



JUSTICE-INVOLVED WOMEN MEETING THEIR HEALTH CARE NEEDS

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RECOMMENDATIONS



- LA CLINICA MOBILE CLINIC**
The best option for medical services is the LaClinica mobile clinic which is presently located adjacent to The Collaborative every Friday. Walk-ins are welcome and services are provided for medical and behavioral health. Dental services are not being offered at this time.
- PARTNER WITH LA CLINICA MOBILE CLINIC AND OHSU SCHOOL OF NURSING TO CREATE A FALL MEDICAL EVENT**
A continued partnership between OHSU and Jackson County Parole and Probation would allow the opportunity to further identify health resources and discover approaches that will reduce barriers to obtaining health services for justice involved women.



CONCLUSION

Our research indicates women on community supervision in Jackson County are indeed experiencing barriers to obtaining health care. The highest reported need is dental care, followed by mental health, vision, medical, and substance abuse treatment. The largest barrier to receiving care is transportation followed by lack of provider, time, difficult process, and bad experiences. Failure to provide health and psychosocial support to justice involved women has a direct link to recidivism (Cowan, 2019).

We need to connect women on community supervision with providers to meet their health needs. OHSU should continue this project to find the best options to eliminate these barriers and identify the best possible resources to support this underserved population.

Research from this project revealed the immense need to locate a dental provider and find solutions to eliminate transportation barriers, which are essential next steps. In the future, the best practices for the provision of medical services for justice involved women should be researched, the measures of effectiveness of any interventions utilized should be determined, and attempts to engage and obtain more information from possible community partners should continue.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

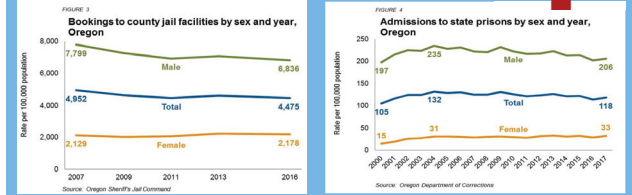
We would like to thank Jackson County Parole and Probation, the Pathfinders Peer Support Network, and all of the women who trusted us with personal experience and insight in order to make this project possible. Thank you Helena for your guidance, direction and support!

BACKGROUND

Jackson County Parole and Probation created a women's center, The Collaborative, which combines services and supervision for justice involved women (JIW) including DHS, child welfare, treatment agencies, and community resources to find the services and supports that will best meet their needs. The medical needs of JIW have not been addressed and Jackson County requested assistance from OHSU in identifying healthcare barriers preventing JIW from accessing medical care in hopes of collaborating with an appropriate provider for their female clients.



POPULATION



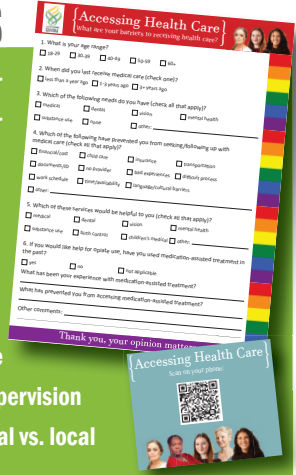
- The rates of bookings to county jails and admissions to state prisons have declined in both the U.S. and Oregon, but mostly among the male population. The **percent of inmates who are female is increasing** (OHA, 2018).
- The most recent data from the Oregon Department of Corrections show that women in Oregon are incarcerated primarily for **nonviolent drug and property offenses** (Oregon Justice Resource Center, 2019).
- Women comprise one-fourth of the probation and parole population.** This is a **10% increase** over the past decade (Benedict, et al., 2012).
- A significant proportion of women in Oregon's criminal justice system have **histories of abuse and trauma** (OJRC, 2019).
- Economic hardship, lower educational attainment, fewer vocational skills, underemployment, and employment instability are more common among justice involved women (Benedict, et al., 2012).

PROJECT GOALS

- Conduct a gender-sensitive needs assessment for health care services among women under supervision
- Explore the barriers that prevent justice involved women from seeking and following through with medical care
- Identify potential community partners to provide medical care resources for to the female parolee population
- Report findings back to Jackson County Community Justice and community stakeholders with suggestions for next steps

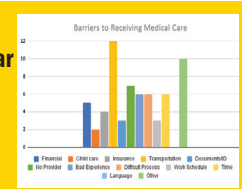
ASSESSMENT METHODS

- Personal interviews of justice involved women, peer support specialists, and probation officers.
- Distribute 'Accessing Health Care Survey' among justice involved women (hard copy, email, and barcode generated)
- Demographic review of 158 case files of women on community supervision
- Research and analysis of national vs. local data on justice involved women
- Research community partners who offer gender-sensitive medical care for underserved populations



KEY FINDINGS

- 69% of the women we surveyed had seen a medical provider in the past year**
- Lack of transportation was identified as the most common barrier to getting/following through with Medical appointments**
- 24% of respondents reported a lack of a Provider as their main barrier to receiving Medical care**



"[I] would like medication to make it easier to get off substances"

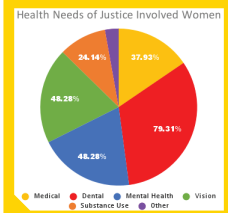
"MAT helps a lot to keep me from having urges"

"I don't know how to go about getting help"

Anonymous Survey Respondents

SIGNIFICANCE OF PROBLEM

- There is a direct link between **recidivism** for women and a **lack of economic, health and psychosocial supports** (Cowan, 2019).
- Women on probation or parole are nearly **twice as likely to experience mental illness** as other women (SAMHSA, 2012).
- Criminal justice involved women tend to have **higher rates of gynecological conditions, STI's, mental illness, substance abuse, histories of trauma, lack of cervical and breast cancer screenings** (NCCHC, 2022).



- 79% of women surveyed reported Dental Health was their greatest need**
- 48% reported a need for Vision care**
- 48% reported a need for Mental Health care**
- 38% of respondents indicated a need for Medical care**
- 68% of women in the gender responsive case loads have charges related to substance use; 24% of the women surveyed report a need for substance use care**

BARRIERS TO RESEARCH

Rogue Community Health, and La Clinica (Birch Grove) were identified as possible partners, however, we were not able to make contact with these agencies to obtain the necessary information.

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