

New Directions Re-Entry Program Linkages to Care for Criminal Justice Involved Individuals with Co-Occurring Disorders

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New Directions Re-Entry Program and Linkages to Care

- New Directions is a re-entry initiative within the Hawai'i Department of Health Adult Mental Health Division (AMHD) designed to **reduce recidivism** among persons with **co-occurring substance use and mental illness (CSAMI)** through early identification and treatment.
- Linkages to care for this sub-group is different from linkages to care for people with substance use disorder. This Hawaii example shows how LTC can be fine-tuned / tailored. Also, this example shows the importance of acknowledging self-help / mutual support groups in the long-term recovery process where there is always a risk of relapse. This is not just about referral to care, and publicly funded treatment.



New Directions Re-Entry Program

The program utilizes Certified Forensic Peer Specialists (FPS) to provide outreach to eligible participants following their arrest and refer them to an array of recovery support services available through AMHD, ensuring the complex needs of the CSAMI population are addressed for successful reentry / re-integration into society.



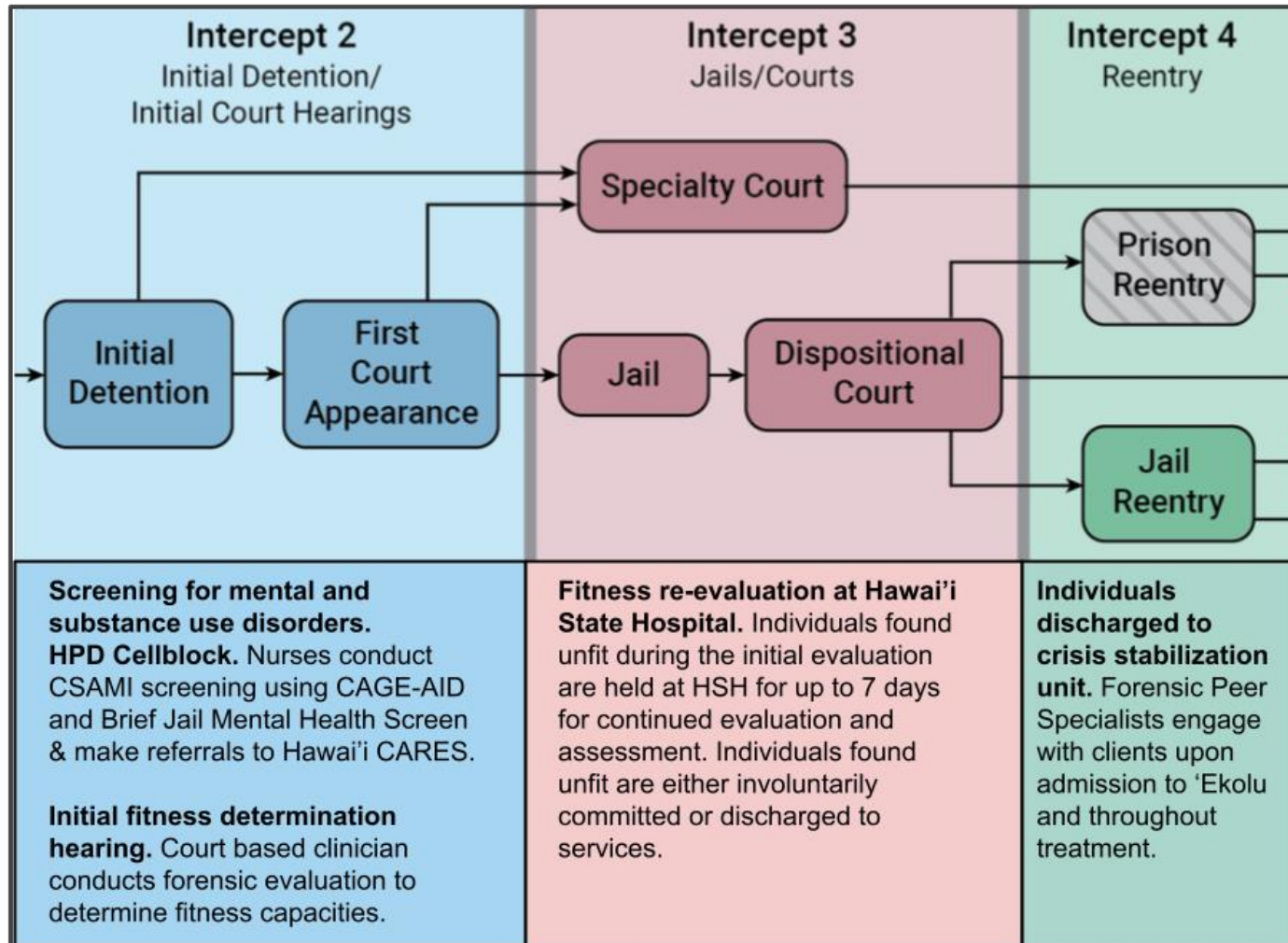
What are Forensic Peer Specialists?

Forensic Peer Specialists are **peers** that have experience with both recovery and criminal justice involvement.

- This makes it easier for clients to **trust them** and feel safe.
- Their **experience** helps them support clients in navigating their own journeys of recovery.



Our Sequential Intercept Model



Our Partners and Intercept Points

- Adult Mental Health Division
- Honolulu Police Department: Central Receiving Division
- Department of Public Safety
- Hawai'i State Hospital: 'Ekolu
- Community Empowerment Resources
- Niu Health

Intercept 2: Post-Arrest	Intercept 3: Post-Initial Hearings	Intercept 3: Re-entry
Initial Detention and Hearings	Jails, Specialty Courts, Forensic Evaluations	Continuity of Care
HPD Cellblock	Hawai'i State Hospital	'Ekolu
Nurses conduct CSAMI screening & make referrals to HawaiiCARES	Court Based Clinician conducts fitness evaluation to identify Act 26 consumers	Forensic Peer Specialist engages with Act 26 consumers upon admission and throughout treatment

What Services Do Our Forensic Peer Specialists Provide?

- Share their personal recovery experiences & how they have overcome their own challenges
- Assist client in identifying their strengths and developing effective coping strategies
- Assist client in developing problem-solving skills, articulating their goals for recovery, and developing recovery plans
- Facilitate supportive self-help groups (art, meditation, etc.)
- FPS help to improve referrals to care
- Linkages to care extend beyond care services and treatment, includes self-help group support outside of the treatment and healthcare system.



Care Provider Shares Story of Success

These services have already impacted the lives of many individuals who have cycled through our systems refusing services for years.

One such consumer recently accumulated 6 citations and 3 criminal written complaints in the first 6 months of 2021 alone. Despite consistent legal intervention, her cases were often dismissed and, due to her resistance to treatment, she was never referred to care services. However, after speaking with a Forensic Peer Specialist and other 'Ekolu staff she agreed to engage in treatment, staying for 19 days and eventually accepting placement in a Therapeutic Living Program.

