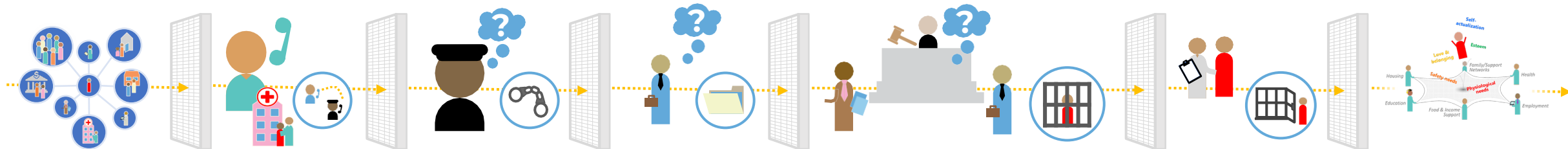


Sequential Intercept Model

Basis for LA County's re-imagining of the justice system & push to more community-based, upstream prevention



Intercept 00 encompasses community-based responses & support programs *addressing or preventing the underlying problems that increase likelihood of justice system involvement*: poor mental or physical health, homelessness, poverty, trauma, unemployment, and more. Solutions include government investment in robust community-based systems of care, social supports, housing and anti-poverty initiatives.

Intercept 0 is considered a gate-keeper to formal interaction with the criminal justice system and focuses on non-law enforcement ("pre-police") interventions for people with mental health or substance use challenges *before* they are arrested. Here, the goal is to de-escalate behavioral crises and avoid a police response altogether, thereby preventing any collateral consequences of a police encounter, arrest, conviction and/or incarceration.

Intercept 1 is centered around police-led interventions at the "pre-arrest" stage that help individuals avoid the consequences of arrest and booking. Diversion programs in this intercept empower law enforcement to avoid unnecessary arrests for low-level offenses and instead refer individuals to services.

Intercept 2 focuses on prosecutor-led "post-arrest" diversion options, with prosecuting agencies offering the chance to postpone filing charges in exchange for individuals voluntarily completing a treatment program or fulfilling some other set of requirements. This type of diversion is also described as "pre-filing" (before the prosecutor files formal charges).

If the prosecutor chooses to proceed with a case and file charges, intervention now becomes a collaborative court-led effort at **Intercept 3**. Although the decision ultimately lies with the judicial officer, ideally the prosecution, defense and judge all agree to defer further proceedings "pre-trial" and allow individuals to avoid any further incarceration in exchange for completing court-ordered treatment and/or obligations in one of three ways:

1. **Pre-plea:** without conviction (pleading guilty/no contest), and with the case dismissed upon successful completion
2. **Post-plea:** after conviction (pleading guilty/no contest), and with the plea then withdrawn and the case dismissed upon successful completion
3. **Alternative sentencing:** after pleading guilty and being sentenced, but with jail/prison held in abeyance while completing the obligation and/or treatment; upon successful completion, any further jail or prison time is deleted from sentence and avoided

Whether criminally convicted or not, if individuals are taken into custody, at some point they will be released back into society, and **Intercept 4** addresses the continuity of care between correctional facilities and community behavioral health providers as people return to their communities. It concludes when someone is linked to ongoing community supports.

Intercept 5 focuses on the person's continued and permanent access to resources, after the transition from jail or prison to the community. This encompasses probation and parole, including such practices as specialized behavioral health caseloads and the use of graduated responses as alternatives to technical violations for problematic behaviors that would traditionally result in jail time.