

# SJC COVID-19 TOWN HALL MEETING

Presented by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur  
Foundation in partnership with Policy Research, Inc. and  
the Pretrial Justice Institute

April 17, 2020

12:30pm – 2:00pm ET



Supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

# OPENING REMARKS



**Laurie Garduque**

Director, Criminal Justice, John D. and Catherine T.  
MacArthur Foundation



Supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

# INVITED SPEAKERS

## Chuck Ingoglia

President and CEO, National Council for Behavioral Health

## Holly Matthews

Executive Director, Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, Lucas County, Ohio

## Lindsay Below

Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health Coordinator, Lucas County, Ohio

## Molly Morrill

Director, Allegheny County Safety and Justice Challenge Project, Fifth Judicial District, Pennsylvania

## Jennifer Batterton

Manager of Special Initiatives, Allegheny County Department of Human Services



Supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

# NATIONAL COUNCIL ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

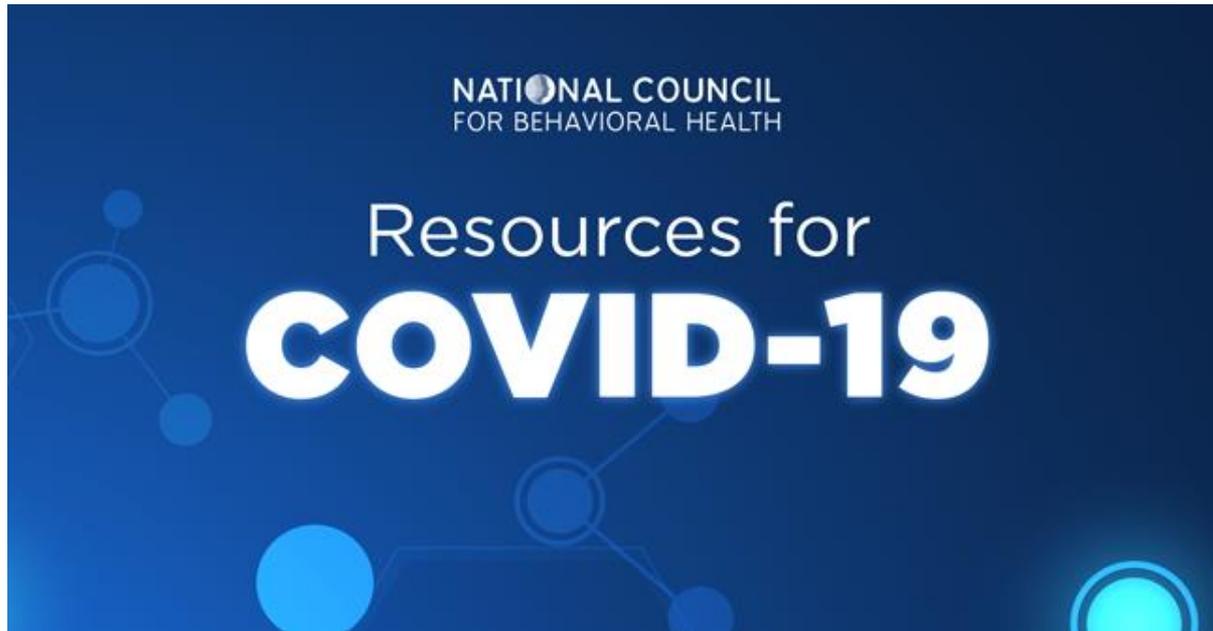


Chuck Ingoglia

President and CEO



Supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation



## Helping Members Thrive during COVID-19

# Introducing Our Resources Directory



- **Goal:** Help members during COVID-19 by creating a regularly updated repository of internal and external resources.
- **Objectives:**
  - Deliver the latest COVID-19 news
  - Connect providers with new tools and resources
  - Share available learning opportunities
  - Promote National Council thought leadership

# Resource Categories

- **Overview of coronavirus relief and stimulus packages**
- **Employers, employees, tax incentives and loans**
  - *Small business economic injury disaster loans (EIDL)*
  - *Tax incentives*
  - *Paycheck Protection Program*
  - *Paid sick leave/expanded family and medical leave*
- **PPE and other financial support for providers**
  - *Forthcoming funding opportunities*
  - *FEMA private nonprofit funding (PPE)*

# Resource Categories

- **Telehealth**

- *Prescription of controlled substances via telemedicine*
- *Medicare telehealth*
- *Medicaid telehealth*
- *Private insurance coverage of telehealth*
- *FCC funding for telehealth services*
- *State-by-state telehealth resources*

- **CCBHCs**

- *Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC)*
- *FMAP bump for CCBHC demonstration services*

## Temporary Federal Policy Changes: Brief Overview

- SAMHSA allows states to request blanket exceptions for all stable patients in OTP to receive 28 days take-home methadone doses (“less stable patients” may receive up to 14 days)
- SAMHSA still requires in-person medical assessment prior to admitting new methadone patients
- DEA relaxed telehealth restrictions:
  - No initial in-person assessment required
  - X-waivered prescribers can prescribe via video or telephone
  - Providers can use less secure tech platforms (but not public-facing ones)
- Restrictions on Medicare reimbursements for telehealth waived
- Restrictions on receiving medications relaxed: Meds can be delivered by parties other than licensed clinicians and through indirect means like doorstep lockboxes
- HIPAA and 42 CFR, part 2 policies relaxed for telehealth

# LUCAS COUNTY, OH

## Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health Responses to COVID-19

**Holly Matthews**

Executive Director, Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

**Lindsay Below**

Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health Coordinator



Supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

# The Lucas County Response

## Contribute

The Mental Health and Recovery Services Board authorized the use of up to \$2,000,000 in State Opioid Response, Regional Opioid Crisis Flex, State and Federal Block Grant and local levy funds to contract with OhioMHAS licensed providers located within Lucas County for the purpose of maintaining essential services including access to crisis services and access to treatment services including medication and housing stability.

## Connect

The Mental Health and Recovery Services Board is hosting a weekly virtual call with all behavioral health providers, hospitals, care providers and other health stakeholders in the community. During this meeting stakeholders provide updates on existing policies and procedures, trends, success and challenges.

COVID Emotional Support Line  
419-442-0580

## Collaborate

The EOC was activated to coordinate the Lucas County Response to COVID-19.

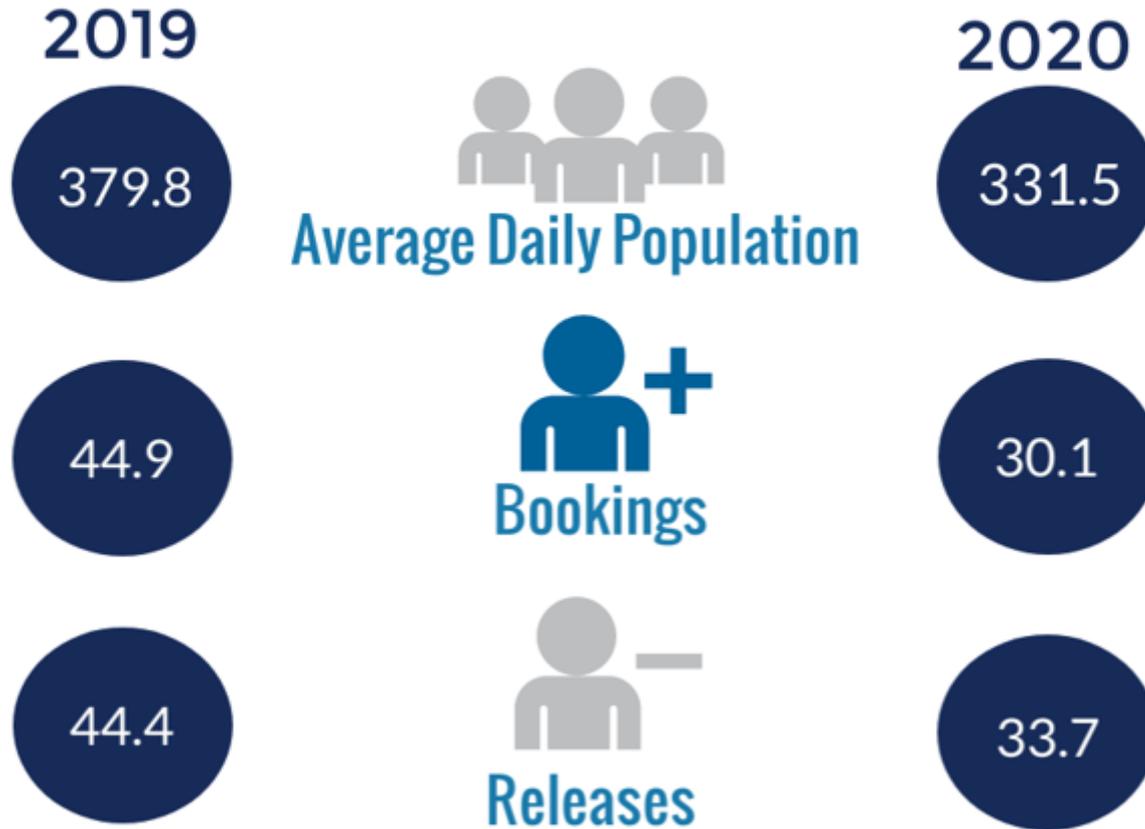
Lucas County has also created a Grant Strike Taskforce charged with monitoring the Coronavirus, Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) and coordinating with local behavioral health and criminal justice stakeholders to ensure Lucas County applies for every funding opportunity possible.

## Coordinate

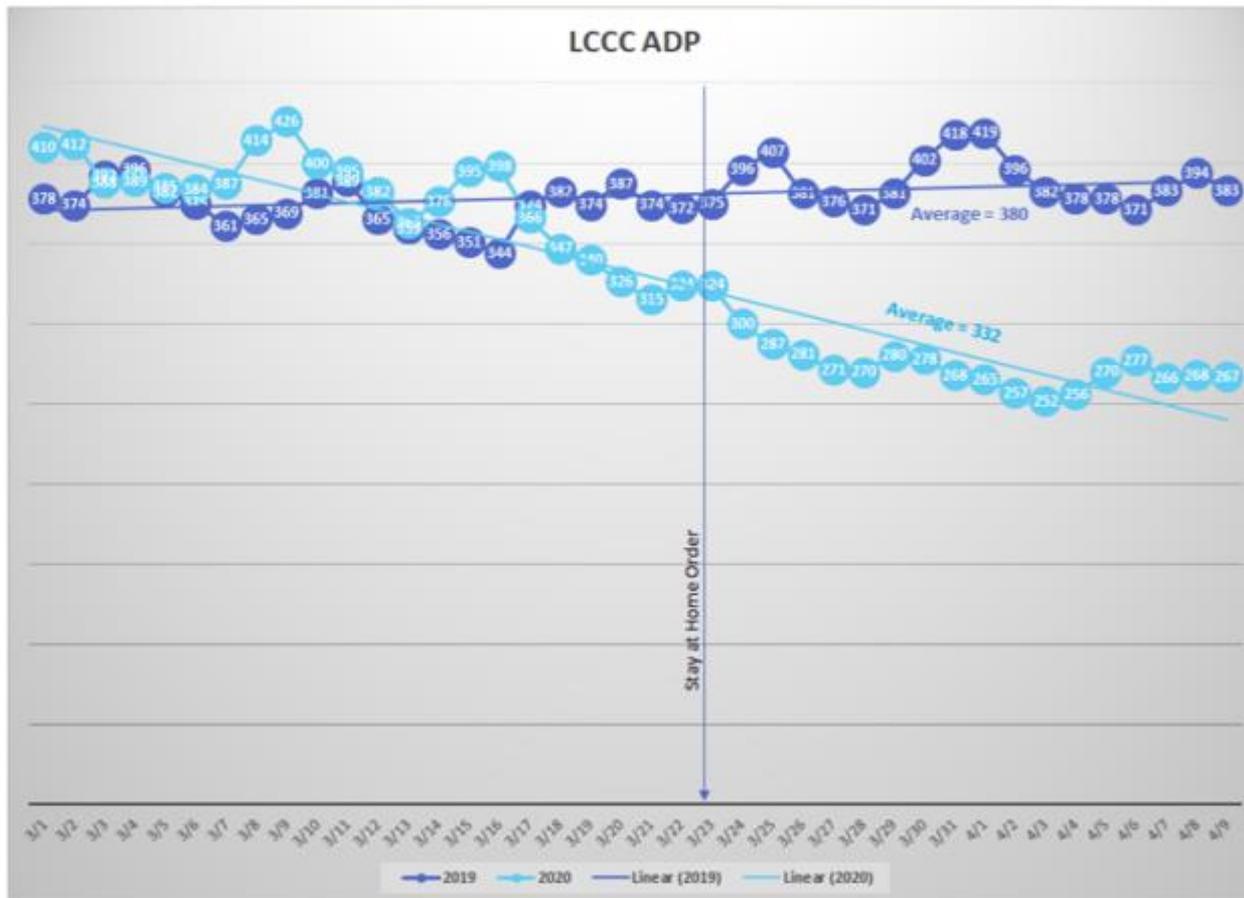
The Screener and Linkage (SAL) Project remains operational. This project takes place inside the Lucas County Corrections Center. This project includes the screening of every person booked into the jail utilizing the Brief Jail Mental Health Screener. The second component of this project includes coordinators housed within the jail that providing brief case management to those individuals who screen positive for mental illness. The coordinators then connect individuals to treatment within the local behavioral health community.

# Lucas County Corrections Center Daily Population

---



# Lucas County Corrections Center Daily Population





Opportunity Project - Temporarily on Hold



Deflection Center - Temporarily on Hold



Remote Connection Capacity - City/County



Inability to access required documents



State, County, and City Budget Reductions



**Current Challenges**



# Opportunities



## Technology

- ▶ Increased technological capabilities.
- ▶ Leveraging technology to increase operational efficiencies.
- ▶ Redesigning how the criminal justice system operates



## Data Sharing

- ▶ Discuss the value of increased cross-system data sharing, based on the pandemic experience
- ▶ Develop robust cross-system information sharing infrastructure.

# ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PA

Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health Responses  
to COVID-19

**Molly Morrill**

Director, Safety and Justice Challenge Project, Fifth Judicial District

**Jennifer Batterton**

Manager of Special Initiatives, Department of Human Services



Supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

# Allegheny County Context

- Criminal justice/human services collaboration
  - Reentry
- Data-driven planning and decision making
- Developing longer-term plan to meet the needs of people at behavioral health and criminal justice intersection
- Strong local foundations

# Focus of Response

- Facilitating jail releases
- Meeting needs of those released
- Adjusting operations

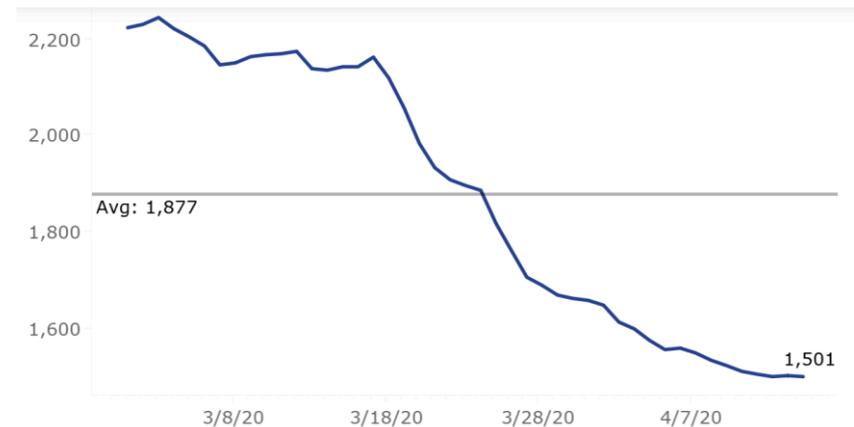
# Facilitating Jail Releases

- Bond modifications
  - Pretrial Services review of medically compromised
  - Pretrial Services review of attorney motions
  - Cases brought daily to motions court
- Detainer lifts
  - Judge review of motions
  - Probation review of detained cases

# Releases and Admissions

- 928 people released since March 16
  - 37% prior BH service involvement
  - 1.6% have new criminal filing
- 77% decrease in jail bookings since March

Allegheny County Jail Population, March 1-April 14, 2020



# Supporting Released People

- Jail's Discharge and Release Center
- 146 people released were active with Justice Related Services
  - Transport
  - Service coordination (by phone)
- Isolation hotel beds
- Outreach to released people

# Pretrial Services and Community Supervision

- Competency assessments completed by video
- Pretrial and Probation supervision by phone
- Modified house arrests without ankle bracelet

# Treatment Providers

- Telehealth for many group and individual services
- Peer supports through Allegheny County Peer Warmline
- 24/7 crisis response still open

# Guidance to Residential Providers

- DHS issued guidance
  - Continue accepting clients
  - Do not deny based on COVID-19 status or medical condition
  - Isolate symptomatic or COVID-19 positive
  - Refer to hotel beds if isolation not possible

# Coordination and Communication

- Continuity of services planning to address shortages
- Daily provider briefings
- Weekly calls between jail, DHS, courts, JRS

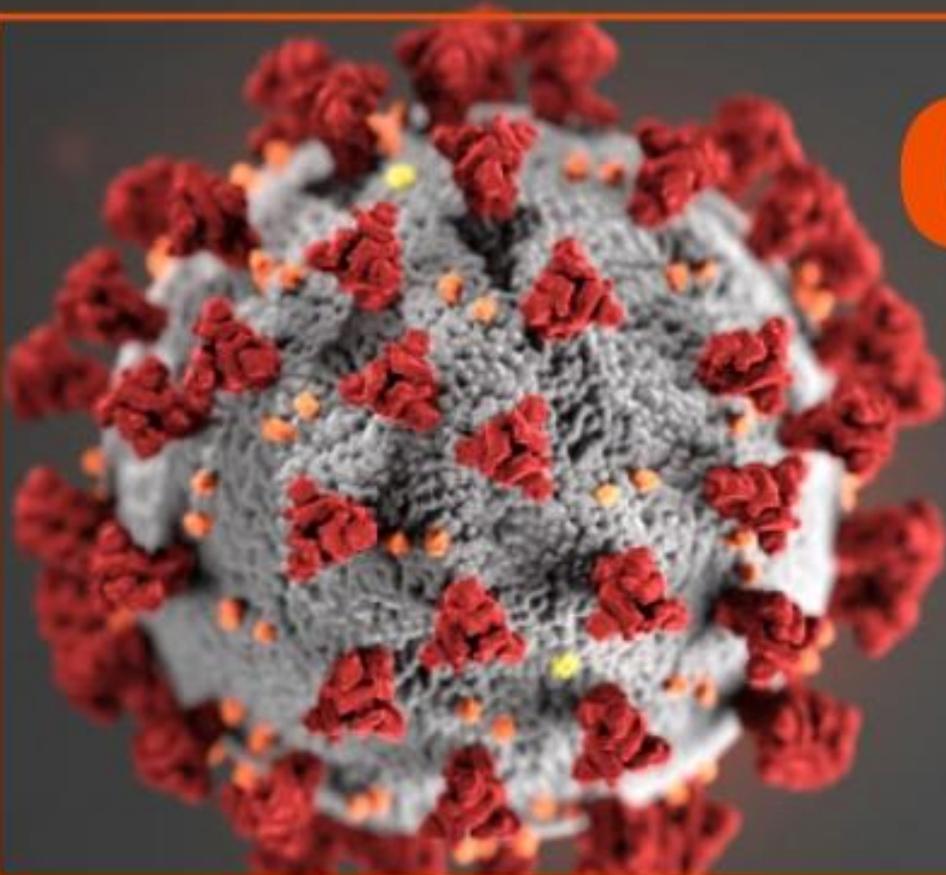
# POLL QUESTION

Do you have a specific COVID-19 Behavioral Health jail release process?

- Yes
- No, but we are working on developing a process
- No



Supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation



# COVID-19

## Resource Page

<https://sjcexchange.org/libraryup/covid-19>

