



THE  
**STEPPING UP**  
INITIATIVE



# Stepping Up Six Questions Framework

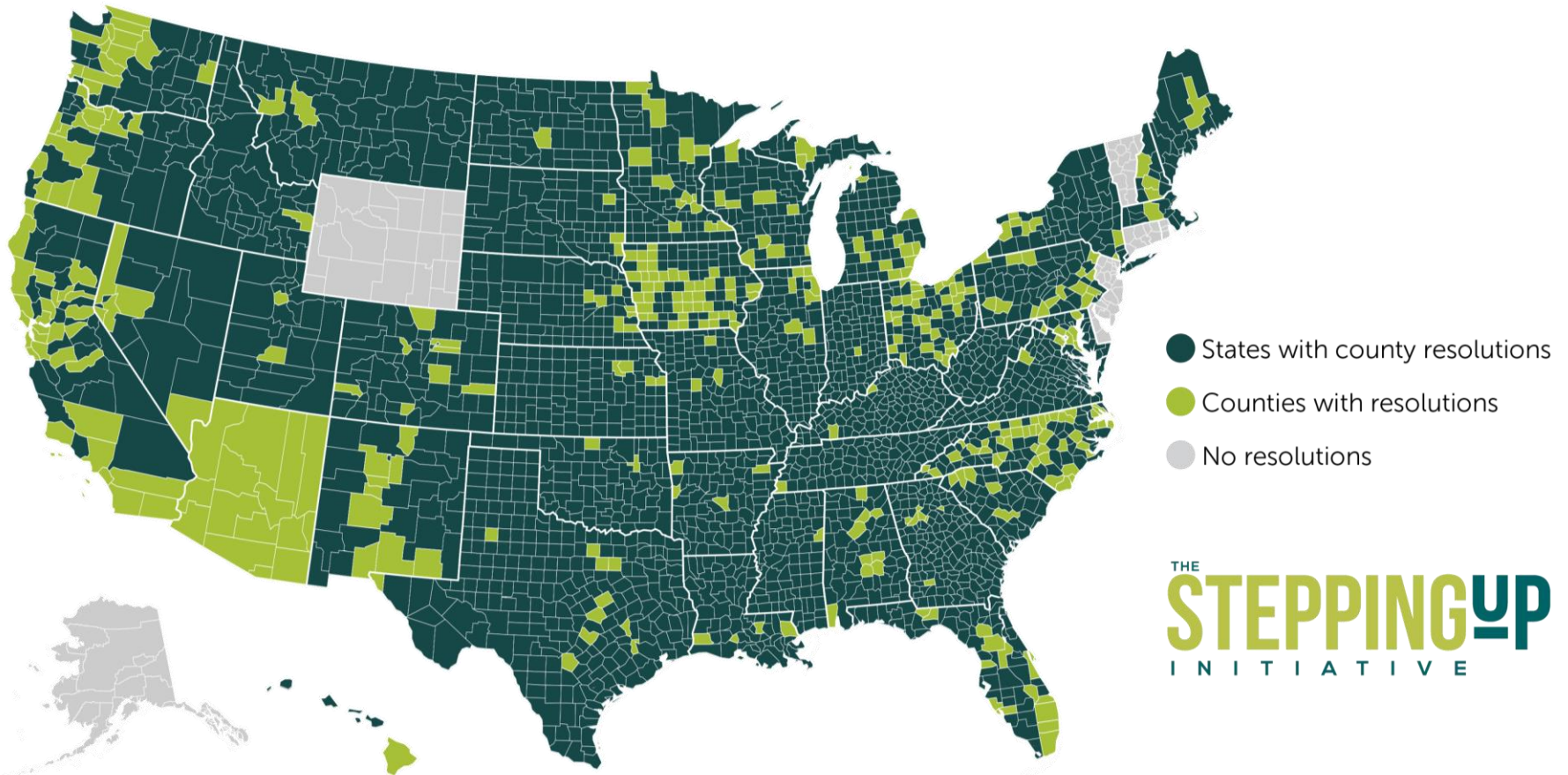
Nastassia Walsh, Program Manager, National Association of Counties

October 2017

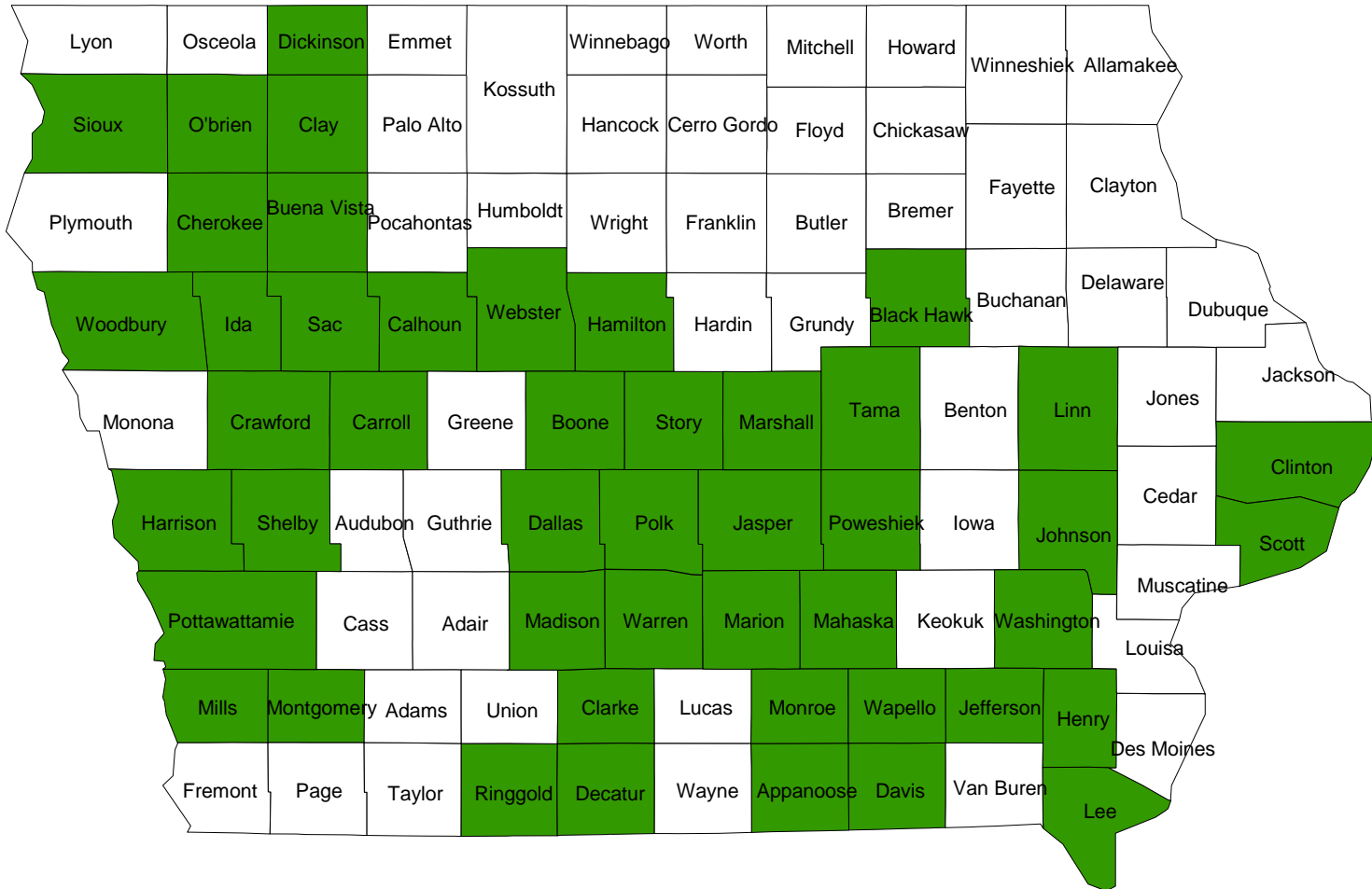
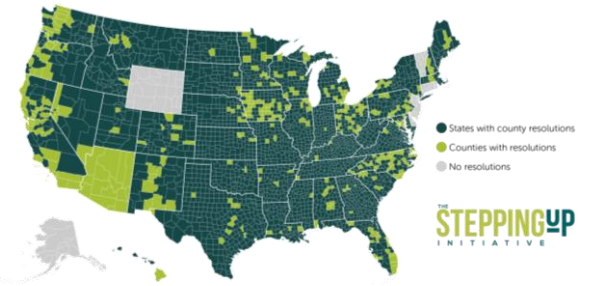
# Stepping Up Launched May 2015



# Counties are Stepping Up!



# Iowa is Stepping Up!



# To Reduce the Number of People With Mental Illnesses in Jails, County Leaders Should Ask These Questions



Released in January 2017

1. Is your leadership committed?
2. Do you have timely screening and assessment?
3. Do you have baseline data?
4. Have you conducted a comprehensive process analysis and service inventory?
5. Have you prioritized policy, practice, and funding?
6. Do you track progress?

# Question 1: Is Your Leadership Committed?

Mandate from leaders responsible for the county budget

Representative planning team

Commitment to vision, mission, and guiding principles

Designated planning team chairperson

Designated project coordinator

## Question 2: Do You Have Timely Screening and Assessment?

- System-wide definitions of mental illness and substance use disorders
- Validated screening and assessment tools for mental illnesses and substance use disorders
- Efficient screening and assessment process
- Validated assessment for pretrial risk
- Mechanisms for information sharing

### Question 3: Do You Have Baseline Data?



System-wide definition of recidivism



Electronically collected data



Baseline data on the general population in jail



Routine reports generated by a county agency, state agency, or outside contractor



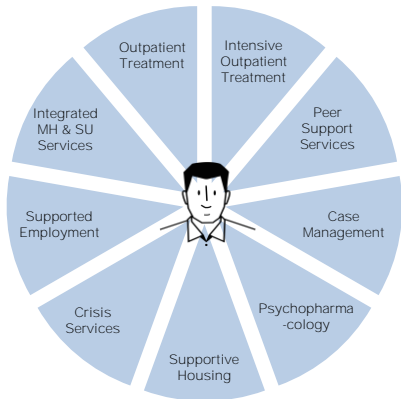
# Four Key Measures



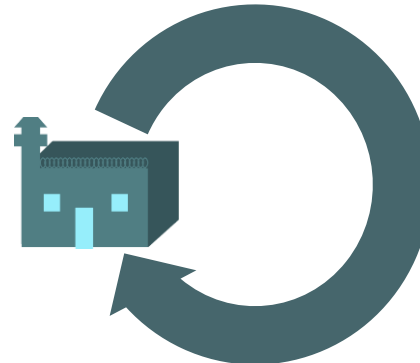
**1. Reduce the number of people with mental illnesses booked into jails**



**2. Shorten the length of stay in jails for people with mental illnesses**



**3. Increase the number of people with mental illnesses connected to treatment**



**4. Reduce rates of recidivism**

## Question 4: Have you conducted a Comprehensive Process Analysis and Service Inventory?



### Detailed process analysis

- Decision-making process? Timely and efficient?  
Type of information? Accessibility? Properly trained staff?



### Service capacity & gaps identified

- What services exist (community and jail)?  
Capacity needs? Waitlists? Population projections?



### Evidence-based programs & practices identified

- What works to meet needs of population and reduce recidivism?

## Question 5: Have you prioritized policy, practice, and funding?

- Prioritized strategies
- Detailed description of needs
- Estimates/projections of the impact of new strategies
- Estimates/projections account for external funding streams
- Description of gaps in funding best met through county investment

# Prioritizing System Improvements

1

**Reduce**

The number of people with MI booked Into jail

- Police-Mental Health Collaboration programs
- CIT training for LE and first responders
- Mobile crisis or Co-responder model
- Crisis diversion centers
- Policing of quality of life offenses

2

**Shorten**

The average length of stay in jails

- Routine screening and assessment for mental health and SUDs in jail
- Pretrial mental health diversion
- Pretrial risk screening, release, and supervision
- Bail policy reform
- Correctional officer training

3

**Increase**

The percentage of connection to care

- Expand community-based treatment & housing options
- Streamline access to services
- Leverage Medicaid and other federal, state, and local resources
- Healthcare enrollment
- Telepsychiatry
- Peer support specialists

4

**Lower**

Rates of recidivism

- Apply Risk-Need-Responsivity principle
- Use evidence-based practices
- Specialized Probation
- Ongoing program evaluation

# Potential Funding Sources

## FEDERAL



### Department of Justice

- Second Chance Act
- Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program
- Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program

### Health and Human Services

- Mental Health / Substance Abuse Block Grants
- SAMHSA Diversion Grants
- SAMHSA Homeless Programs
- Community Services Block Grant
- Social Services Block Grant

### Housing and Urban Development

- Continuum of Care Program
- Housing Choice Vouchers (Section 8) / Public Housing
- Section 811

### Veterans Affairs

- Grant and Per Diem Program
- Supportive Services for Veterans and Families

## FEDERAL / STATE



Medicaid

## STATE



- Mental health general fund dollars
- Community corrections
- State housing trust funds
- Justice reinvestment

## COUNTY / CITY



- General funds
- County-specific tax levies
- Municipal/city funds

## PHILANTHROPY / PRIVATE



- Foundations
- Corporations
- Managed care
- Hospitals

## Question 6: Do You Track Progress?



Reporting timeline on four key measures



Process for progress reporting



Ongoing evaluation of programming implementation



Ongoing evaluation of programming impact

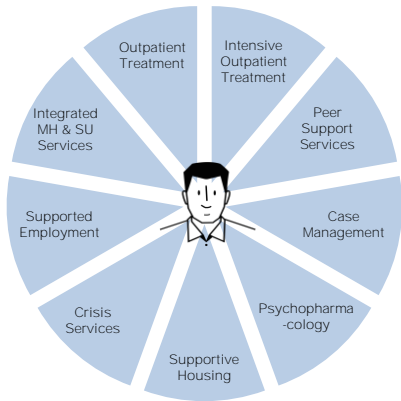
# Track Progress on Four Key Measures



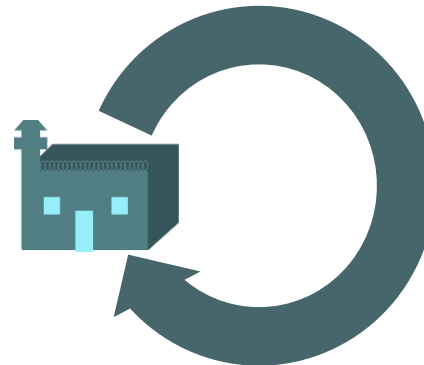
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# *Resources Toolkit*



Monthly Webinars and Networking Calls



Quarterly Small Group Networking Calls



Six Questions Report and Planning Tools



Key Resources and Research



County Case Studies

***[stepuptogether.org/toolkit](https://stepuptogether.org/toolkit)***



# Upcoming Stepping Up TA Resources

## Monthly Webinars and Networking Calls

- Next Webinar: Addressing Housing Needs of People with Mental Illnesses in Jails (November 9 at 2pm ET)
  - Network Call on Housing (November 16 at 2pm ET)
- Register at [www.StepUpTogether.org/Toolkit](http://www.StepUpTogether.org/Toolkit)

## Quarterly Small-Group Networking and TA Calls

- Rural, Mid-Size and Large/Urban Counties
- Next calls in December. Email Nastassia to join.

## Coming Soon!

- A Project Coordinator Handbook
- Self-Assessment Tool
- Guidance on measuring the prevalence of people with mental illnesses in jails
- Guidance on establishing baseline data



# THANK YOU

For more information, please contact:

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