Redefining Drug “Crime” as Addiction: City of Brockton (MA) and the Brockton PD’s Public Health Approach to Reducing Opiate Overdoses

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Pamela Kelley
Kelley Research Associates
Stonehill College

Sean Varano
Kelley Research Associates
Roger Williams University
Champion Plan
The Champion Plan is a police-led treatment-on-demand recovery program that launched in Brockton, MA on February 29, 2016.

The plan is meant to help place individuals with substance use disorders who want help into the level of care they want: Detoxification, Outpatient Services, Medically Assisted Treatment (MAT), etc.

The Brockton Police Department serves as the point of entry and the Brockton-based non-profit, Gandara Center, conducts the intake, warm handoff to treatment, and follow-up contacts with clients.

Kelley Research Associates is the research partner and has built a case management system for data collection and analysis.
Champion Plan Overview

- The only way to enter the program is by going to the Police Department, where the police will assist the individual with a Substance Use Disorder gain entry to the program.
- Police personnel run a warrant check. If a person has a warrant they will be arrested and taken to court to clear up the warrant situation.
- If a person has a substantial drug dealing/trafficking criminal history they are not allowed entry into the program.
- If cleared by the warrant check, police personnel call the program staff from the Gandara Center.
Champion Plan Overview

- Client is paired with a treatment specialist who triages needs and develops treatment plan.
- Once a client is placed in treatment they are also paired with a Staff Recovery Coach.
- Recovery Coaches follow-up with the clients, the treatment facility, or another family member at 72 hrs, 1 wk, 1 mo, 3 mos, 6 mos, 9 mos, 1 yr, 16 mos, 20 mos, and 2 yrs to offer additional supports or further treatment if necessary.
- All activity from initial intake to all follow-up contacts is documented in a case management database.
Program Goals

Goal 1: Ensure all individuals seeking treatment for substance use disorder receive appropriate referrals and/or placements.

Goal 2: Conduct regular follow-up contacts to ensure all clients receive continuing support and assistance after the initial treatment placement/referral is provided. Follow-Up is an intervention as well as evaluation tool.
Program Goals

Goal 3: Provide all individuals who participate in the Champion Plan with overdose prevention training as well as a resource packet containing information about local substance use disorders services.

Goal 4: Provide all individuals who participate in the Champion Plan program information on how and where to access nasal naloxone.
Examples of Data Collected

- Number of Intakes
- Number of Unique Clients
- Number of Repeat Clients
- Unique Client Demographics: Gender, Age, Race, City of Residence
- Types of Treatment Placements
- Time Between Intake and Placement
- Client Risk Factors: OD History, Treatment History, Homelessness, Children, Mental Health Diagnosis, Substance(s) Used
Examples of Data Collected

- Client Exit Survey Information

- Client Follow-Up Contact Data:
  - # of Attempted Follow-ups at each time period (72 hr, 1wk, 1 mo, 3 mos, 6 mos, 1 yr, 18 mos, 2 yrs)
  - # of Successful Follow-ups at each time period (72 hr, 1wk, 1 mo, 3 mos, 6 mos, 1 yr, 18 mos, 2 yrs)

- Current Treatment Status at each Follow-up Period

- Current Support Services at each Follow-up Period

- Self-Reported Relapse at each Follow-up Period
Sample Champion Plan Data
2/29/2016 - 2/28/18
Question: Will Individuals Actually Walk into a Police Department and Seek Help? YES!

- **818 Intakes** between 2/29/16 and 2/28/18
- Involving **523 unique clients**.
- **31% (162)** of the unique clients had two or more intakes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Clients</th>
<th>Number of Intakes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>361 (69%)</td>
<td>One Intake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>94 (18%)</td>
<td>Two Intakes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32 (6%)</td>
<td>Three Intakes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 (5%)</td>
<td>Four Intakes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 (1%)</td>
<td>Five Intakes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 (&lt;1%)</td>
<td>Six Intakes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 (&lt;1%)</td>
<td>Seven Intakes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 (&lt;1%)</td>
<td>Ten Intakes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 (&lt;1%)</td>
<td>Twelve Intakes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Client Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unique Client Total = 523</th>
<th>% (N)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gender:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>68% (362)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>32% (161)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age Range:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 or younger</td>
<td>1% (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-29</td>
<td>28% (148)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>38% (196)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-49</td>
<td>20% (105)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>11% (56)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60+</td>
<td>2% (10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>1% (4)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The majority, **88% (722)**, of the clients are placed into treatment. Of those, **92% (666)** are placed into a Detox program. Average wait time for a placement is **64 minutes** following the completion of the intake process.
Client Risk Factors

- **60% (494)** of the clients at intake reported being homeless at the time of intake.
- **76% (373)** of the homeless clients had spent the night prior to intake on the streets of Brockton, meaning **24% (121)** of the homeless came from out of town to access services.
- **5% (13)** of the female clients were pregnant at intake.
Client Risk Factors

- **82% (670)** of the clients at intake reported using drugs within one day or less of their intake and **10% (79)** reported using drugs within 2 - 6 days of intake.

- The prior overdose question was added six months after the program began. Of the 600 clients that have answered this question, **55% (330)** reported at least one prior overdose before accessing services at the Champion Plan.
Follow-Up Data

There were 4,143 attempted follow-up contacts made between 2/29/16 and 2/28/18 with 60% (2,496) successful in reaching someone.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Follow-Up Time Frame</th>
<th># (%) of Follow-Up Attempted Contacts</th>
<th># (%) of Successful Follow-Up Contacts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>72 Hour</td>
<td>784 (19%)</td>
<td>636 (81%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Week</td>
<td>759 (18%)</td>
<td>521 (69%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Month</td>
<td>673 (16%)</td>
<td>400 (59%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Months</td>
<td>578 (14%)</td>
<td>305 (53%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Months</td>
<td>446 (11%)</td>
<td>216 (48%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Months</td>
<td>338 (8%)</td>
<td>170 (50%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Months</td>
<td>238 (6%)</td>
<td>103 (43%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Months</td>
<td>174 (4%)</td>
<td>78 (45%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Months</td>
<td>67 (2%)</td>
<td>28 (42%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Specified</td>
<td>86 (2%)</td>
<td>39 (45%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Almost half, 41% (1,056) of the successful follow-up contacts (2,496) were with the client. Contacts with the emergency contact could be a loved one, family member, or friend.
Ingredients for Success
TCP Ingredients For Success: Partnerships

- The Champion Plan is a collaborative effort with a wide variety of service providers.
- Successful partnerships mean clients from the program are prioritized and provided access to services in hours rather than days, weeks, or months.
- Champion Plan clients average wait for a bed is 64 minutes.
TCP Ingredients for Success: Reputation

- The Champion Plan has gained a positive reputation in Brockton, Plymouth County, and throughout the state.
- The Champion Plan has many repeat clients that feel comfortable coming back time and time again.
- Testament to the volunteers and staff that clients feel supported and cared for that they will come back even after a relapse without fear of being judged.
TCP Ingredients for Success: Treatment Experts

- Police can provide access points to treatment but they are not treatment experts.
- Programs are encouraged to partner with a local treatment service provider experienced with working with the Substance Use Disorder population.
- TCP has experienced staff who have long histories of working with this population and have strong relationships with the treatment providers in the area.
TCP Ingredients for Success: Warm Handoffs

TCP built in a series of “warm handoffs” across the program:

- Police to TCP Staff
- TCP Staff to program transport teams
- Transport teams to treatment providers

Intent is to fill as many cracks as possible to best ensure clients actually access the treatment offered.
TCP Ingredients for Success: Follow-Up Component

- The Follow-Up component provides a predictable and deliberate effort by staff to maintain regular contact with clients and keep clients engaged with the program.
- By having this process as part of the program model, staff are constantly reminded their responsibility for the client goes well past the point of referral.
- The calls are a constant reminder to clients - if you need us, we are here.
TCP Ingredients for Success: Data Management

- Data provides the ability to “tell the story”.
- The Champion Plan has funding for a Research Partner (KRA) and prioritized the creation of a data management tool that is user-friendly and will provide critical data to evaluate success.
- KRA was involved from the start of the program assisting with the program business model, creating goals and objectives, and creating the data collection tools.
Conclusions
Conclusions

- **Success:** The Champion Plan has incredibly detailed and complete data that helps “tell the story” of the program and the clients.

- **Success:** The Champion Plan is very successful at getting clients into treatment in a short amount of time.

- **Challenge:** The Champion Plan only focuses services on individuals with Substance Use Disorders and does not assist families/friends.

- **Challenge:** The Champion Plan still needs to work on long-term success like keeping clients engaged in treatment for longer time periods and reducing relapse.