Focused Intervention Team (FIT)
Santa Cruz County Sheriff’s Office and Behavioral Health Services

Purpose

- FIT is a public safety program pilot to engage individuals in the community who have repeatedly come in contact with law enforcement, and whose behaviors are criminal and threaten public safety.

- The FIT program was among the critical needs identified by the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors in the Measure G initiative on the November 2018 ballot. The ½-cent sales tax measure was approved by two-thirds of County voters.
FIT Staffing

SCSO Staff:
- 1 Sergeant
- 2 Deputies

Behavioral Health Staff:
- 1 Clinical Supervisor
- 2 Clinicians

- The integrated law enforcement & behavioral health staff function as a multidisciplinary team bringing role-specific skills to the effort.
- The Sheriff's Office provides the primary interface with criminal justice partners and the Behavioral Health staff provide clinical assessment, treatment and case management.
- The integrated team expands on the evidence-based practice of a Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) that supports law enforcement to interface with behavioral health issues and a co-responder model that pairs clinical staff with law enforcement.

Access to FIT

Referral
- Referrals are made directly to the FIT Sergeant by law enforcement agencies.

Eligibility
- 1. Must have a fresh arrest.
- 2. Have demonstrated aggressive, threatening or assaulitive behavior.
- 3. Have a minimum of 3 contacts with law enforcement in the past 90 days.
• **High Frequency Services**

  - **In-custody services** include behavioral health assessment, motivational interviewing (MI), trauma-informed care, cognitive behavioral therapy, and treatment plan development. Court liaison and jail discharge services are also provided.
  - **Community-based services** include engagement, MI, brokerage and linkage to behavioral health and supportive services, and compliance accountability.
  - **Treatment program interface** includes monitoring of treatment compliance and progress, case management, case coordination of service array, and linkage to aftercare services.

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• **FIT Completion**

  - Participants do not engage in new criminal behaviors for sixty days.
  - Demonstrate significant progress toward substance use disorder and mental health recovery and stability through service participation.
  - All participants completing the program will be linked with treatment in the community for on-going care needs.
Performance Outcome Measures

Applied Survey Research

- Quarterly data and performance reports in the following domains:
  - System Coordination
  - Access to Care
  - Criminal Justice
  - Quality of Life
  - Community Outcomes

Contact Information

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