

TRANSITIONAL CASE MANAGEMENT

Transitional Case Management (TCM) targets adults with serious mental illness arrested for felony and misdemeanor crimes receiving a misdemeanor sentence. TCM operates in arraignment and post-arraignment criminal court parts to identify eligible participants. This program aims to:

- Address clients' mental health and substance abuse treatment needs through case management services and linkages to community-based mental health and substance abuse services; and
- Reduce clients' involvement in the criminal justice system through cognitive behavioral interventions that focus directly on risk factors for rearrest.

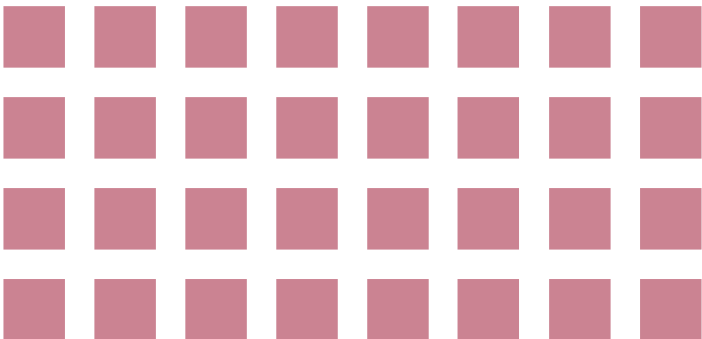
By diverting clients from jail and supporting their integration into the local continuum of case management and treatment resources, TCM helps clients improve psychiatric symptoms, treat substance abuse and learn the life skills necessary to live independent, crime-free lives.

CASES 

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How it works:

- Defense attorneys, judges and prosecutors can request that TCM staff conduct mental health evaluations of defendants. CASES' court representatives also conduct routine pre-screening of misdemeanor defendants and identify those who may be appropriate for mental health evaluations.
- A clinical psychologist conducts a comprehensive mental health evaluation to determine eligibility for TCM. In arraignments, those found eligible are mandated to participate in three case management sessions, or five sessions if they are designated Operation Spotlight. In post-arraignment criminal court, the mandate is either a set number of case management sessions or a period of judicial monitoring. CASES offers continued voluntary case management services to all those who complete their court mandate. Individuals with a serious mental illness who successfully complete CASES' Day Custody Program may also opt to enter the program on a voluntary basis.

If admitted to TCM, CASES provides participants with case management services and escorts/linkages to long-term community-based treatment services. Case management goals may include access to psychiatric evaluation, ongoing mental health treatment and integrated substance abuse treatment; engagement with supportive counseling; and connections to vocational/educational services, crisis housing, longer-term housing and public benefits. For those participants under a court mandate, court compliance appearances are generally scheduled 60 days after sentencing.

Criteria for admission into TCM:

The program targets adults with a history of repeat misdemeanor convictions, including those designated Operation Spotlight. Individuals must meet the following criteria:

- Is convicted of a misdemeanor OR is arrested on a felony charge that is reduced to a misdemeanor;
- Is facing a jail sentence;
- Is at least eighteen years of age;
- Has a mental illness that impairs functioning; and
- Is in need of case management services and able to give informed consent to participate in treatment.