Mental Health Assessments

The Dallas County Criminal Justice Department currently manages the Crisis Services Project (CSP) that works to ensure all Dallas County jail inmates with a suspected or confirmed mental health diagnosis are identified, assessed, and have coordinated care to community-based services when released. In particular, the CSP project currently provides triage, mental health assessments, and care coordination for persons considered for Mental Health PR Bonds. The CSP also provides mental health assessments at the request of courts and attorneys.

Adapt Community Solutions (ACS) is the current vendor the Criminal Justice Department utilizes to complete mental health assessments for defendants both in jail and out on bond. This is helpful for providing further information on the defendant's needs and recommendations for community-based treatment.

Send referrals to ACS1115Referrals@adapt.us

Jail Release Care Coordination

The Dallas County Criminal Justice Department works to coordinate warm hand-off releases from jail to community-based services through partnership and collaboration with the courts, attorneys, and treatment providers.

The Dallas County Criminal Justice Department has partnered with the North Texas Behavioral Health Authority (NTBHA) Living Room for all coordinated jail releases. The Living Room is a place where individuals can be triaged for service needs, such as access to medication, connection to a treatment provider, assistance with securing housing or shelter placement, restarting benefits, etc.

If you need assistance with a coordinated jail release, please email CJReleases@dallascounty.org

Housing (FUSE Project)

The Frequent Users System Enhancement (FUSE) grant project focuses on assisting frequent jail utilizers who self-report homelessness to secure housing support and wrap-around services with a local shelter partner. This is a collaborative partnership with the Bridge, Austin Street Shelter, the Salvation Army, City Square, and the Dallas County Criminal Justice Department.

Send referrals to CJReleases@dallascounty.org

Pretrial Diversion Assessment

The Criminal Justice Department provides risk/needs assessments for first-time felony offenders who are eligible for case diversion in order to recommend appropriate treatment and refer to pre-trial diversion specialty courts and programs.

Send referrals to JailDiversion@dallascounty.org

Dallas County Specialty Courts

Dallas County has a variety of both pre and post-adjudicated specialty courts. The primary goal of a specialty court is to aid the defendant in diverting his/her criminal cases from the traditional legal system in order to provide resources and treatment for the participant. The Dallas County Criminal Justice Department provides and offers support to the various certified specialty courts. The Criminal Justice Department also manages grant programs and funding that can aid in providing funding for treatment for participants

For further information regarding the Dallas County specialty court programs or for information on potential funding for a participant, please email specialtycourts@dallascounty.org

Opioid Response

The Dallas County Criminal Justice Department provides screenings and assessments for defendants with an opioid use disorder, in order to help link the defendant to treatment in the communication and where applicable, to link to Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT). This can also include initiating MAT in the Dallas County Jail through collaboration with Parkland Jail Health.

Send referrals to JailDiversion@dallascounty.org

Competency Coordination and Assistance

The Criminal Justice Department has designated staff who focus on competency coordination and its various involved programs. This encompasses assistance in navigating the competency process from the concern that the individual may potentially be incompetent to stand trial through competency restoration. This work includes tracking, connecting, and coordinating with the court systems to ensure defendants are appropriately connected to obtain competency restoration either on an inpatient or outpatient basis.

For further information regarding the competency process or to request for assistance, please email competency@dallascounty.org

Need Further Assistance?

For any questions or requests for assistance regarding a defendant with mental health needs please email CJD MHUnit@dallascounty.org.