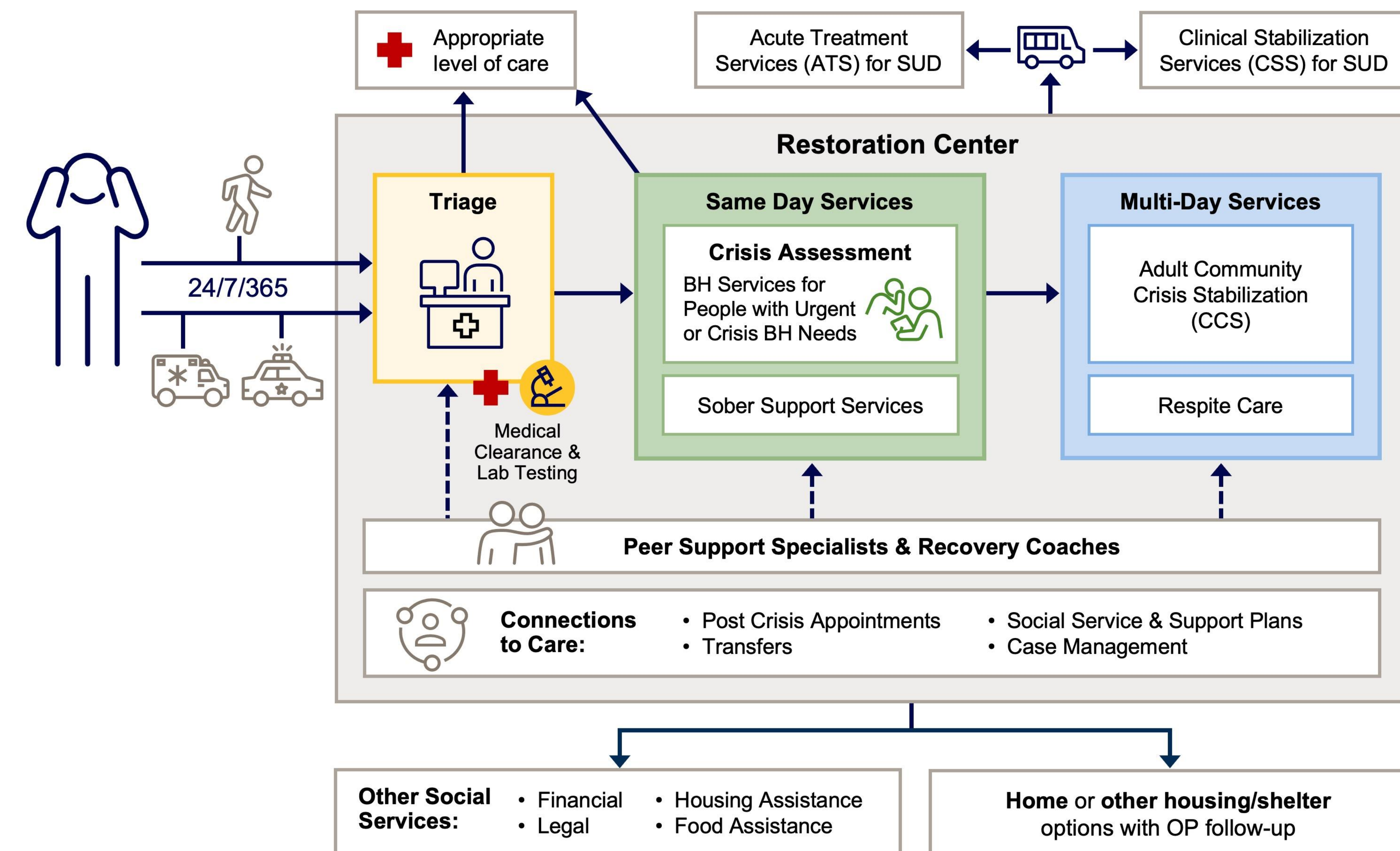


Building and Sustaining Collaboration for the Restoration Center of Middlesex County, MA

Challenge: More than half of individuals incarcerated at the Middlesex Jail and House of Correction have a diagnosed mental illness, and 92% of individuals diagnosed with mental health conditions in this population have a history of substance use. Lowell saw two times the rate of substance-use related ER visits compared to statewide.

Solution: Develop a model, via a multi-stakeholder Commission, for diversionary behavioral healthcare that builds upon the state's Community Behavioral Health Centers and expands the continuum of care to reduce unnecessary emergency department visits and further criminal legal system involvement.

- 2018
 - Commission established, surveyed police departments, and gathered data
 - Commission visited restoration/crisis stabilization centers across the country
- 2019
 - Commission led gaps and needs analysis, collected data, and defined the target population
- 2020
 - Commission developed and refined Restoration Center service model
 - Commission subcommittees on data, transportation, service provision, and location created
- 2021
 - Commission established a procurement subcommittee which developed and issued a Request for Responses (RFR) from service providers
- 2022
 - Commission identified opportunities to align with state-wide behavioral health roadmap
 - Commission posted RFR, no responses received; held listening sessions to revise RFR
- 2023
 - Commission selected vendor to aid in communications, funding, and stakeholder support
 - Commission re-issued RFR and selected vendor to operate Restoration Center
- 2024
 - Vendor secured location and developed program descriptions and floor plan
- 2025
 - Care coordination and mobile respite services began
 - Commission working groups on evaluation, sober support unit, and sustainability created
- 2026 – 2028: Services provided, evaluation conducted, and replicability plans developed



Keys to Success:

- Building a coalition of leaders and supporters across fields and engaging regularly
- Identifying and supporting legislative champions
- Understanding and complementing state-wide behavioral health initiatives to advance access to better care for all community members
- Leveraging existing frameworks and models, within the state and across the country

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Scan here to
learn more
about the
Commission
and Restoration
Center:



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