

# Stepping Up: A National Initiative to Reduce the Number of People with Mental Illnesses in Jails

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Presentation to: National Dialogues in Behavioral Health, New Orleans, LA - November 2015



# Stepping Up: A National Initiative to Reduce the Number of People with Mental Illnesses in Jails

# THE STEPPING UP INITIATIVE

# REDUCING MENTAL ILLNESS IN JAILS | Steering Committee



# REDUCING MENTAL ILLNESS IN JAILS | StepUpTogether.org

The screenshot displays the website for 'The Stepping Up Initiative'. At the top, there are logos for APF (American Psychiatric Foundation), NACo (National Association of Counties), and JUSTICE CENTER. A navigation menu includes 'TOOLKIT', 'NEWS & UPDATES', 'THE PROBLEM', 'THE PEOPLE', and 'WHAT YOU CAN DO', with a red 'Take Action Now' button. The main content area features a large graphic of the United States map with icons for mental health conditions: Bipolar Disorder, Schizophrenia, Major Depression, and PTSD. A central play button icon is overlaid on the map with the text '2 Million'. Below the map is another 'Take Action Now' button and a YouTube logo. The lower section, titled 'The Problem', has a dark teal background with a crescent moon and stars. It contains the text: 'The number of people with mental illness in U.S. jails has reached crisis levels. In counties across the nation, jails now have more people with mental illnesses than in their psychiatric hospitals. [Learn More »](#)'. Below this text is an illustration of a 'COUNTY JAIL' building with a lit window.

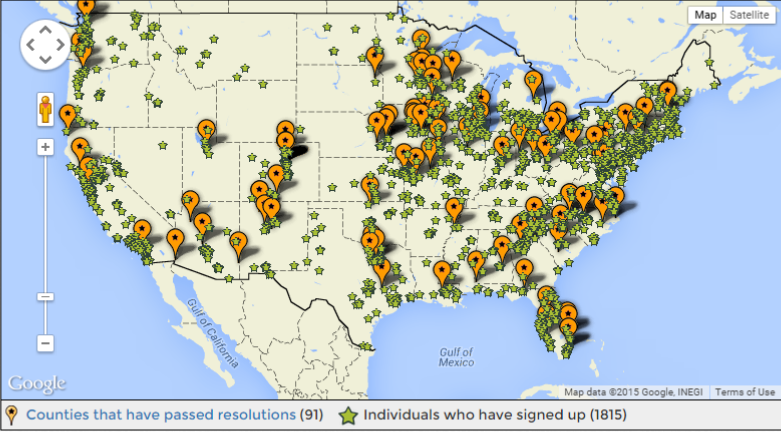
# REDUCING MENTAL ILLNESS IN JAILS | Get Started

**THE STEPPING UP INITIATIVE**

TOOLKIT NEWS & UPDATES THE PROBLEM THE PEOPLE WHAT YOU CAN DO [Take Action Now](#)

## What You Can Do

Map showing counties that have passed resolutions (91) and individuals who have signed up (1815).



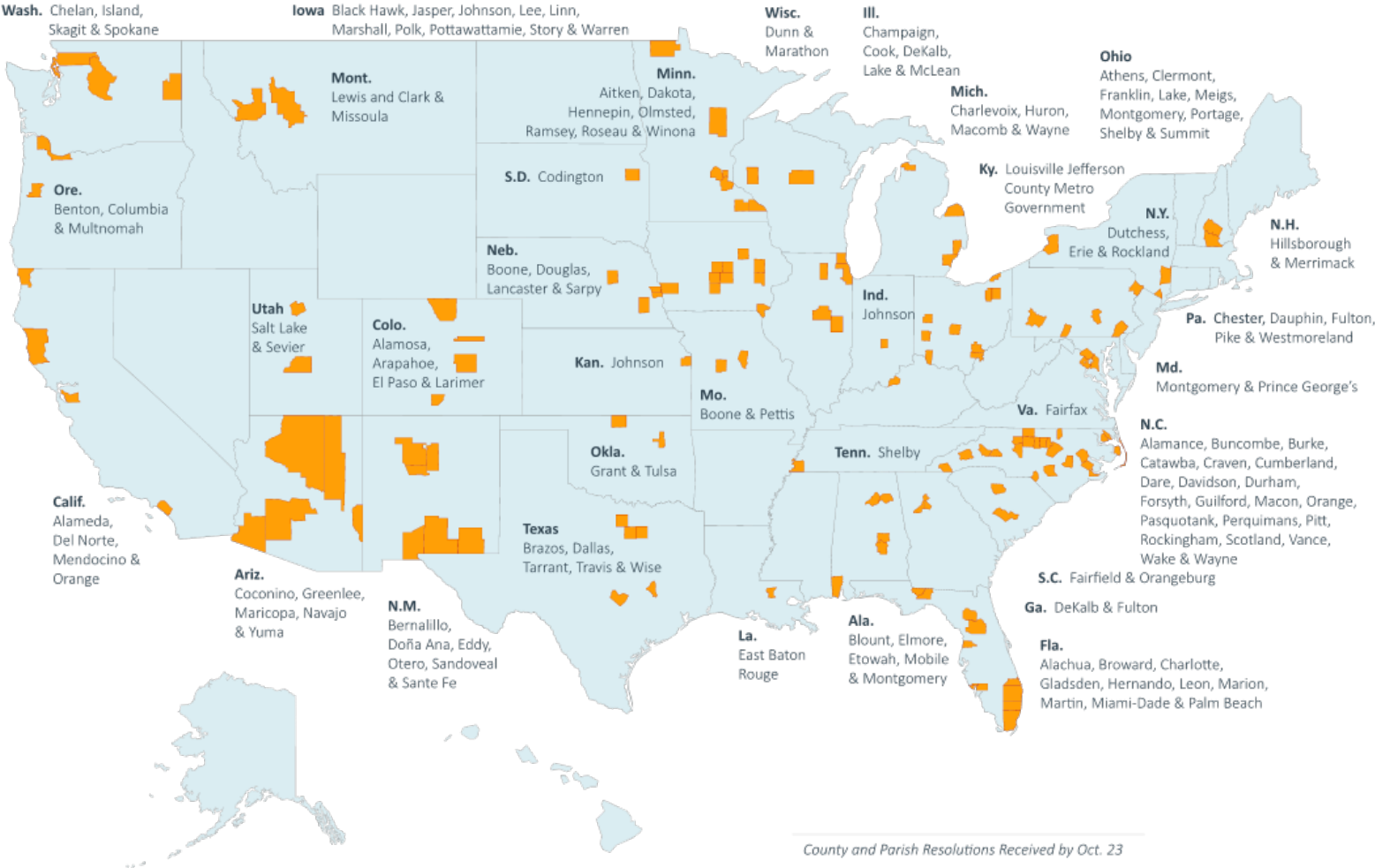
Stepping Up County Resolution Template ([PDF](#) | [Webpage](#))

Whether you are a state or local policymaker, a criminal justice or behavioral health professional, an individual living with mental illness, or someone who is otherwise committed to reducing the number of people with mental illnesses in jails, you can play a critical role in this initiative. When you select "Take Action Now!" you will receive information about how to get involved.

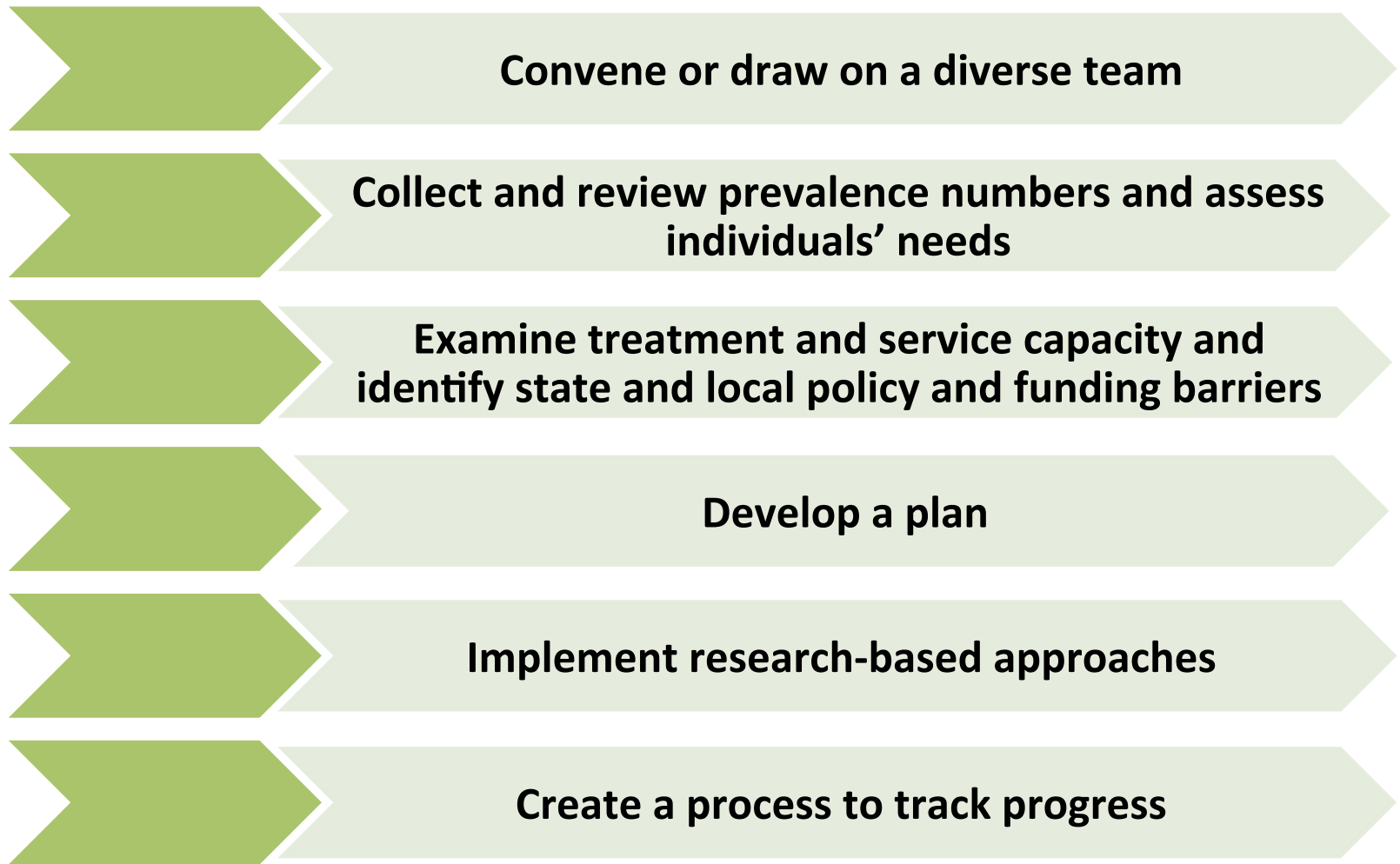


[www.stepuptogether.org/what-you-can-do](http://www.stepuptogether.org/what-you-can-do)

# REDUCING MENTAL ILLNESS IN JAILS | Get Started



# REDUCING MENTAL ILLNESS IN JAILS | Pass a Resolution






[www.stepuptogether.org/toolkit](http://www.stepuptogether.org/toolkit)




# REDUCING MENTAL ILLNESS IN JAILS | Webinars



- *Getting Started with Stepping Up.* 5/14/2015




- *Strategies to Measure Prevalence and Assess the Needs of Individuals with Mental Illnesses in Jails.* 6/30/2015



- *Examining Treatment and Service Capacity and Identifying State and Local Policy and Funding Barriers.* 8/20/2015



- *Effective Law Enforcement and Diversion Strategies.* 9/10/2015



- *Effective Strategies for Connecting People with Mental Illnesses to Services after Release from Jail.* 10/8/2015



- *Preparing a Plan and Tracking Progress.* 11/17/2015

[www.stepuptogether.org/toolkit](http://www.stepuptogether.org/toolkit)

# REDUCING MENTAL ILLNESS IN JAILS

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## Behavioral Health Specific Issues

- Metro, urban, mid-sized or rural county?
- Medicaid Expansion State?
- Justice Reinvestment State?
- County Obligation for Cost Sharing/Saving?
- County Role in Service Provision?
- Role of County Elected Officials?
- Relationship with Other County Core Services?
- Others?

# REDUCING MENTAL ILLNESS IN JAILS |

## Samples of BH Service Interventions

- Warm Line – Peer operated phone line service.
- Crisis Line (hot line) – Operated with professional and para-professionals.
- Crisis Intervention Training – Law enforcement officer focused training with a strong linkage to MH service provider.
- Mobile Crisis Outreach Team - Deployable team composed of professional and para-professionals usually a follow-up to a LEO call.
- Receiving Centers – Usually less than 24 hour stay facility used by LEO as an alternative to jail.
- Wellness Recovery Center – Longer term facility for stabilization in a non-hospital setting for return to the community.

# REDUCING MENTAL ILLNESS IN JAILS | Help

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- NACo Webinars
- Peer to Peer Dialogue
- County Examples
- Self Assessment Tools
- Planning Exercises
- Access to Research
- NACBHDD Behavioral Health Focused TA

<https://stepuptogether.org/toolkit>

# REDUCING MENTAL ILLNESS IN JAILS | Contact Information

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[www.stepuptogether.org](http://www.stepuptogether.org)

# NACBHDD\* BH Focused TA with PRA/GAIN Center



- As a compliment to NACo's SUI, a technical assistance project with the GAIN Center/PRA which will focus on county behavioral health efforts.
- In cooperation with corporate sponsors, NACBHDD will fund a technical assistance service with PRA/GAIN Center on county-specific BH intervention and practices consisting of:
  - County focus group model to identify major county BH issues relative to the SUI.
  - Stratify counties by population (e.g. metro, urban mid-sized and rural), organizational structure, financing, etc.
  - Assess current status of county BH services relative to SUI.
  - Develop TA resources and deploy resources.
- Four areas of focus for the BH piece of SUI:
  - Crisis services (e.g. receiving centers, warm lines, MCOTs, etc.) which keep people with BH conditions out of jail.
  - Case Coordination Case Coordination (managing BH clients who have interaction with law enforcement including jail booking/admission)
  - EHR/MIS systems coordination and interoperability
  - Pharmaceutical Interventions and use of medications both in and out of a jail environment.

\* National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Directors is the BH affiliate of NACo.

# NACBHDD BH Focused TA with PRA/GAIN Center

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