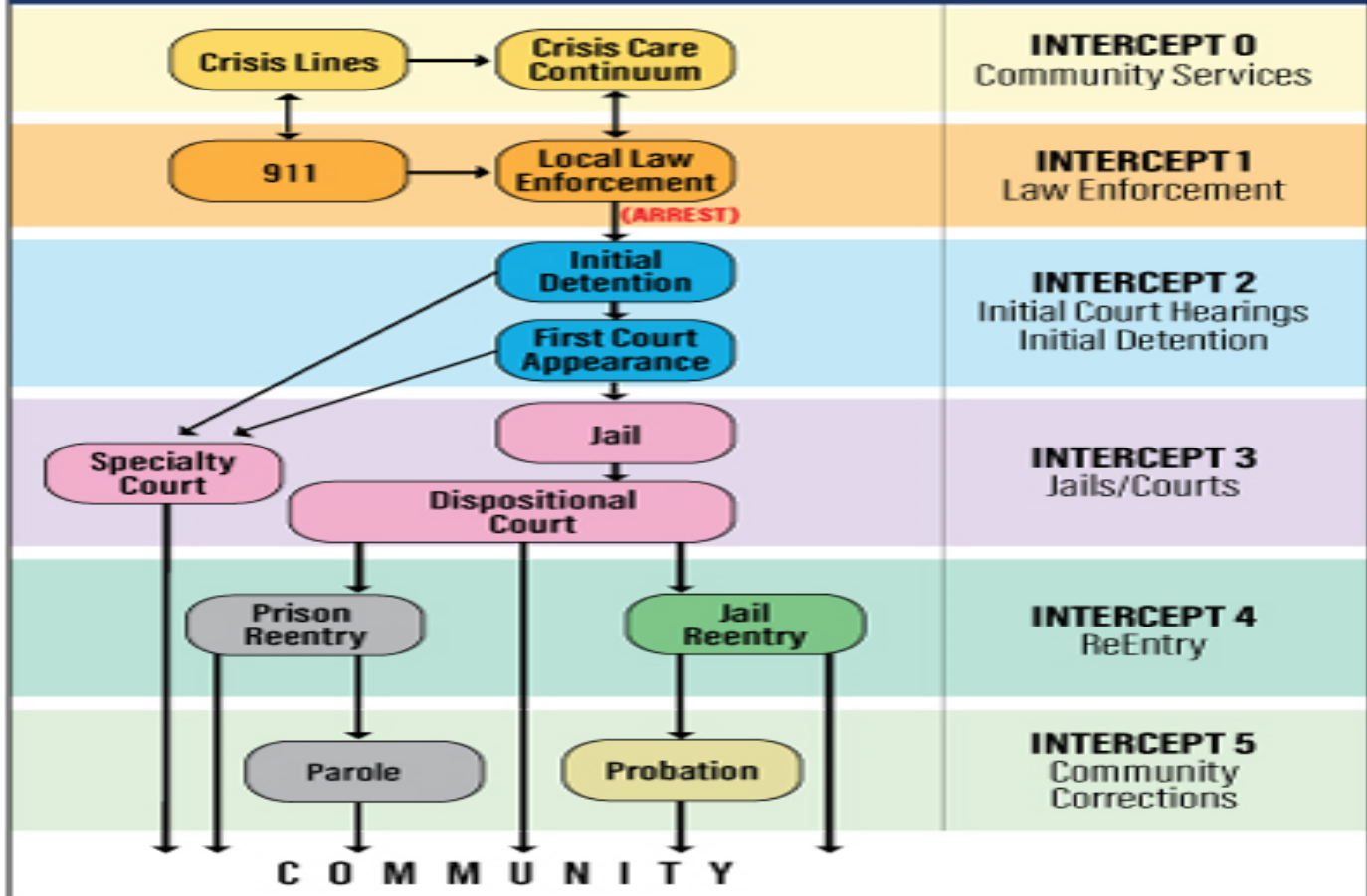
An Introduction to the Sequential Intercept Model (SIM)



Tyler Hightower, MD, MPH, DFAPA

SAMHSA'S GAINS CENTER

C O M M U N I T Y



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SIM

- Developed by Munetz, & Griffin, 2006
- Details how individuals with mental and substance use disorders, encounter and move through the judicial system
- Identify resources and gaps in services at each intercept
- Strategy to reduce the population of persons who suffer with severe mental illnesses, who are involved with the criminal justice system

SIM: Intercept 0

- With adequately available crisis services, persons could be diverted from criminal justice
 - Supported housing & employment
 - Assistance acquiring benefits
 - Integrated dual diagnosis programs, primary and behavioral health care
- Connected to treatment in lieu of court involvement (e.g., arrests)
- Mobile Crisis teams, Peer Outreach, ER triage, specialty trained police officers, and 9-8-8 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

SIM: Intercept 1

- Law Enforcement and Emergency Services
- Trained 911 dispatchers
- Police decide whether to arrest or divert to crisis mental health services
- Through specialized law enforcement approaches (CIT, multidisciplinary response teams) persons can be diverted
- Frequent ER/911 users: divert & follow-up after

SIM: Intercept 2

- Initial Detention and Initial Court Hearings
- Mental health & substance use assessments
- Prosecutorial discretion to refer to diversion strategies, or programs
- Court clinicians
- Pretrial specialized probation services

SIM: Intercept 3

- Jails and the Courts
- In-Jail services: MAT, medications, programming
- Specialty Courts: mental health, substance use, veterans' treatment
- Connecting to community mental health providers

SIM: Intercept 4

- Reentry, from jail or prison
- Attention to planned re-entry services
 - Medicaid status
 - In-reach services
 - Link to aftercare services
- Warm handoff
 - treatment data, from corrections to community providers
 - Case managers to assist with accessing treatment, services

SIM: Intercept 5

- Community corrections
- Specialized case loads
- Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)
- Link to community support services
 - Housing, employment
- Crisis planning
 - Mental health and substance use treatment

SIM: Intercept 5

- Common Goal: Prevent recidivism
- Similar
 - Monitor with regular contact
 - Link with indicated services
- Different
 - Patient advocate as compared to duty to public, court
 - Focus on reducing symptoms whereas it's public safety
 - Subject to privacy rules, care standards versus court orders, release conditions

Other Programs: Stepping Up

- stepuptogether.org
- Launched in 2015
- National partnership between Council of State Governments Justice Center, National Association of Counties, and APA Foundation
- Focused interventions at the county level
- Goal to reduce overincarceration of people with mental illness

SIM Summary

- Screening and assessment occurs at every intersection of the intercepts.
- Advocacy, for persons who suffer with mental illness and/or substance use disorders, and subsequently encounter the criminal justice, is needed. Advocacy for marginalized and/or minority (ethnicity, racial, cultural, etc.) populations is essential.
- Interventions should include not just treatment, but support services and other social determinants of health.

Resources

- Munetz & Griffin (2006). Use of the Sequential Intercept Model as an Approach to Decriminalization of People with Serious Mental Illness. *Psychiatric Services*, 57(4), 544-549.
- The Sequential Intercept Model: Advancing Community-Based Solutions for Justice-Involved People with Mental and Substance Use Disorders[Brochure]. (2018). Retrieved from <https://www.prainc.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/PRA-SIM-Letter-Paper-2018.pdf>

Resources

- Bazzi, L et al (2021). *Mental Health Professionals' Guide to Their Role in the Criminal Justice System*. (1st Edition). American Psychiatric Association Foundation.