

CUYAHOGA COUNTY DIVERSION CENTER

Solving Our Behavioral
Health Crisis through
Diversion.



Nationally



The odds of a person with serious mental illness being in jail or prison compared to a hospital are eight to one.



Approximately 20% of jail inmates and 15% of state prison inmates have a severe mental illness.



Approximately 50% of people who have serious mental illness and/or substance use disorders also have had criminal justice contact.



Substance use disorders are present for 63% of the sentenced jail population and 58% of the state prison population.

In Cuyahoga County

One half of the people in our jail suffer from serious mental illness or co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders.

How does it work?

A law enforcement officer encounters an individual who is showing signs of mental illness or substance abuse and is involved in a low-level, non-violent offense.

The officer is then able to call a law enforcement only hotline to get support for interacting with an individual and assist in determining if they would be a good fit for the Diversion Center.



Adding a Diversion Center to our local Justice System is the humane thing to do. We cannot stand by while residents who live with mental illness or substance use disorders go to jail when they could recover with treatment. We must act to support them and heal them."



Armond Budish

Armond Budish,
Cuyahoga County Executive

The new Diversion Center is:

Socially Responsible

People put in jail rather than in treatment risk losing connections to family, community, and their employment.

Fiscally Responsible



\$1.8 million

Having a Diversion Center will help reduce our jail population with up to \$1.8 million in potential savings due to jail stays diverted.



\$13.9 million

When we build a new jail we can plan for a smaller more efficient facility resulting in an annual savings of \$13.9 million.



\$21.9 million

Directing individuals to a Diversion Center instead of an Emergency Room could save up to \$21.9 million a year.

What the Cuyahoga County Diversion Center offers:

- ✓ 50-bed facility, staffed 24/7, by clinical and support professionals
- ✓ Diversion beds for serious mental illness (SMI) and substance use disorder (SUD) while appropriate referrals are made
- ✓ Withdrawal management services (detox)
- ✓ Mental health and substance use assessments
- ✓ Psychiatric evaluation and medication management
- ✓ Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)
- ✓ Individual and group counseling
- ✓ Peer support services
- ✓ Case management
- ✓ Help enrolling in benefit programs such as Disability and Medicaid
- ✓ Coordination and linking to community services after onsite care



Cuyahoga County
Together We Thrive