

To better understand this complex issue, public data on perceptions and attitudes towards substance use was collected. The results will help inform a strategic planning process for selecting targeted community prevention and response strategies. This report outlines the key findings from this assessment.

Access to Recovery Resources within the Criminal Justice System

Providing access to treatment and recovery resources for those experiencing substance use concerns and co-occurring disorders within the criminal justice system was cited as a protective factor. In fact, strengthening partnerships between public health, public safety and behavioral health supports a continuum of care and has been shown to reduce recidivism and criminal justice costs.*

63%

of those in jail have a substance use disorder *****

44%

of those in jail have a mental illness *****

Individuals experiencing substance use concerns and mental illness that are involved in the criminal justice system creates unique opportunity, as well as challenges, in addressing the dual concerns of public safety and public health.****

Barriers to successful reentry into the community jeopardize recovery

- Lack of healthcare
- Limited job skills
- Limited education
- Lack of stable housing
- Poor connection to community treatment and recovery resources

Treatment Court and Diversion Programs Help Save Lives, Save Money, Reduce Crime, and Connect Individuals to Treatment**

81%

of Wisconsin Treatment Alternatives and Diversion Program (TAD) graduates did not have any new convictions after 3 years***

Treatment Courts and Diversion Programs are pre-charge or post-charge deferred prosecution agreements. They are designed to divert individuals outside of the traditional criminal justice process and provide the opportunity for treatment and case management.***

Assessment Participants Reported

EVIDENCE

- Limited treatment and recovery support services within the Oneida County criminal justice system.
- Limited general public knowledge of treatment programs and recovery services available to individuals involved in the criminal justice system.
- Lack of availability of alternative to incarceration and diversion programs for individuals experiencing substance use and mental health disorders.
- Lack of treatment and recovery resources within the jail.
- Limited reentry programs for those transitioning from jail back into the community.

\$6,000

The average savings per drug court participant**

Access to Recovery Resources within the Criminal Justice System

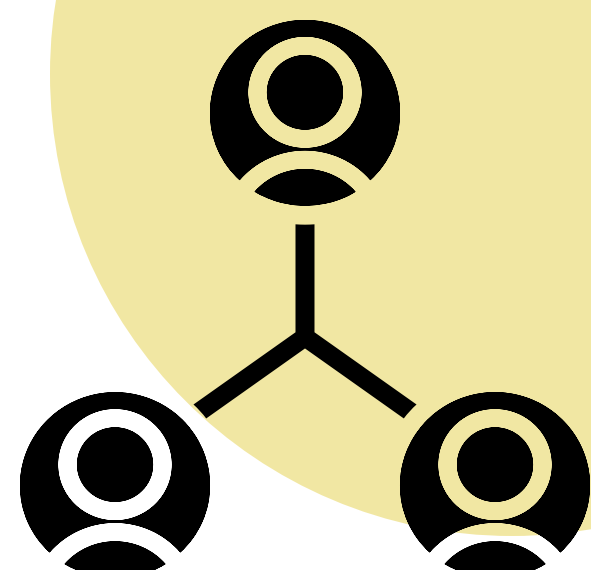
Assessment Participants Identified Next Steps

Employ evidence-based strategies to address underlying substance use and/or co-occurring mental health disorder.



- Expand law enforcement diversions and first responder models that identify high-risk individuals and connect them to treatment and recovery support services.
- Offer alternative to incarceration and diversion programs for nonviolent drug convictions.
- Expand evidence-based treatment programs and recovery supports within the jail.
- Implement effective reentry programs to support successful transition.

Expand and strengthen partnerships between public safety, first responders, public health, and behavioral health organizations.



- Improve coordination of public health and public safety efforts to ensure continuity of care.
- Use shared data to inform prevention and intervention activities.
- Increase awareness of substance use and overdose concerns and evidence-based approaches by public safety and first responders.

Expand availability of peer recovery support services.



- Expand peer support services as a component of a comprehensive continuum of substance use services.
- Increase availability of sober living and recovery housing.
- Provide recovery support services for the entire family.
- Reduce barriers to care by providing social supports for individuals experiencing substance use disorder and their families. For example: transportation, housing, food, clothing.

*BJA's Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant and Substance Abuse Program: <https://www.cossapresources.org/>

**National Association of Drug Court Professionals: <https://www.nadcp.org/treatment-courts-work/>

***WI TAD Programs: <https://cjcc.doj.wi.gov/initiative/tad-0>

****SAMHSA; U.S. Department of Justice: <https://www.samhsa.gov/criminal-juvenile-justice/about>

*****US Department of Justice: Substance Use - <https://bjs.ojp.gov/content/pub/pdf/dudaspji0709.pdf>; Mental Health - <https://bjs.ojp.gov/content/pub/pdf/imhprpji1112.pdf>

