

Strengthening Behavioral Health Partnerships:

Developing Community Pathways in Parole

Presented to:

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Conference**

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Objectives

- Participants will understand the **importance of relationships** between community partners and public safety agencies.
- Participants will understand ways in which the **Community Pathways** approach has positively **supported reentry** efforts in Massachusetts.
- Participants will identify next steps **for implementing a community partnership program** within your agency.

Massachusetts Parole Overview (1)

- In addition to the MA Parole Board Members, there are four units:
 - Transitional Services Unit (TSU)
 - Field Services Division (FSD)
 - Victim Services Unit (VSU)
 - Life Sentence Unit (LSU)
- 2022 data shows that over 3,008 face-to-face hearings were conducted
- There was a 14% increase in the number of incarcerated individuals released on parole supervision in 2022 (1,876)

Massachusetts Parole Overview (2)

- Since 2021, the total number of individuals under parole supervision increased 8%
- Revocations decreased 15%; 76% of parole discharges were successful
- TSU paroling rate increased to 69% in 2022
- Field Parole Officers assisted 653 parolees with transitional or sober housing in 2022 (an increase of 8%)
- At the end of 2022, there were 1,835 individuals on parole supervision

What is the Community Pathways Program? (1)

- The Parole Recovery Opportunity (PRO): Community Pathways Program develops channels for the enhanced delivery of care to individuals with a substance use disorder (SUD) and mental health disorders who are reentering the community under Massachusetts Parole Board (Parole) supervision.
- The Program works to increase communication, relationship building, and connectedness between Parole staff, supervised individuals, and community providers.
- The Program maximizes resources available to Parole Officers while improving positive health outcomes, community tenure, and success.

What is the Community Pathways Program? (2)

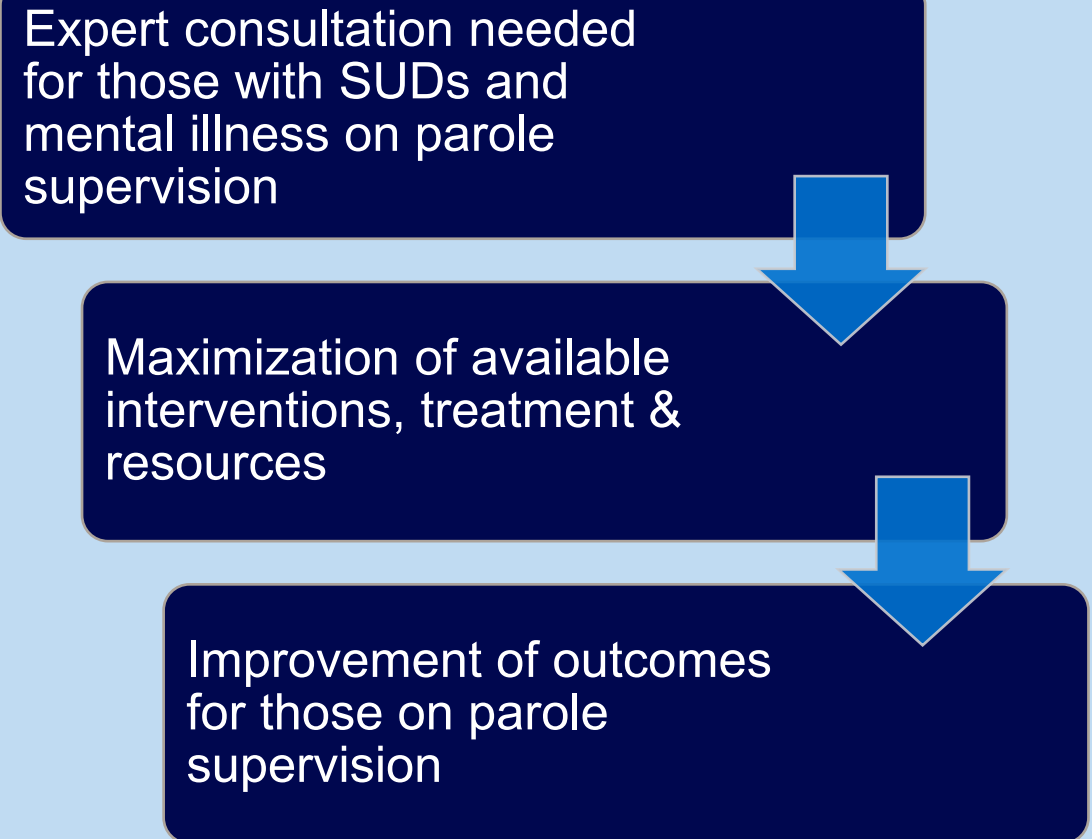
The Program develops channels for the enhanced delivery of care to individuals with substance use and other behavioral health disorders reentering the community.



Why is this Important?

- Benefit to individuals on supervision by effectively providing appropriate treatment responses, resources, and interventions
- Benefit to Parole Officers by supporting them as they seek to find behavioral health services for their members
- The Program will improve positive outcomes and the lives of the individuals

Expert consultation needed for those with SUDs and mental illness on parole supervision



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graph TD; A[Expert consultation needed for those with SUDs and mental illness on parole supervision] --> B[Maximization of available interventions, treatment & resources]; B --> C[Improvement of outcomes for those on parole supervision];
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Maximization of available interventions, treatment & resources

Improvement of outcomes for those on parole supervision

Community Pathways Timeline



Components of the Program

Training provided to all Parole staff

- All Parole staff have access to and attend training specifically geared towards education around SUD/Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD), the intersection of behavioral health and justice involvement, and developing skills to work with supervised individuals in a supportive, balanced, and appropriately responsive way.

Provide education and connection to community-based MOUD and mental health providers

- Increased support for the Parole Board staff is available through an array of pathways, including improved communication with community-based organizations and enhanced clinical and pharmaceutical consultation, bolstered by the support and reinforcement of Reentry Navigators rooted within Parole.

Clinical consultation available to Parole staff

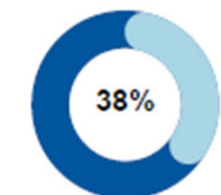
- Clinical and pharmaceutical consultation for Parole staff working with incarcerated individuals, in varying stages of parole eligibility.

What Does Progress Look Like?

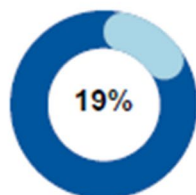
COMMUNITY PATHWAYS

2024 Key Metrics and Overview

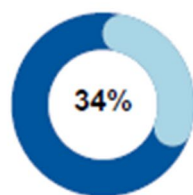
Areas of Consultation



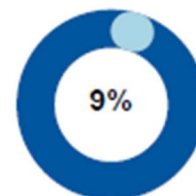
OUTREACH &
COLLABORATION



PHARMACEUTICAL
CONSULTATION



CLINICAL
CONSULTATION
AND RE-ENTRY
SUPPORT



RESOURCE DISTRIBUTION
& EDUCATION

155+

Direct medical provider
connections

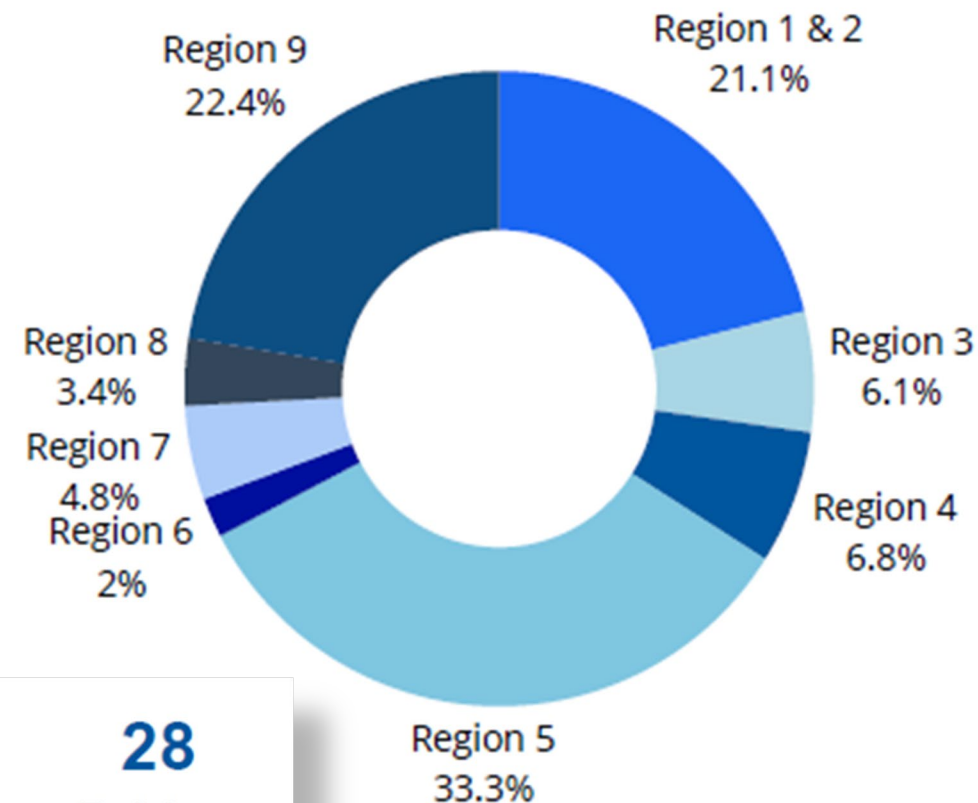
31

Tours and on-site
collaborations

28

Trainings
Completed

Parole Regions Serviced



Ongoing Support



Monthly trainings



Community roundtables



Case Reviews



SPIRIT access



Region-specific resource booklets



Newsletter



Pharmacological one-pagers



Clinical consultation



Pharmaceutical consultation

Questions? Please Contact Us!

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Thank You