

## Expanding Substance Use Disorder Treatment for Persons Involved in the Justice System

States, counties, and organizations across the country are seeking solutions to address the opioid crisis and the continued rise in substance use-related overdoses and deaths.

Health Management Associates (HMA) is expanding a successful program which increases access to evidence-based treatment for people in carceral settings and others involved in the justice system. This program includes the use of medications for addiction treatment (MAT) which is a whole-person, clinically proven intervention for opioid use disorder (OUD) and a vital tool to help break the cycle of addiction to reduce the risk of overdose and recidivism. The program also utilizes other treatment protocols to effectively meet the needs of individuals with substance use disorders (SUD) in the justice system.

The implementation program model assures evidence-based treatment is available in local criminal justice systems and links those in treatment to community-based programs and providers upon release, a critically important step to reducing the risk of fatal overdose following release.

In addition to reducing overdoses, access to this treatment in carceral settings limits the increasing risk of lawsuits against detention facilities that fail to meet the community standard of care which includes providing access to treatment for SUD.

The HMA model provides each local team and/or facility with an experienced coach who will visit the location and support the team with individualized planning, technical assistance, problem solving, and other substantial training and resources.

### THE MODEL

- » Builds capacity for the effective treatment of SUD, with a focus on OUD and Stimulant Use Disorder (StUD), for effective treatment of opioid addiction in the justice-involved population.
- » Works to establish continuity of treatment- both medications and counseling- at release, and to coordinate closely with drug courts, prosecutors, public defenders, probation, and parole to assure consistent support for treatment for SUD across the criminal justice system.
- » Establishes a learning collaborative framework to allow county teams and state prison systems to rapidly share and disseminate best practices and modify them to their unique situations, with timely, targeted technical assistance.
- » Reduces problem behavior in incarceration settings, recidivism, and overdose deaths.

## Contact us. We can help

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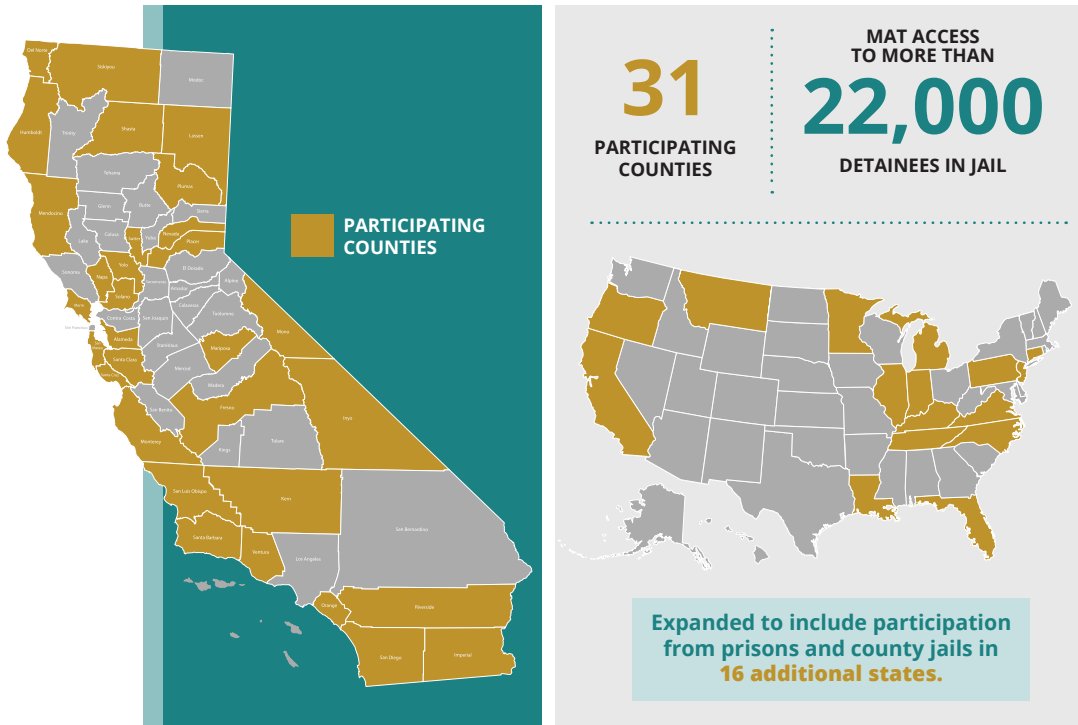
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Launched in California with 22 counties offering MAT to fewer than 25 detainees, the California cohort continues to grow and in 2022 includes 31 participating counties providing MAT access to more than 22,000 detainees in jails. The model has been successfully implemented in the smallest rural and frontier counties as well as the largest urban counties and has expanded to include participation from prisons and county jails in 16 additional states.

**HMA'S SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM IS BUILT BY:**

- » Supporting multidisciplinary teams with representatives from custody, healthcare, and the community
- » Building a continuum of evidence-based treatments for SUD aligned with emerging community standards of care
- » Working with jails and prisons at all levels of readiness within the current state of healthcare delivery and SUD programming
- » Providing individualized support to each facility to develop a community standard of care that includes the jail or prison system
- » Promotes recovery, improves community and facility safety and security, and reduces recidivism

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