

Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)

Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP)

Substance Use Disorders and Treatment Among Jail Populations

October 2023

Curated Resource List for Corrections Staff

To help corrections officers and other jail staff members manage the well-being of individuals in jail custody who have a substance use disorder (SUD), [Advocates for Human Potential, Inc.](#) — a Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP) national training and technical assistance (TTA) provider—compiled this resource list. The categories of resources below were prioritized by participants in a jail practitioner roundtable on opioid-related training needs convened by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). Unless otherwise indicated, all resources listed are available free of charge electronically.

- ◀ [SUD as a Chronic Disease](#)
- ◀ [Substance Withdrawal Management](#)
- ◀ [Overdose Death Prevention](#)
- ◀ [Medication-assisted Treatment \(MAT\)](#)
- ◀ [Reentry Supports](#)

SUD as a Chronic Disease Videos and Other Online Learning

- [The Disease Process and Addressing Substance Use Disorders](#)
Producer: Opioid Response Network
Resource Type: Online learning
Description: Designed for judges, individuals working

within justice systems, and justice system stakeholders who may interface with individuals with SUD, this course provides an introduction to the science of SUD; evidence-based practices needed in the prevention, identification, and treatment of SUD and co-occurring psychiatric disorders for individuals involved with the justice system; cultural considerations; and the role of trauma and SUD as threats to reducing recidivism.

- [Changing Language to Change Care: Stigma and Substance Use Disorder](#)
Producer: Providers Clinical Support System
Resource Type: Online learning (45:00)
Description: This online course describes the importance of language in discussing substance use and reviews ways to revise language to improve care.
- [What Is Addiction?](#)
Date: 2019
Producer: Addiction Policy Forum
Resource Type: Video (3:59)
Description: This video describes origins of understanding SUD as a disease, parts of the brain affected by substance use, the role of dopamine in survival, and risk and protective factors associated with SUD.

- [Meeting the Needs of Individuals with Substance Use Disorders: Strategies for Jails](#)

Date: 2019

Publisher: National Association of Counties

Resource Type: Webinar recording (1:15:00)

Description: One of a three-part series on substance use interventions for people who have been incarcerated, this webinar highlights strategies for effectively treating individuals with SUD in jail, including the use of substance use screenings, MAT, and population review teams.

- [The Science of Opioid Addiction and Treatment](#)

Date: 2018

Producer: WGBH Educational Foundation

Resource Type: Video (3:07)

Description: This video explores how opioids mimic the body's natural pain relievers, how the body responds when the provision of opioids is stopped, and how medication options can intervene.

Print Resources

- [DrugFacts: Criminal Justice](#)

Date: 2020

Publisher: National Institute on Drug Abuse

Resource Type: Brief

Description: This brief discusses challenges associated with addressing SUD among people in custody, the critical nature of treatment, and costs associated with treatment.

- [Meeting the Needs of Individuals with Substance Use Disorders: Strategies for Jails](#)

Date: 2019

Publisher: National Association of Counties

Resource Type: Brief

Description: This brief discusses strategies for identifying individuals with SUD in jail, training jail staff, and creating an in-custody environment that facilitates rehabilitation and effectively connects people who have been released from incarceration to treatment upon release.

Substance Withdrawal Management

Videos and Other Online Learning

- [Screening for Substance Use Disorders: An eLearning Resource for Jail Staff](#)

Date: 2023

Producer: BJA's COSSUP

Resource Type: Online learning (30:00)

Description: This interactive course describes the basics of screening for SUD among individuals entering jail and is appropriate for all jail staff members, whether directly conducting screening or serving in a supportive role.

- [Jail Resources](#)

Date: 2023

Producer: BJA's COSSUP

Resource Type: Online resource center

Description: This webpage serves as a central hub for jail administrators, correctional staff, and health care professionals to easily locate information, guidance, tools, online learning opportunities, and technical assistance supporting a comprehensive approach for individuals with SUD, consisting of withdrawal management, substance use treatment, and recovery services while detained and upon reentry. Featured on the webpages is [Guidelines for Managing Substance Withdrawal in Jails](#), along with supplemental materials and resources on assessing capacity, building infrastructure, and implementing policies and procedures for screening, assessment, and management of substance withdrawal among individuals in jail custody.

- [Diverting Defendants to Treatment: Model Pretrial Jail Programming for Withdrawal Management and Opioid Medication Assisted Treatment](#)

Date: 2019

Producer: BJA's Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) Training and Technical Assistance

Resource Type: Video (30:55)

Description: This video features innovative pretrial programs in the Essex County, Massachusetts, Sheriff's Department in Massachusetts and the Louisville, Kentucky, Metro Department of Corrections that not only introduce MAT to detainees to promote community

sentences designed to prevent recidivism but also address withdrawal management.

Print Resources

- [Guidelines for Managing Substance Withdrawal in Jails: A Tool for Local Government Officials, Jail Administrators, Correctional Officers, and Health Care Professionals](#)

Date: 2023

Publishers: BJA, National Institute of Corrections (NIC)

Resource Type: Guide/guidelines

Description: This resource outlines the steps all jails should take to manage or prevent substance withdrawal. It is designed to:

- Inform development of or revisions to existing withdrawal management policies and practices responsive to specific substances or combinations of substances.
 - Stimulate development of policies and procedures reflecting the resources and capacity of jails.
 - Support needed conversations among local government officials, sheriffs and jail administrators, hospital administrators, correctional health care providers, and representatives from community-based organizations.
- [Managing Substance Withdrawal in Jails: A Legal Brief](#)
- Date:** 2022
- Publishers:** BJA, NIC
- Resource Type:** Brief
- Description:** This brief provides an overview of key legislation and significant court cases related to substance withdrawal, as well as steps for jails seeking to create a comprehensive response to SUD.
- [Screening for Substance Use Disorder in Jails](#)
- Date:** 2022
- Publisher:** BJA's COSSUP
- Resource Type:** Fact sheet
- Description:** This fact sheet introduces administrative, clinical, and nonclinical jail staff members to SUD screening instruments and their use in jail settings.

- [The ASAM Clinical Practice Guideline on Alcohol Withdrawal Management](#)

Date: 2020

Publisher: American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM)

Resource Type: Guide/guidelines

Description: This document provides guidance on managing patients who are experiencing alcohol withdrawal syndrome.

- [Screening and Assessment of Co-occurring Disorders in the Justice System](#)

Date: 2019

Publisher: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

Resource Type: Guide/guidelines

Description: This report provides evidence-based practices for screening and assessment of adults in the justice system with mental illness, SUD, or co-occurring disorders, as well as detailed descriptions of recommended instruments.

- [Safe Withdrawal in Jail Settings](#)

Date: 2018

Publishers: Center for Health and Justice at Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities

Resource Type: Brief

Description: The need for withdrawal management procedures and services in jail settings is discussed in this brief for jail administrators and policymakers who work on issues related to public safety, public health, and behavioral health.

Overdose Death Prevention

- [Naloxone in Correctional Facilities for the Prevention of Opioid Overdose Deaths](#)

Date: 2020

Publisher: National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC)

Resource Type: Position statement

Description: The NCCHC supports increased access to and use of naloxone in correctional facilities, as described in this position statement.

- [A Primer for Implementation of Overdose Education and Naloxone Distribution in Jails and Prisons](#)

Date: 2019

Publisher: RTI International

Resource Type: Guide/guidelines

Description: This primer was designed to promote and support implementation of overdose education and naloxone distribution programs in jails and prisons to help prevent opioid-related overdose deaths among people who have contact with jails and prisons.

Medication-assisted Treatment

Videos and Other Online Learning

- [Addressing Misconceptions About and Barriers to Medication-assisted Treatment in Criminal Justice Settings](#)

Date: 2020

Producer: BJA's COSSUP

Resource Type: Webinar recording (1:07:24)

Description: Presenters in this webinar discuss documented misconceptions about and barriers to MAT in criminal justice settings, as well as opportunities for reframing misconceptions and developing solutions to these barriers.

- [Implementing Medication Assisted Treatment in Corrections](#)

Date: 2019

Producer: Brown University School of Public Health

Resource Type: Video (7:54)

Description: The Rhode Island Department of Corrections' (RIDOC) MAT Expansion program is described in a full-length video, the content of which is also presented in shorter chapter videos.

- [RIDOC MAT Program: Full Video](#) (1:16:38)
- [Extended Security](#) (15:31)
- [Advice to Other Facilities Starting or Expanding](#) (7:03)
- [Getting Buy-in/Training](#) (12:25)
- [Vendor Information/Screening/Connecting to Community](#) (18:09)
- [Security](#) (6:17)

- [Why MAT/Setting Up the RIDOC Program](#) (5:12)
- [Program Background](#) (6:49)
- [Evaluation and MAT Program Results](#) (18:58)
- [The Medline—Administering Methadone](#) (2:51)

Print Resources

- [Opioid Use Disorder Treatment in Correctional Settings](#)

Date: 2021

Publisher: NCCHC

Resource Type: Position statement

Description: This position statement reflects national guidelines for treatment of opioid use disorder (OUD) and is intended to ensure that people with SUD in custody receive evidence-based care in accordance with national medical standards.

- [Treatment Improvement Protocol \(TIP\) 63: Medications for Opioid Use Disorder](#)

Date: 2021

Publisher: SAMHSA

Resource Type: Guide/guidelines

Description: This TIP reviews three U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved medications for OUD treatment—methadone, naltrexone, and buprenorphine—and the other strategies and services needed to support people in recovery.

- [Myths and Facts About Medication-assisted Treatment](#)

Date: 2021

Publisher: BJA's COSSUP

Resource Type: Fact sheet

Description: This article debunks myths that continue to circulate about this treatment option and specifically addresses falsehoods about MAT in jails.

- [Implementing MAT in Jails Series](#)

Date: 2021

Publisher: BJA's COSSUP

Resource Type: Newsletter articles

Description: This series of newsletter articles explains the three FDA medications for OUD and considerations for their implementation in jails.

- Article 1: [Focus on Buprenorphine](#)
- Article 2: [Focus on Methadone](#)
- Article 3: [Focus on Naltrexone](#)
- [The ASAM National Practice Guideline for the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder, 2020 Focused Update](#)
Date: 2020
Publisher: ASAM
Resource Type: Guide/guidelines
Description: This document provides information on evidence-based treatment of OUD and features a section on individuals in the criminal justice system.
- [Medication-assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder in Jails and Prisons: A Planning and Implementation Toolkit](#)
Date: 2020
Publishers: National Council for Behavioral Health, Vital Strategies
Resource Type: Toolkit
Description: Each of the seven components in this toolkit provides actionable steps, implementation questions, real-world case examples, checklists, tools, and resources for correctional administrators and health care providers seeking to plan and implement MAT programs within jails and prisons.
- [Use of Medication-assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder in Criminal Justice Settings](#)
Date: 2019
Publisher: SAMHSA
Resource Type: Guide/guidelines
Description: This guide describes policies and practices for intervening during an individual's correctional sentence and upon release to mitigate risk of overdose for persons with OUD.
- [MAT Inside Correctional Facilities: Addressing Medication Diversion](#)
Date: 2019
Publisher: SAMHSA
Resource Type: Guide/guidelines
Description: This action brief provides criminal justice stakeholders, correctional facility leadership, and

correctional staff members with helpful strategies and techniques to reduce diversion of MAT medications.

- [Jail-based Medication-assisted Treatment: Promising Practices, Guidelines, and Resources for the Field](#)
Date: 2018
Publishers: National Sheriffs' Association, NCCHC
Resource Type: Guide/guidelines
Description: These guidelines describe general tenets and best practices for developing, implementing, and sustaining a jail-based MAT program, as well as tools, treatment programs, references, and supporting documentation related to MAT.
- [Joint Public Correctional Policy on the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorders for Justice-involved Individuals](#)
Date: 2018
Publishers: American Correctional Association (ACA), ASAM
Resource Type: Position statement
Description: The ACA and ASAM present recommendations for providing evidence-based care to those in custody who have OUD.

Reentry Supports

- [TIP 64: Incorporating Peer Support Into Substance Use Disorder Treatment Services](#)
Date: 2023
Publisher: SAMHSA
Resource Type: Guide/guidelines
Description: This TIP supports learning about the key aspects, functions, and uses of peer support services in recovery from problematic substance use, which will help providers, supervisors, and administrators in SUD treatment programs better understand and respond to these changes.
- [Preparing People for Reentry: Checklist for Correctional Facilities](#)
Date: 2021
Publisher: The Council of State Governments Justice Center
Resource Type: Checklist

Description: Jails and prisons may find this checklist useful for guiding reentry planning and helping ensure the safety of employees and the people who are returning to their communities.

- **After Incarceration: A Guide to Helping Women Reenter the Community**

Date: 2020

Publisher: SAMHSA

Resource Type: Guide/guidelines

Description: This guide provides an overview of promising practices that corrections and community-based service providers should consider in supporting women's transitions from correctional facilities to the community.

- **RSAT Training Tool: Reentry Strategies to Reduce Recidivism and Sustain Recovery**

Date: 2019

Publisher: BJA's RSAT TTA

Resource Type: Training tool

Description: This document provides tools and information to assist with pre-release planning for RSAT clients, including continuing care for individuals with SUD and linkages to community-based transitional and recovery supports that pave the way for reentry success.

- **Meeting the Needs of Individuals With Substance Use Disorders: Strategies for Reentry From Jail**

Date: 2019

Publisher: National Association of Counties

Resource Type: Brief

Description: This brief discusses strategies for connecting people with SUD to community-based treatment and services in preparation for and after being released from jail to help them transition back to their communities and sustain their recovery.

Resource Type: Webinar recording (1:15:00)

Description: One of a three-part webinar series, this webinar highlights strategies for helping individuals successfully return to their communities, including how to develop a community-based treatment infrastructure and create a comprehensive reentry treatment plan.

- **Guidelines for Successful Transition of People With Mental or Substance Use Disorders From Jail and Prison: Implementation Guide**

Date: 2017

Publisher: SAMHSA

Resource Type: Guide/guidelines

Description: These guidelines discuss the prevalence of mental illness and SUD in correctional settings and successful strategies for transitioning people with mental illness or SUD from institutional correctional settings into the community.

Visit the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP) Resource Center at www.cossup.org.

About COSSUP

COSSUP has transitioned from the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP). This change in title for the program is indicative of efforts to reduce the stigma related to substance use and to support impacted people in their recovery journey.

About BJA

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) provides leadership and services in grant administration and criminal justice policy development to support local, state, and tribal law enforcement in achieving safer communities. To learn more about BJA, visit www.bja.gov and follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/DOJBJA) and X (formerly known as Twitter). BJA is part of the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs.

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