Frontline Service
Women’s Forensic Team:

multidisciplinary care for women with active legal issues

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Incarceration of women

- Over one million women in jail, prison
- Women have been incarcerated at increasing rate over last 10yrs
- Juvenile – girls more likely than boys to be arrested for status offenses
- Correctional settings have not adapted to women’s unique needs
Characteristics of women offenders

- Poor, unemployed
- Women of color
- Mothers of young children
- Family history of incarceration
- More likely to have drug offense -> significant substance abuse issues
- Multiple mental health issues
- Personality disorders – antisocial, borderline
- History of self-harm, suicide attempts, especially in juvenile
- Multiple physical health issues
Women offenders and mental illness

- Incarcerated women are more likely than men to have trauma histories
  - Physical, sexual and emotional abuse
  - Childhood abuse very common – parental drug abuse
  - Domestic violence
  - Sexual assault – sometimes drug habit related, offense related

- Incarcerated women have higher rates of mental illness than women
  - 12% of women generally vs 73% women in state prison, 61% federal, 75% jail
Trauma among women offenders

- Inadequate attention to PTSD can interfere with prosocial goals
- Prosocial goals -> economic independence, social independence, family reunification, reduced involvement in crime
- Retraumatization is common
- Women are more likely than men to experience trauma inflicted by individuals known to them
Women’s Forensic Program

- Grant funded since 2013 through the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County
- Originally part of the Bureau of Justice Statistics Second Chance Act
- Designed for women with dual diagnosis, currently incarcerated or recently released from Cuyahoga County Jail, who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and are in need of mental health case management services

Original Goals and Objectives:

- Reduce Recidivism with moderate to high risk female offenders by 50% 
- Improve behavioral health outcomes to improve public safety
- Assist women with transition back into the community by enhancing coordination during and after incarceration

1 Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services Board of Cuyahoga County Ohio, May, 2013
### Consumer Facts and Outcomes for 2016-Present

- Total Clients Served: 70
- Total New Enrollments: 27
- Total Closed in Services to date: 30

#### Demographic Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Range</th>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Racial Identity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20% between 20-29 yrs</td>
<td>46% No Income</td>
<td>67% Black/African American</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21% between 30-39 yrs</td>
<td>34% SSI/SSDI Benefits</td>
<td>30% White/Caucasian</td>
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<tr>
<td>39% between 40-49 yrs</td>
<td>16% Work/Worked</td>
<td>1% Hispanic/Latino</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17% between 50-59 yrs</td>
<td>3% SSI from Minor Children</td>
<td>1% Bi-Racial</td>
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<tr>
<td>3% between 60-69 yrs</td>
<td>1% Receive SSI and Work</td>
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Consumer Facts and Outcomes for 2016-Present

Diagnostic Information

Primary Diagnosis
- 31% PTSD
- 24% Major Depressive Disorder
- 16% Bipolar Disorder
- 7% Schizoaffective Disorder
- 4% Schizophrenia
- 16% Unspecified Mood/Psychosis, Anxiety D/O’s, Bipolar II, Impulse Control Disorder, Adjustment D/O

Secondary Diagnosis
- 16% PTSD
- 70% At least one Substance Use Diagnosis
- 39% with two or more Substance Use Disorders
- 33% Cocaine or Cocaine and Other substances
- 14% Alcohol or Alcohol and Other substances (except cocaine)
- 10% Cocaine and Opioid
- 10% Opioids or Opioids and Other substances (except cocaine)
- 3% PCP
- 6% Cannabis
Consumer Facts and Outcomes for 2016-Present

Recidivism Data

Currently Enrolled Clients
- 18% New Criminal Charges
- 48% Probation Violations
- 45% No New Charges or PV’s

Clients (Closed and Current) with Stable Housing
- 10% New Criminal Charges
- 27% Probation Violations
- 63% No New Charges or PV’s
- 67% Still Engaged with WFT Services

Closed Clients (Closed Between 2016-present)
- 17% New Criminal Charges
- 33% Probation Violations
- 50% No New Charges or PV’s

Clients with No Stable Housing
- 20% New Criminal Charges
- 42% Probation Violations
- 38% No New Charges or PV’s
- 50% Still Engaged with WFT Services
Case study 1

- Caucasian female in her 40’s
- Diagnosed with Bipolar I, Borderline PD, Opioid Use Disorder, Cocaine Use Disorder, Alcohol Use Disorder. Likely dx of PTSD.
- 11 County Jail Numbers
- Current case started in 2010 for drug related offense, has had 3 Probation Violations since 2013 for a total of three additional local incarcerations and one prison stay as a result of this offense
- Community Control was supposed to be 5 years originally
- In and out of Treatment at least 3 times
- Hx of accidental overdose and psych admissions related to suicidal thoughts
- Barriers to success: housing, positive social and family supports, lack of income, charges interfering with ability to get a job, using substance since the age of 12
Case Study 2

- Caucasian female in her 40's
- Diagnosed with Schizoaffective Disorder
- 3 County Jail numbers
- History of violent charges, including vehicular assault
- Family issues with DCFS involvement
- History of guardianship
- While incarcerated, was sent to Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare for restoration of competency
- Barriers to success: lack of long-term stabilization on psychiatric medications d/t client’s reports of stopping them d/t side effects;