

LAW ENFORCEMENT REQUEST FOR JAIL DIVERSION SCREENING

Law enforcement agencies may obtain a jail diversion screening for an individual pre-booking or post-booking 24 hours/7 days a week by contacting the local community mental health center (CMH) and providing a minimal amount of information to request a jail diversion screening for the individual of concern. Pre-booking may occur at a CMHSP site during working hours; at the emergency room of the local hospital or at the jail before booking. Pre-booking diversion candidates become voluntary consumers of mental health services, and no follow-up is required between CMHSP and law enforcement. Post-booking jail diversion screening will follow the process below:

- If the individual is currently an open consumer, the screening will be coordinated by the clinician working with the individual. During business hours, the clinician will meet with the inmate. A jail diversion contact note with the CMH recommendations will be submitted to the law enforcement personnel who requested the screening within three (3) days excluding Sundays and legal holidays.
- If the individual is not currently a consumer of CMH: A jail diversion screening will be conducted face to face by CMH staff when requested by law enforcement. NorthCare Access will review the screening for eligibility for mental health services. This process has been streamlined in the electronic medical record system and a response from CMH will be available within 48 hours after the NorthCare Access review. (See attached Jail Diversion Flow Chart for details).
- A release of information from the inmate with voluntary consent to the information being released from the screening and ongoing documentation related to the screening is required to allow information to be exchanged by CMHSP and the law enforcement agency.

LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE TO CMH RECOMMENDATIONS

Law enforcement personnel and CMH and the individual will consult as needed during this process. Law enforcement will notify CMH as to whether or not the individual has been diverted. The contact note may be returned to CMH with additional court documents or any other form of correspondence that has the date of the decision, the decision whether or not to divert and any conditions of diversion.

- If the individual is an open consumer, the clinician and consumer will set an appointment at the earliest time available.
- If diversion is granted by the court and the individual being diverted is a new consumer to CMH, CMH staff and NorthCare Access will set an appointment for an assessment within 14 days of being released into the community.

ATTACHMENTS

- Post Booking Jail Diversion Flow Chart for individual not open to CMH
- Sample of the Contact Note from CMH to Law Enforcement