

Michigan Re-entry Project (MIREP)

Innovations During COVID-19



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The Michigan Re-entry Project (MIREP) supports incarcerated individuals with opioid use and mental health disorders to ensure a successful transition to the community. Using the MISSION-CJ model, a case manager and peer support specialist provide services for 3 months pre-release and 6 months post-release. As of mid-May, 120 individuals have graduated from MIREP. During these unprecedented times, MIREP staff have gone the extra mile in ensuring that participants are engaged in services and in supporting their recovery and well-being. This brief serves to recognize the creative work and commitment that MIREP staff have shown during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Kent - Family Outreach Center

- MIREP team has frequent phone contacts – usually daily – with participants in the community.
- Facility Coordinator at Ionia Bellamy Creek (IBC) is facilitating phone sessions between participants and MIREP team.
- Video in-reach sessions have begun at the jail, facilitated by jail social work staff. Similar video sessions are in planning stages at the IBC facility.
- Team supported participation of MIREP clients in a mobile health pilot, receiving daily texts to provide additional support.

Macomb - CARE of SEM

- Team is conducting porch drop-offs of MIREP information packets, including MISSION workbook content, as well as clothing and other needed items to participants in the community.
- Weekly phone contacts and Zoom meetings are occurring with participants to check on well-being and confirm appointments, including MOUD and mental health (MH)/substance use disorder (SUD) treatment.
- Emphasis is being placed on Risk Needs Responsivity (RNR) treatment planning for participants to address unique needs arising during this challenging time.

Monroe - Monroe CMH

- Team is using Zoom and phone for regular contacts and crisis intervention with participants in the community and inside the jail. Team also began video group sessions with participants inside the jail.
- MDOC probation/parole is partnering with team to provide Narcan kits and training to participants. They're also providing kits to non-MIREP individuals.
- Frequency of meetings has increased across systems (jail, parole/probation, and community providers) to expand service access and speed of service delivery.
- Multidisciplinary care team meetings (including MIREP team, participant, natural supports, MH/SUD providers, probation/parole, etc.) are now occurring via Zoom to ensure continued wrap-around services.

Oakland - Oakland Family Services

- The team is making in-person visits outside of participants' homes every couple of weeks, while maintaining social distancing and other recommended precautions.
- Team members are regularly connecting with participants in the community via Zoom and phone.
- Because access to facilities is restricted, the team is mailing packets with program information, contact information, and encouraging notes to participants inside Women's Huron Valley (WHV).
- The case manager is facilitating 3-way calls with participant and local MDHHS office to activate Medicaid upon release.

Wayne - Personalized Nursing LIGHT House

- Team members have kept a very positive and flexible attitude despite limited staff at this time. In the meantime, they are being creative in actively recruiting and interviewing for vacant positions.
- Letters are being mailed to participants inside WHV to introduce the new staff, maintain engagement, and inform them that MIREP is still available to them. The team is maintaining phone contact with participants in the community.
- The team is making porch drop-offs of Narcan kits for post-release participants.
- Regular contact with parole has been increased to strengthen wraparound supports for participants.

MDOC Staff & Facility Coordinators (FCs)

- As of the end of March, facility coordinators were restricted from entering WHV and Detroit Reentry Center (DRC). FCs have remained flexible and continued to recruit participants as long as they could and support MIREP teams in any way possible.
- The FC at IBC is doing in-reach and enrolling clients (while following social distancing protocols).
- MDOC staff are facilitating the mailing of resources to pre-release clients and providing assistance to MIREP teams wherever possible.
- MDOC staff/FCs have taken an enhanced role in facilitating cross-system communication with MIREP Teams, Wayne State, UMass, Correctional Facility Staff and MDOC Parole.

MIREP is a collaboration of MDHHS, MDOC, WSU CBHJ, UMass, U of M, Lakeshore Regional Entity, Macomb CMH, CMH Partnership of SEM, Oakland Community Health Network, & Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network, and is funded through SAMHSA's State Opioid Response grant.