



Stepping Up Program

Stepping Up Process to End Recidivism
SUPER



Community Partners Presentation
January 31, 2017



History

National initiative to reduce the number of persons with mental illness in jails. Sponsored by National Association of Counties (NACo), American Psychiatric Association Foundation, and the Council of State Governments Justice Center.

Each county was asked to pass a resolution to reduce the number of people with mental illness in county jail, commit to sharing lessons learned with other counties in their state and the country to support a national initiative and encourage all county officials, employees, and residents to participate in Stepping Up.

As of January 2017, 323 counties have passed resolutions including 28 counties in NC.

Forsyth County

- Forsyth County adopted the resolution in April 2015.
- Steering Committee formed late 2015.
- Planning Committee formed in early 2016 of community stakeholders (county, state, advocates, judicial).
- Core Team was formed to perform most of legwork.

Forsyth County

- Each core team member brought a different set of tools & skills to the table – data mining/research, familiarity with criminal justice and mental health systems intersection, budget and program development, and policy/political knowledge.
- The Core Team familiarized selves with the National SU information, met weekly & agreed on process before we presented to the planning committee.
- Convened stakeholders to discuss initiative three times in early 2016.
- On May 13, 2016 the first action/pilot project was voted on by the Planning Committee, endorsed by the Steering Committee, and forwarded to County Commissioners for approval.

SUPER Women

- ❖ Randomly selected 15 women from a day in May 2016
- ❖ Smaller, more homogeneous population
- ❖ Taking 2 to 4 different psychotropic medications
- ❖ Most were unemployed – those employed or self-employed in low wage jobs
- ❖ Special Education involvement
- ❖ Victimization experiences
- ❖ Past suicide attempts
- ❖ History of hospitalization, rehabilitation or outpatient day treatment
- ❖ Majority are single
- ❖ High # of “Failure to Comply” type charges

Stepping Up Process to End Recidivism

- ★ Integrated SUPPORT for criminal justice involved women.
- ★ Focus is on mental health and substance use population.
- ★ Individualized discharge or transition plans created for participants.
- ★ Integrated support model that addresses & prioritizes support needs including: Mental health/substance use treatments, Educational/vocational opportunities, Housing, Medical care, Financial resources, and/or Sociocultural supports.
- ★ “Warm Handoff” to support and assist SUPER participants with getting services post-release.
- ★ SU Team helps participants navigate various prioritized post-release needs.
- ★ Program intended to provide a less stressful community reentry.

Entrance Criteria

- ✓ Females only.
- ✓ Must be a Forsyth County resident.
- ✓ Must have a mental health and/or substance use disorder.
- ✓ Preference is for those currently detained in Forsyth County Detention Center.
- ✓ Preference given to misdemeanor and nonviolent charges. All other charges will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- ✓ Program is voluntary unless it is a condition of a court-ordered jail diversion.

Program Requirements

1. Complete and sign discharge/transition plan.
2. Check-in weekly with SUPER staff.
3. Follow requirements of all treatment and agency providers.
4. Be actively working on meeting and completing discharge/transition plan target dates.
5. Remain free of any new charges.
6. Refrain from use of illegal or problem substances.

Goals

Reduce recidivism

The SUPER program will realize a 75% reduction in recidivism by SUPER participant.

Increase quality of life by linkage to resources

100% of SUPER program participants will have a discharge plan completed upon release from Detention Center.

25% of SUPER program participants will be successfully referred to and accepted by Mental Health Court.

Graduate within a year

75% of SUPER program participants will graduate within one year of release from Detention Center and become a "SUPERWOMAN."



Female
booked into
detention



Referral made
to SUPER



SUPER
screening



YES



SUPER
Discharge/
Transition
Plan created



Connected
to
Community
Partners



No



Use current process
through system. Will
receive resource list.

SUPER Process

Referrals will be identified by jail intake, jail MH staff, and security.

Participants will be screened using:

1. **TCU Drug Screen V (TCUDS V)** for substance use and
2. **Modified Mini Screen (MMS)** for mental health.

Participants will complete a Transition/Discharge plan adapted from Transition from Jail to Community (TJC) model.

The goal is to share the transition/discharge plan with all agencies the participant is referred.

SUPER Process

Aim is to use a **reciprocal release** with all identified referral agencies. Goal is to encourage interagency communication to better assist participants and encourage accountability. *Release currently under review by County Attorney's office.

Program will assist with warm hand-off to services and community resources.
A Peer Support Specialist will be hired once we have participants.

Will have weekly check-in with participants to assess progress on transition plan goals.

Hope is participants will graduate within a year.

We will begin accepting referrals 2/6/17



Forsyth County THE **STEPPING UP** INITIATIVE

**Are you a SUPER Woman?
Do you want to be a SUPER Woman?**

Stepping Up Process to End Recidivism - SUPER
Is a pilot project geared towards women with
mental health and/or substance issues.

- ★ Screen for mental health and/or substance use issues.
- ★ Develop a detailed discharge or transition plan from jail.
- ★ Link to identified resources prior to release from jail.
- ★ Provide a warm handoff to identified resources once released from jail.
- ★ Be a support once in the community, following program participants for one year post-release.

For more information, please contact Amber Humble at 336-703-2606 or ask to be referred.

Any Questions?

Will you partner with us?

We anticipate that your agencies are where we will be referring participants to meet their individual needs.

Stepping Up asks for collaboration, coordination, communication, and commitment.

Stepping Up asks that we work together to help each participant. It really does “take a village.”

Stepping Up’s goal is to move toward culture change, better data-sharing, and better communication to better assist our shared clients.

Next Steps?

Would you like to meet again?

Frequency?

Purpose of the group?

Thank you for your time and attention!

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For more information visit:

steppingup.forsyth.cc
<https://stepuptogether.org>