



**MAYOR'S MENTAL HEALTH TASK FORCE MONITORING COMMITTEE
ACTION PLAN/STATUS REPORT
CRIMINAL JUSTICE INTERFACE
March 2008**

CHAIR: Judge Nancy Hohengarten

Collaborating Entities: Austin Travis County Mental Health Jail Diversion Committee, Mental Health Providers, Courts and Court Personnel, Criminal Justice Organizations, Advocacy Organizations

A. FORM A WORKING GROUP OF STAKEHOLDERS

MMHTF INDICATORS: H9, T4, J2, J6, T7, J9, J7, J3, J8, J10, J4, T5, J5, E5

TARGET DATE: 7/06

STATUS: COMPLETE

ACTIVITIES:

- Formation of Austin Travis County Mental Health Jail Diversion Committee

B. DEVELOP A NEW UNIFORM ASSESSMENT TOOL FOR IDENTIFICATION OF INDIVIDUALS APPROPRIATE FOR DIVERSION

MMHTF INDICATORS: H9, T4, J2, J6, T7, J9, J7, J3, J8, J10, J4, T5, J5, E5

TARGET DATES: 12/2007

STATUS: PARTIALLY COMPLETE

ACTIVITIES:

- TCSO Assessment Process re-vamped and funded to parallel ATCMHMR Assessment Process
- Travis County selected as Beta 2 Testing Site for Cost Simulation Tool – examining assessment processes
- Travis County selected as NIC Learning Site – examining assessment processes
- Cross Training on Assessment processes between ATCMHMR and TCSO

C. IDENTIFY EXISTING JAIL DIVERSION PROGRAMS TO WHICH PERSONS CAN BE REFERRED

MMHTF INDICATORS: H9, T4, J2, J6, T7, J9, J7, J3, J8, J10, J4, T5, J5, E5

TARGET DATES: 3/08

STATUS: PARTIALLY COMPLETE

ACTIVITIES:

- MMHTFMC Behavioral Health Service System Mapping Report
- Beta 2 Testing of Cost Simulation Tool – examining service availability
- NIC Learning Site – examining service availability
- Project Recovery
- APD Cadet Mental Health Training Program
- Mental Health Reduction Docket in Misdemeanor Courts
- Specialized Mental Health Case Load for Judge Kocurek in District Court
- Implementation of Mental Health Public Defender Office

D. DEVELOP PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

MMHTF INDICATORS: H9, T4, J2, J6, T7, J9, J7, J3, J8, J10, J4, T5, J5, E5

TARGET DATES: 12/2007

STATUS: PARTIALLY COMPLETE

ACTIVITIES:

- MMHTFMC Behavioral Health Service System Mapping Report
- Beta 2 Testing of Cost Simulation Tool – examining eligibility
- NIC Learning Site – examining service eligibility

E. DEVELOP PSYCHIATRIC ER OR TRIAGE CENTER

MMHTF INDICATORS: H9, T4, J2, J6, T7, J1, T1

TARGET DATES: 12/2007

STATUS: Progressing

ACTIVITIES:

- Travis County Stakeholder Group examining mental health crisis services
- Travis County Health Care District Mental Health Crisis Services : Stakeholder Process and Plan, 12/2006
- Establishment of Mobile Crisis Outreach Team
- Expansion of Bed Capacity for Indigent Clients at Seton/Shoal Creek Hospital

F. DEVELOP A DIVISION OF DA AND CA OFFICES WITH SPECIALIST PROSECUTORS

MHTF INDICATORS: H9, T4, J2, J6, T7, J9, J7, J3, J8, J10, J4, T5, J5, E5

TARGET DATES: 10/2007

STATUS: PARTIALLY COMPLETE

ACTIVITIES:

- Complete as to the County Attorney's Office
- Recommendation in 2007 Report with regard to establishment of specialization at the District Attorney's Office

G. DEVELOP SPECIALIZED STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS JUVENILE DEFENDERS WITH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ISSUES

MMHTF INDICATORS: H9, T4, J2, J6, T7, J9, J7, J3, J8, J10, J4, T5, J5, E5

TARGET DATES: 7/07

STATUS: COMPLETE

ACTIVITIES:

- Receipt of federal funding for development of a Juvenile Mental Health Court, 10/06
- Implementation of a new assessment tool
- TCOOMMI Program
- Co-location of MHMR

See Also Schools/Youth Information Section of the Third Annual Report

H. DEVELOP A MENTAL HEALTH PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE

MMHTF INDICATORS: H9, T4, J2, J6, T7, J9, J7, J3, J8, J10, J4, T5, J5, E5

TARGET DATES: 1/07

STATUS: COMPLETE

ACTIVITIES: Contract approved, positions funded and posted and office space found and equipped.

I. DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A SUBSET OF HIGHLY TRAINED JUDGES OR MENTAL HEALTH COURT

MMHTF INDICATORS: H9, T4, J2, J6, T7, J9, J7, J3, J8, J10, J4, T5, J5, E5

TARGET DATES: Ongoing

ACTIVITIES:

- Training and site visit for specialized felony court judges
- Mental Health Reduction Docket in misdemeanor courts

J. RESEARCH COMMUNITY STANDARDS RELATED TO JAIL DIVERSION EFFORTS AND OTHER COMMUNITY APPROACHES AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NEW APPROACHES IN TRAVIS COUNTY

MMHTF INDICATORS: H9, T4, J2, J6, T7, T5, J5, E5

TARGET DATES: 12/2007

STATUS: PARTIALLY COMPLETE

ACTIVITIES:

- Site Visit by Community Stakeholders to Dallas County Jail Diversion programs
- Cost Simulation Tool – examining best practices and making recommendations about compatible models
- Learning Site – examining best practices and making recommendations about compatible models
- MMHTFMC attendance and presentation at National CIT Conference
- Site Visit to Bexar County, Texas to investigate jail diversion efforts