

## **AHCCCS Initiatives and processes to support reentry for individuals released from incarceration**

### *Support for individuals who have AHCCCS coverage and become incarcerated:*

- The AZ Department of Corrections (ADOC) and most of AZ county jails send AHCCCS a daily booking/release file of individuals incarcerated in their institutions. AHCCCS checks the list of individuals booked/released and automatically suspends or reinstates AHCCCS enrollment when members are identified. This process is called the “Enrollment Suspense & Reinstatement Process”.
- The Enrollment Suspense & Reinstatement Process allows for AHCCCS members to receive continuity of coverage following their release from incarceration. Prior to this collaboration, individuals would have their AHCCCS enrollment terminated and would have to begin the application process again when released.
- AHCCCS partners with the AZ Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) and counties to provide enrollment suspense & reinstatement for youth who are booked & released from incarceration.

### *Support for individuals who become incarcerated and are not known to AHCCCS:*

- The ADOC & AHCCCS partnered beginning in 2016 to complete pre-release AHCCCS applications for all eligible inmates releasing from incarceration. We have a 95% approval rate for these applications. This process enables individuals to have AHCCCS healthcare on the day of their release from incarceration. Several AZ Counties offer this same process.
- AHCCCS and its sub-contractor, DES, have dedicated staff whose focus is on assisting members involved in the criminal justice system.
- AHCCCS partners with the AZ Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) and counties to provide pre-release application assistance for youth releasing from incarceration.

### *Access to care for members releasing from incarceration:*

- Beginning in 2016, AHCCCS health plans became required through contract to provide “Reach-In” care coordination to individuals releasing from incarceration with complex health needs.
- AHCCCS received \$300 million of Targeted Investments (TI) funding through its 1115 waiver to incentivize integration of healthcare at the provider level. The criminal justice population was identified as a special population with unique challenges and barriers to accessing care and TI provides incentives to support these members.
- TI funds qualified AHCCCS providers to offer integrated healthcare that is co-located with probation/parole services and staff.

- TI co-located clinics offer onsite Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT), forensic peer & family services, screening for social determinants of health (SDOH) and support to access needed SDOH services (e.g. employment, housing, food).
- Four of the 12 co-located clinics located throughout AZ have already opened their doors. The remaining sites are slated to open by October 1, 2018.

*Partnerships to help reduce recidivism in AZ:*

- AHCCCS staff lead the Supportive Services sub-team that is tasked by Governor Ducey's Goal Council 4 – a council focused on reducing recidivism for individuals released by the ADOC.
- The Supportive Services team implemented processes to increase pre-release AHCCCS enrollment, increase access to tobacco cessation services, increase access to Vivitrol (to treat opioid use disorder) and offer inmates with the ability to apply for the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP).
- As part of the Goal Council 4, AHCCCS has partnered to offer support and services in 3 different Second Chance Reentry Centers located within ADOC prisons. These centers offer education and application for healthcare and employment supports that enable individuals to begin working immediately following their release from incarceration.
- AHCCCS hosts a quarterly Justice Transitions meeting and welcomes anyone involved in supporting reentry in AZ. The next meeting is September 7, 2018 from 1:00-3:00.

*Support for individuals suffering from a substance use disorder (SUD):*

- AHCCCS manages several grants that provide support to people releasing from incarceration who need help with an SUD. More information can be located on the AHCCCS website, here: <https://www.azahcccs.gov/Resources/Grants/>

*For additional information:*

- Dedicated webpage on the AHCCCS website for support of the criminal justice population: <https://www.azahcccs.gov/AHCCCS/Initiatives/CareCoordination/justiceinitiatives.html>
- AHCCCS point of contact- [Michal.Rudnick@azahcccs.gov](mailto:Michal.Rudnick@azahcccs.gov)