

Intersection of Behavioral Health and Criminal Justice

Eric is a 31-year-old man with a severe mental health diagnosis that had gone untreated for years due to a lack of awareness and education. Throughout Eric's early childhood, he lacked a stable household environment. Because of the instability, it was easy for Eric to spend less time at home. This led to Eric having poor social supports, and as a result, he had his first experience with the Ohio justice system at age 11.

Between the age of 11 through 18, Eric was incarcerated for all but 18 months of his adolescence. After Eric turned 18, he was once again incarcerated, this time for a 12-year sentence, but he was determined to make a change.

Intersection of Behavioral Health and Child Welfare

Sara is a 17-year-old girl who has been in foster care since she was two. She has a history of running away from her residential facilities and group homes and can be very physically harmful to others. She also has a history of self-harming behaviors, with multiple inpatient stays and emergency department visits due to her threats of self-harm or harm against others. CareSource stepped in after Child Protective Services (CPS) had nowhere for her to go.

The CareSource care management staff (CM) attended a meeting with the Ohio Department of

Eric began to use the services available to him in prison. He addressed his mental health and started medication, and he participated in programs that helped him establish life goals while reconnecting with the few positive people close to him. Eric was released in May 2018 and independently linked himself to a mental health community agency and Catholic Charities.

Eric was enrolled in the CareSource Health Plan Community Transition Program and originally received a rapid rehousing referral, which was eventually converted to Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH). Due to Eric's stable housing, he now has partial custody of his two daughters and is working more on achieving more goals such as attending barber school.

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Medicaid (ODM) to discuss placement options for Sara. After collaborating as a team, Sara received temporary placement at a new group home. CareSource's CM contacted Sara at least once a week to make sure she was ok. They worked together to develop a safety plan that Sara could use when she starts to feel upset and guidance for her care team if she ever attempts to run away.

Over six weeks, multiple CareSource staff members participated in daily meetings discussing ways to support Sara and children's services. More than 230 facilities in and out of state were contacted by CPS and CareSource regarding finding Sara a safe and appropriate placement. The team was able to secure a spot for Sara at a residential psychiatric facility, and they will continue to work with Sara's CPS caseworker to help her transition into to the community when she is discharged to ensure that she has a successful outcome.