

## The GAINS Center: Sequential Intercept Model

SAMHSA's GAINS Center provides technical assistance to the field, as well as technical assistance and support to SAMHSA-funded grant programs.

The GAINS Center's primary focus is on expanding access to community based services for adults diagnosed with co-occurring mental illness and substance use disorders at all points of contact with the justice system.

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The Sequential Intercept Model is a framework for understanding how people with mental illness and /or substance abuse issues interact with the criminal justice system. The model, created by Mark Munetz and Patricia Griffin in 2006, and adopted by the SAMHSA Gain Center, is a series of points where interventions can be made to prevent a person from entering the justice system or becoming further entangled.

The points of interception include law enforcement and emergency services; initial detention and hearing; jails, courts, forensic evaluation and forensic hospitalizations; reentry from jails, prisons and hospitalization; and community supervision and community support services. According to the model, at each of these points, there are unique opportunities to assist a person in getting appropriate services and preventing further justice involvement.

Without intervention, these stages can become a revolving door – with individuals encountering law enforcement during a crisis, and progressing through the various stages of involvement, until they are released from jail or prison. Without support or intervention during this process, there's a high likelihood that the individual will ultimately come back into contact with law enforcement during another crisis and repeat the cycle.

Ideally, the best point of intervention is in the community, before law enforcement becomes involved, and treatment needs can best be met through community mental health and substance abuse services. Unfortunately, if these services do not adequately address the needs, a person in crisis may be drawn into the criminal justice system. Even with adequate community services, a few people may slip through the cracks and encounter police. In a system with appropriate interventions at each intercept, fewer and fewer people will slip through the cracks, so by the time of release from jail and prison, most people should be connected with services to help them recover and prevent further contact with the justice system.

<http://Gaincenter.samhsa.gov>

# Criminal Justice Capable System of Care

Karen Gannette  
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Population Based Approach  
Before Seeing Prosecutor

Pre-Arrest  
Initial Detention  
Initial Hearing Before Seeing the Judge

Post-Arrestment (prior to accepting responsibility / still presumed innocent while case is pending)  
Judges Decision

Judicial / Court Based Outcomes  
Corrections Based Outcomes

Transitioning back to the community

Community Justice Center Pre-charge (direct referrals)  
Emergency Services  
Law Enforcement Diversion  
Mobile Crisis Teams  
Social Workers in Police Dept

Court Diversion (Statewide)  
Rapid Intervention (Chittenden)

Rapid Referral (Chittenden)  
Sparrow Program (Windsor)  
Combo of Rapid Referral & Rapid Intervention (Franklin)

Treatment Court  
Probation  
Furloughs  
Home Confinement  
Incarceration

Conditional Re-entry  
Re-entry programs (Circles of Support & Accountability - COSA at the Community Justice Centers)  
Reintegration Furlough  
Local Interagency Teams & State Interagency Team

**Robust Mental Health and Substance Abuse Programs To Include: Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), Developmental Services & Recovery Services**