

Overview and Application

Introduction

We are excited to announce the launch of the Texas Pre-Arrest Diversion Learning Collaborative. The Learning Collaborative is sponsored by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) Office of Forensic Coordination and will be implemented by Rulo Strategies, in partnership with the Texas Institute for Excellence in Mental Health, University of Texas at Austin.

The purpose of this learning collaborative is to bring together local teams of at least two people, one representing local law enforcement and one representing the local mental health or behavioral health authority, to participate in a planning process to develop pre-arrest diversion opportunities in their communities. The focus of this collaborative are programs that occur in intercepts 0-1 on the Sequential Intercept Model. Examples of pre-arrest diversion programs could include, but are not limited to, crisis intervention teams, law enforcement and behavioral health co-responder models, Mental Health Deputy

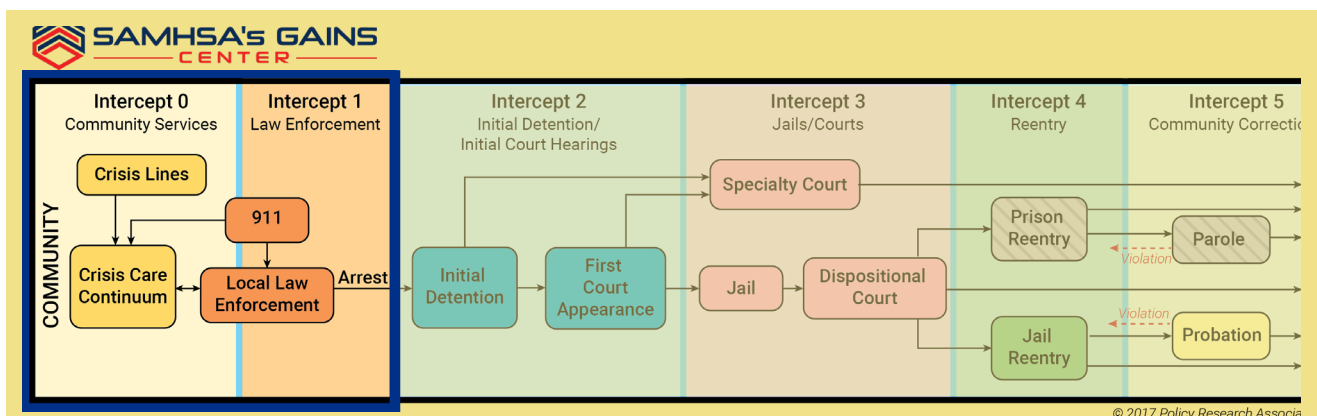
programs, embedded clinicians in 911 call centers, crisis triage centers/diversion centers, and peer respite centers.

Teams will be selected to participate in the learning collaborative through a competitive application process. If selected, the project teams will participate in a 9-month learning collaborative which includes onsite and virtual learning opportunities, virtual peer-to-peer mentoring, assistance identifying funding opportunities, and site-specific implementation assistance.

Benefits of Participating

Each team selected will have the opportunity to:

- Map local and regional assets that can be leveraged to support diversion.
- Explore the implementation of evidence-informed diversion strategies in diverse settings.
- Define, in writing, your target population for diversion.



- Access sample policies and procedures.
- Network with operational diversion programs throughout the United States.
- Identify strategies to engage different sectors (e.g., law enforcement, child welfare, prosecutors, defense attorneys, probation, judges, public health, behavioral health) to align efforts more effectively.
- Build a roadmap for local implementation, including operational and staffing planning.
- Develop a funding strategy that explores local, state and federal resources to support the implementation of the roadmap.

This is not a grant opportunity. We will discuss grant funding, but no grant funding will be provided to support implementation.

Time Commitment

It is important to review the time commitment associated with participating in this initiative to determine if the Pre-Arrest Diversion Learning Collaborative initiative is the right fit for your community at this time. A sample of the time commitment is detailed below.

Attendance Requirements

Attendance at all sessions is expected. Excused absences are allowed, but you cannot miss more than one session during the project period. The regional kick-off session is mandatory as it serves as a foundation for the initiative. A virtual kick-off session may be offered in lieu of in-person attendance if there are major scheduling conflicts. If the applicant does not attend the virtual or in-person kick-off session, they may not be eligible to remain in the Pre-Arrest Diversion Learning Collaborative.

Month	Time Commitment
August 2023*	Regional kick-offs (one full day - 8 hours); 1 hour pre-work
September 2023	1.5 hour virtual call; 1 hour homework
October 2023	1.5 hour virtual call; 1 hour homework
November 2023	1.5 hour virtual call; 1 hour homework
January 2024	1.5 hour virtual call; 1 hour homework
February 2024	1.5 hour virtual call; 1 hour homework
March 2024	1.5 hour virtual call; 1 hour homework
April 2024	1.5 hour virtual call; 1 hour homework
May 2024	1.5 hour virtual call; 1 hour homework

*Regional kick-offs will occur during the weeks of August 21st and August 28th. Exact dates and locations TBD. You will be asked to select dates in the application.



Required Team Composition

Each Pre-Arrest Diversion Learning Collaborative Team must, at a minimum, consist of one representative from a local law enforcement agency and one representative from the local behavioral or mental health authority. Applicants are encouraged to include additional team members who bring additional value to the project or are champions of diversion efforts in your community. This may include additional law enforcement or behavioral health partners or representatives from other sectors. Additional sectors include, for example, faith-based organizations, transportation agencies, housing agencies, peer recovery support services, child welfare agencies, social services, hospitals, fire departments, or emergency medical services (EMS).

This opportunity is designed for team members who have the capacity to commit to the project for the nine months and have a working knowledge of how their agency interfaces with people with mental illnesses, substance use disorders, and intellectual and developmental disabilities. This may include agency leaders or mid-level staff members. Team members who are not agency leaders must include a letter of support from their supervisor to participate.

Application Timeline

Applications Due:

June 9, 2023, by 5:00 pm CDT

Review of Applications:

June 2023

Applicants Notified:

By July 14, 2023

Project Kick-Off Meetings:

August 21 – 31, 2023

Submitting an Application

Please download this application to your computer, and email the application with all supporting documents to Rebecca@rulostrategies.com.

Any inquiries regarding this opportunity should also be emailed to Rebecca@rulostrategies.com or by phone at 202-309-4848.

Application

Applications are due: June 9, 2023, by 5:00 CDT

Applicant Organization

Applicant agency/organization:

Street address:

City or county:

State:

Type of applicant:

County agency or entity

City or township agency or entity

Tribal entity

Regional partnership

Geographic area served by your agency:

What is the population size of the community/communities to be served by this project?

Primary Contact for Application

Name:

Title:

Office/Agency:

Email:

Phone:

Our goal is to recruit a diverse group of communities with different skills and backgrounds committed to learning from others and exchanging ideas. Please answer the following questions.

Pre-Arrest Diversion Interest Area

Please check below if you are a current Mental Health Block Grant Diversion Grantee?

N/A

Heart of Texas

MHMRA of Brazos Valley

North Texas Behavioral Health

Texoma

West Texas Centers

Please indicate if you have any operational pre-arrest diversion programs in your community. Please note that there is no requirement that you have any of these programs in place. This is for background purposes only. *Please check all that apply.*

We do not have any active pre-arrest diversion programs in our community

Co-responder program/Crisis Intervention Team (law enforcement officer paired with a behavioral health clinician)

Specialized Training (*check all that apply*):

Peace Officers

Mental Health Officers

Crisis Intervention Team(s)/Officers

Overdose Reversal

Urban-Dispatcher Training

Mental Health Deputy program

Embedded clinicians in a 911 call center

Crisis triage center/Diversion center/Crisis receiving center

Peer-run respite center

Other (please describe)

If applicable, please indicate the populations served by your existing pre-arrest diversion program. *Please check all that apply.*

Individuals with a substance use disorder.

Individuals with a mental health disorder.

Individuals with a co-occurring substance use and mental health disorder.

Individuals with an intellectual and developmental disability

Have your law enforcement officers been trained in crisis intervention (CIT)?

Yes

No

Unsure

Please indicate the types of law enforcement diversion programs you are interested in starting in your community. *Please check all that apply.*

Co-responder program (law enforcement officer paired with a behavioral health clinician)

Specialized Training (check all that apply):

Peace Officers

Mental Health Officers

Crisis Intervention Team(s)/Officers

Overdose Reversal

Urban-Dispatcher Training

Mental Health Deputy program

Embedded clinicians in a 911 call center

Crisis triage center/Diversion center/Crisis receiving center

Peer-run respite center

Other (please describe)

Please indicate the populations you intend to focus on during this project. *Please check all that apply.*

We have not decided.

Individuals with a substance use disorder.

Individuals with a mental health disorder.

Individuals with a co-occurring substance use and mental health disorder.

Individuals with an intellectual and developmental disability.

Please indicate the dates in August 2023 that you are available to attend a one-day regional kick-off meeting AS A TEAM (both team members must be available). *Please check all that apply.*

August 21st

August 22nd

August 23rd

August 24th

August 25th

August 28th

August 29th

August 30th

August 31st

Essay Questions

Please use as much space as you would like to respond to each question. However, it is not necessary to write a response that is more than two paragraphs per question unless you have more you would like to share. Our goal is to get to know your team through these questions. There is no specific response we are looking for.

How does substance use, mental health, or intellectual and developmental disabilities impact the agencies serving on your proposed team and your community?

What strengths exist in your community or within your local collaborations that you can draw upon over the course of the learning collaborative to support your planning process?

What is motivating your jurisdiction's interest in participating in this learning collaborative? Please share what challenges/barriers you hope to overcome by participating in this learning collaborative.

Team Commitment Letters

Each named team member must submit letters that demonstrate cross-sector support of this project and agreement to participate in project activities, including active engagement in the kickoff event and learning collaborative. Team Commitment letters should not exceed more than 2 pages each. Letters should respond to the following:

1. How can you, in your role, meaningfully contribute to the team's work over the next year and improve your ability to champion pre-arrest diversion efforts in your community? We recognize that each sector plays a different role and that not every role is responsible for direct service delivery.
2. Express commitment to the time requirements.

Team Member: Behavioral Health

Name:

Title:

Office/Agency:

Email:

Phone:

Team Member: Law Enforcement

Name:

Title:

Office/Agency:

Email:

Phone:

Applicant Checklist

Application form

Team Member Commitment Letters (one from each team member)

Support letter from the applicant's supervisors, if applicable