

*Opportunities and Resources to Improve Outcomes  
for People with Mental Illnesses  
in the Criminal Justice System*



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# Why Now??



- **1 in 31 adults is under the supervision of the criminal justice system on any given day**
  - The majority have a SA or MH disorder...or both
  - 14.5% of men and 31% of women entering jails have SMI
  - 10-15% of persons in prisons have SMI
  - >66% of persons in jails have substance abuse/dependence
  - 40-60% of persons in prison have substance abuse/dependence
  - 30% of those with SA also have major MH disorder
  - 72% of those with SMI also have SA disorder



## SAMHSA Strategic Initiative #2

### Trauma and Justice—

Reducing the pervasive, harmful, and costly health impact of violence and trauma by integrating trauma-informed approaches throughout health, behavioral health, and related systems **and addressing the behavioral health needs of people involved in or at risk of involvement in the criminal and juvenile justice systems.**

## Leading Change: A Plan for SAMHSA's Roles and Actions 2011-2014



- **Jails - the largest institutional setting for those with SMI**
  - Stay longer
  - More likely to have probation suspended or revoked
  - Cycle in and out...impacts recovery
  - More likely to be victimized

# The Time is Right



- **Enormous financial and human resources spent on this population**
- **Downsizing prison/jail systems is occurring**
  - ✦ Impact on community treatment needs
  - ✦ Opportunity for reinvestment in the public health system
- **A stronger commitment to cross-system collaboration and partnerships**
- **Opportunity to contribute to safe community environments**