

Justice, Health, & Equity

Capabilities Overview

forHealth[™]
CONSULTING
at UMass Chan
Medical School

Individuals involved in the criminal legal system have disproportionately higher rates of health problems.

ForHealth Consulting[™] at UMass Chan Medical School's services bring cost-effective, quality healthcare to prisons so individuals can receive the care they deserve—and continuity of it upon return to their communities so that their healthcare needs are still covered.



Better Access

Everyone deserves quality healthcare. Yet historically marginalized populations, including those involved in the legal system, have had limited healthcare access, both inside facilities and in the community where they're released.

MEDICAID INMATE EXCLUSION POLICY / 1115 WAIVER

The Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy prevents state Medicaid agencies from providing benefits to correctional facility residents while incarcerated and in the period before their release. We partnered with one state on applying for an 1115 waiver to include a pre-release request up to 90 days prior to community reentry and ensure access to care providers and medications upon their release.

The waiver aims to improve continuity of care after release; address racial and health inequities in youth and adult systems; leverage Medicaid financing for correctional healthcare services; and improve the public health response.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH FOR JUSTICE-INVOLVED INDIVIDUALS (BH-JI)

In 2019, ForHealth Consulting, along with a variety of community partners and sponsoring agencies, collaborated with the Massachusetts Medicaid (MassHealth) program in the development of the MassHealth Behavioral Health Supports for Justice-Involved Individuals (BH-JI) intervention. Using in-reach pre-release from correctional institutions and navigator services in the community post-release, this initiative worked to improve health outcomes, reduce fatal overdoses, and demonstrate efficient healthcare utilization for justice-involved individuals. Since inception, the program has enrolled and positively impacted 3,900+ individuals.

Better Knowledge

ForHealth Consulting works to advance the science and practice of healthcare for individuals and groups within the criminal legal system.

ACADEMIC CONSORTIUM ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE HEALTH

The Academic Consortium on Criminal Justice Health (ACCJH) advances health research, training, and care for justice-involved populations. ACCJH members benefit from an academic community that conducts breakthrough research in correctional

healthcare, and develops and promotes a broader view of the relationships between community and justice-involved healthcare.

The annual ACCJH Conference is an interdisciplinary event that highlights emerging research and policy across the justice field and brings together researchers, clinicians, public health experts, justice partners, and policymakers. ACCJH aims to improve evidence-based practices and policies to advance the health of justice-involved populations.

Better Performance

As an established leader in the field, we have advocated and worked for equitable, high-quality, and cost-effective correctional healthcare for over 20 years. Our clinical team manages direct patient care in hospital and healthcare settings, while operational and financial teams offer access to medical providers and manage claiming activities with those providers.

COMPREHENSIVE CARE FOR INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS

ForHealth Consulting's team has provided comprehensive medical services to over 6,500 Federal Bureau of Prisons (FBOP) inmates since 1998. Our off-site network providers annually perform over 20,000 medically necessary and appropriate healthcare services for individuals in FBOP custody nationwide, while our on-site providers deliver almost 40,000 hours of care in a variety of specialties.

COMMUNITY PATHWAYS

ForHealth Consulting provides expertise and skills training to the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security to assist with working with individuals involved with the parole system experiencing substance use and behavioral health issues. We provide subject matter expertise, coordination of training and materials, mental health professionals, and a seasoned pharmacist. This clinical team helps improve connections to local health resources to keep individuals thriving in the community.

Why Choose ForHealth Consulting?

We leverage world-class expertise and deep experience to create transformational solutions across the health and human services system, from payment and financing to clinical practice and information management. We know that to make healthcare truly equitable, effective, and accessible, we need to address every aspect of the system—how we pay for it, how we manage information, and how we deliver quality care to everyone.

Most of all, we believe in diversity and inclusion, and the power of a shared purpose; together, we can make healthcare better. Better for all of us.

CONTACT:

Dyana Nickl
Deputy Managing Director, Health & Equity
Tel: 508-793-1263
Email: Dyana.Nickl@umassmed.edu

Meaghan Dupuis
Executive Director, Justice, Health, & Equity
Tel: 781-883-5490
Email: Meaghan.Dupuis@umassmed.edu