

Title of Presentation: System Transformation Responses to Imprisonment of Persons with Mental Illness

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Problems: According to the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, the nation's serious mental illness (SMI) percentage is 8.8. Oklahoma has the nation's highest percentage of persons with severe mental illness at 10.9. Furthermore, the number of persons arrested and imprisoned with mental illnesses is increasing nationally and in Oklahoma. In state fiscal year 2004, 17% of all new Oklahoma Department of Corrections (DOC) receptions had a SMI.

Responses: In addition to working with DOC to plan and provide services for those already in prison, the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS) has responded to this problem by developing the following programs which are related to the goals of the President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health and cover a wide spectrum of the mental health treatment for people in the criminal justice system:

- Crisis Intervention Training;
- Jail Diversion Programs;
- Day Reporting Programs;
- Programs of Assertive Community Treatment (PACT); and
- Mental Health Courts.

This presentation will provide useful information to consumers, practitioners, researchers, and policymakers in the following manner. The first part of the presentation will focus on the results and findings from matching DOC and ODMHSAS data. Next, brief descriptions of each treatment program, followed by research and evaluation results, will be discussed. Emphasis will be given to Mental Health Courts and the elements that comprise these types of courts. Additionally, the types of data needed to be collected,

monitored, and analyzed, to produce useful performance and outcome measures for these problem-solving courts will be presented. Evaluation findings on the Mental Health Courts across the state of Oklahoma will also be highlighted, which will also allow the policy implications of these findings to be addressed.