

Alamance Steps Up



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THE
STEPPINGUP
INITIATIVE

The Problem



- <https://youtu.be/ztGbzB2xCoA>
- The Alamance County Detention Center is the largest mental health holding facility in area

Jails—a Safety Net?



- As Law Enforcement we know that jail only makes the situation worse.
- We also know incarceration of those with mental illness is a burden on our law enforcement and judicial system

Jails—a Safety Net?



- There is a financial cost to taxpayers
- There is an unmistakable human toll

The Financial Cost (July 2016)



- **476 new inmates booked**
- **65 identified with mental illness**
 - 51 received psychiatric medications
 - 10 isolated on suicide watch
 - 9 on detox monitoring
 - 42 booked for misdemeanors
 - 40 were repeat offenders
- **\$156,243 Cost to detain in July 2016**

The Financial Costs



43		(# inmates with mental illness daily)
X	\$77.54	(cost per day—low estimate for MI)
X	<u>365</u>	(days per year)
\$1.2 million		(annual jail cost)

The Financial Cost

There is More Than Jail

- **2** trips a day by law enforcement to ED
- **2** trips a day by EMS to ED
- **A TOTAL of 1460** trips per year
- **THESE ARE JUST FOR (IVC) Involuntary Commitments**

The Financial Cost

Seven Month Analysis

Jan-July 2016



- **316** MI calls responded to by Sheriff's Department
- **474** MI call responded to by EMS
- These are potentially high risk interactions between law enforcement/EMS and people with mental illness

The Human Toll



Inmate 22197

- Booked 26 times since 2009 (nuisance and misdemeanors)

The Human Toll



- 711 days in pre-trial custody
- 27.3 average days/booking
- 23 of 26 bookings resulted in release for “time served”
- 39 “incidents” in custody
- **\$55,130.94 taxpayer cost to incarcerate**



Addressing a National Crisis

Too Many Individuals with Mental Illnesses in our Jails



The Alamance County Experience – “Alamance Steps Up”



- Board of Commissioners adopted the NACo resolution August 2015.
- Initial Planning Team:
 - County Manager
 - County Commissioner
 - Director of Social Services
 - Sheriff and Chief Deputy Sheriff
- Invited more to the table.....



The Alamance County Experience – “Alamance Steps Up”

- **Current Leadership Team (meets monthly):**

- County Commissioner (co-chair)
- Director of Social Services (co-chair)
- County Manager
- Sheriff and Chief Deputy Sheriff
- Health Director
- Local MCO/LME Executive
- District Attorney
- Executive Director, NC Psychiatric Association
- Director of Administration and Community Services, Sheriff's Office
- Chief Medical Officer, Cone Health/Alamance Regional Medical Center
- Private Psychiatrist
- Local NAMI Chapter President
- Project Co-Coordinator (staff)



The Alamance County Experience – “Alamance Steps Up”

- A Broader “Task Force” (meets 2x per year) – the Leadership Team plus:
 - Consumers and Consumer Advocates
 - Hospital President, ED Manager, Behavioral Medicine Unit Manager, Medication Assistance Program Manager
 - District Court Judge(s)
 - Private Mental Health Providers
 - Family Justice Center Director
 - Healthy Alamance Director
 - C-Com Director
 - Police Chiefs
 - Allied Churches Ministry (homeless shelter) Director
 - MCO/LME Community and Family Advisory Council Head
 - Residential Treatment Services Director
 - Veteran Services Director
 - United Way Executive(s)
 - Alamance Citizens For A Drug Free Community President
 - EMS Director
 - School Board Representative
 - Other Elected Officials
 - Other Human Service Agency Officials



The Alamance County Experience – “Alamance Steps Up”



- **Mission Statement**

- The mission of “Alamance Steps Up” is to reduce the number of persons with mental illness or co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders involved in the criminal justice system in Alamance County, North Carolina.

- **Vision Statement**

- We envision a community that respects, supports, and embraces persons with mental illness or co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders, and whose systems of health, behavioral health, law enforcement, justice, human services, public safety, and advocacy work together in a deliberate and coordinated fashion to optimize the level of services provided for them and minimize their level of incarceration in the county detention center.

The Alamance County Experience – “Alamance Steps Up”

- Four Working Committees:
 - First Responder Training and Community Education
 - Screening, Assessment, and Treatment
 - Recovery and Re-Entry Strategies
 - Community Service Capacity and Sustainability



The Alamance County Framework– “Alamance Steps Up”



CIT and Mental Health First Aid Training
Expand Case Management and Services/Supports
Continuum

Co-Responder & Detention
Social Worker

24/7 Diversion &
Restoration
Center