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Building an Effective Behavioral Health, Corrections and Public Safety Collaboration to Reduce Criminal Recidivism

March 7, 2016

Agenda

- Context for considering a BH re-entry program
- WISR approach
- Lessons learned
 - Strategies for convening key stakeholders
 - Partnerships to meet the BH needs of the re-entry population
 - Funding needs and strategies
 - Barriers and approaches to overcome them

US has the Highest Incarceration Rate in the World



- 716 out of every 100,000 people in prison/jail (Walmsley, 2013)
- 1 out of every 35 adults under corrections supervision (Glaze & Kaeble, 2014)
- Blacks and Latinos disproportionately incarcerated (Minton & Golinelli, 2014)
- Females are the fastest growing corrections population (Glaze & Kaeble, 2014)
-

Substance Users Engage with Criminal Justice System More



Delayed treatment leads to continued use and more crime to support use or while under the influence (Collins and Lapsley, 2008)



Chronic drug users engage in crime 30% more than non-drug users (French et al., 2000)



Drug laws, policies and practices result in high levels of incarceration
(Drug Policy Alliance, 2015)

Many People Involved in CJ System Have Substance Misuse Problems

- 53% of state and 45% of federal prisoners with drug dependence or abuse (Mumola & Karberg, 2007)
- 33% of state and 18% of federal prisoners used alcohol at time of offense (BJS, 2004)
- 68% of jail inmates with substance abuse or dependence (Karberg & James, 2005)
- $\frac{3}{4}$ of prison and jail inmates with MH disorders also have SUDs (James & Glaze, 2006)

Incarceration Harms Individuals, Families, and Communities

For the Individual

- Decreases employment opportunities and lowers wages (Western, 2002)

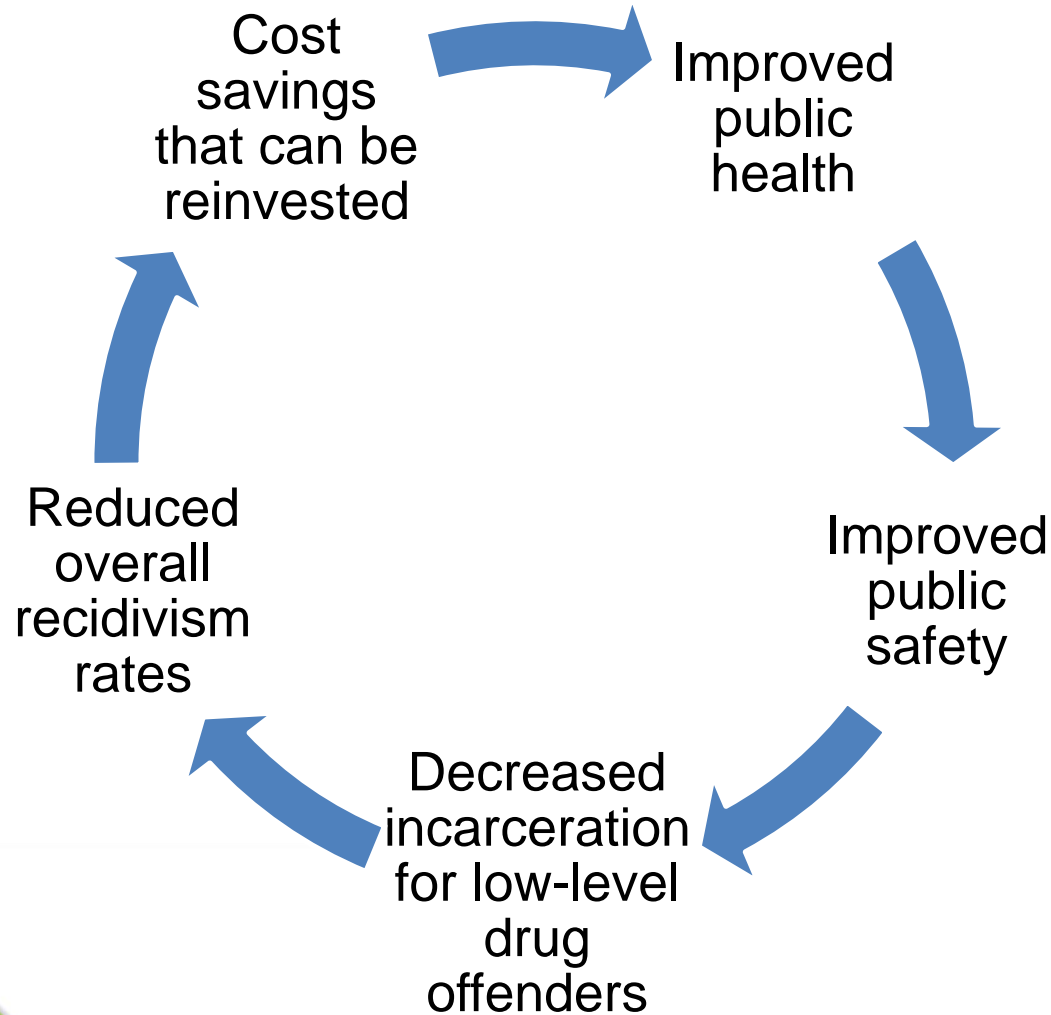
For the Family

- Adds to financial difficulties
- Harms parent/child & partner relationships
- Hurts childhood functioning (Clear, 2007)

For the Community

- Adds to racial/ethnic wage gap (Western, 2002)
- Increases child-poverty rates (DeFina & Hannon, 2010)

Treatment Benefits Public Safety



Opportunity for Economic Impact

In 2010, financial costs of prisons nationally:

\$48.5 billion to states
(Kyckelhahn, 2014)

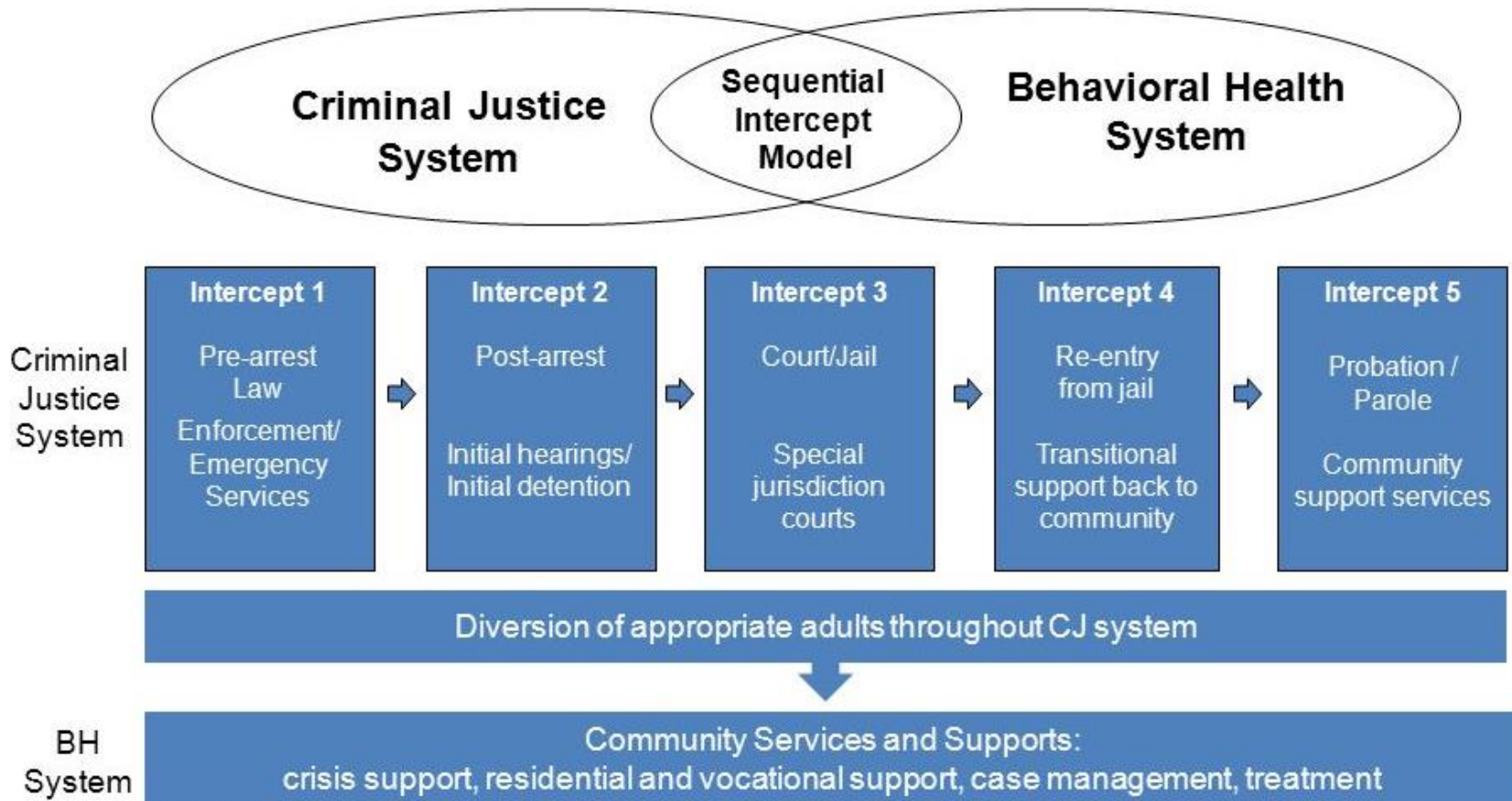
Cost of prisons to taxpayers - \$39 billion
(Henrichson & Delaney, 2012)

In 2014, financial costs of prisons in MA:

\$53,000 per year
(MADOC, 2014)

1,564 inmates convicted of drug offenses cost \$83.0 million per year
(MA EOPPS, 2015)

WISR Focuses on Re-entry, Intercept 4



Borrowed from NYS DCJS/OMH Justice & Mental Health
Collaboration Program, June 22, 2015

WISR Provides Intensive Case Management to Support Re-entry

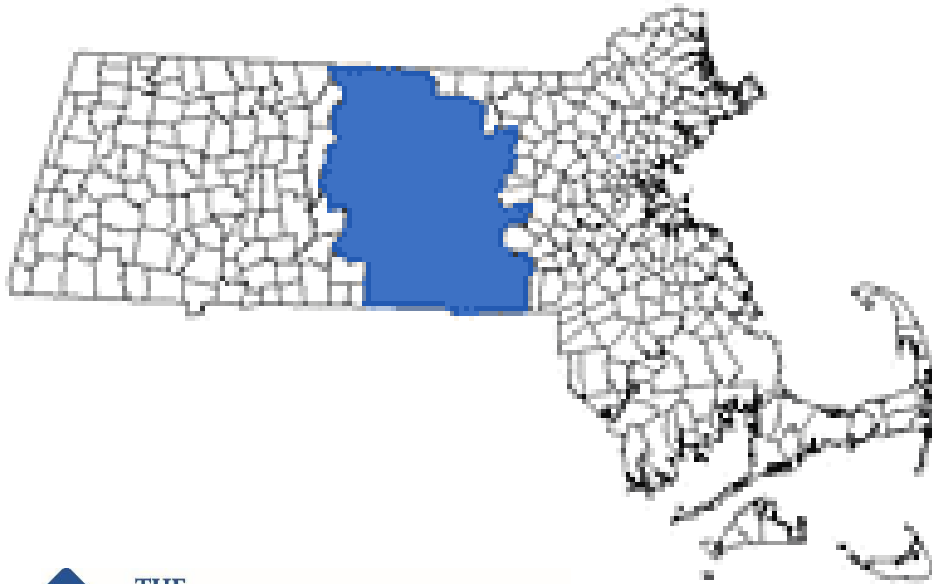
Multi-year initiative funded by the Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts

Aim of reducing criminal recidivism, improving public health and increasing public safety

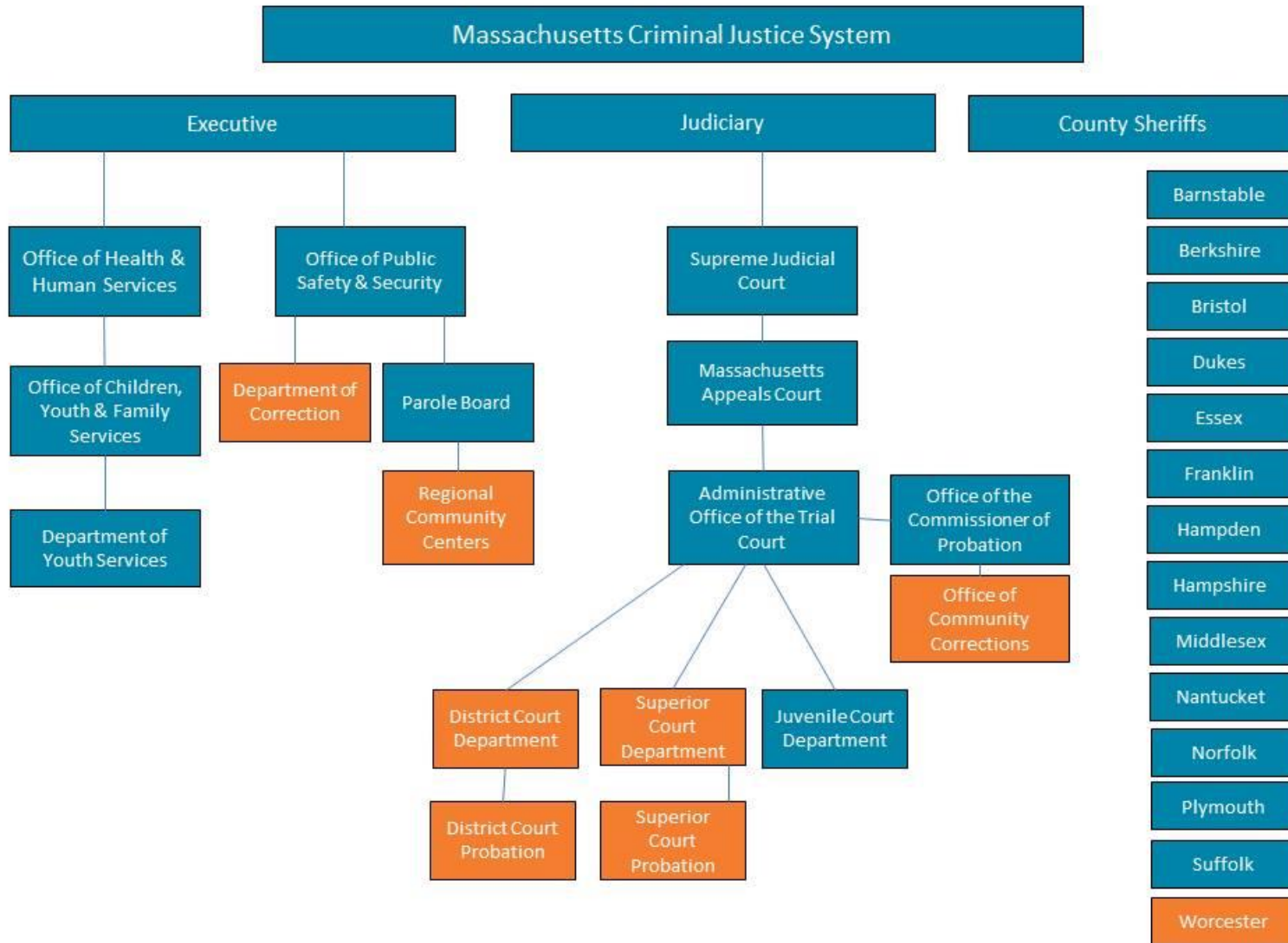
Provides re-entry supports to promote positive outcomes and strives to attain systemic changes

Targets men leaving DOC and HOC and returning to Worcester County

Forming a Re-entry Collaboration: Why Worcester?



- Worcester County Population: 750,963
- Worcester is the 2nd largest city in New England
- 2nd highest number of releases from prison and jail
- Highest level of recidivism



Adapted from : Engal, L., A. Boehler, et al., "Priorities and Public Safety II: Adopting Effective Probation Practices". *Understanding Boston*. The Boston Foundation. 2010.

Project Timeline and Structure



- Identified and convened key partners
- Launched committees
- Local and national research and readiness assessment
- Designed Pilot model

- Recruited limited number of participants
- Tested model
- Convened task forces to address most challenging barriers

- Increased recruitment sites and participants
- Continuous Quality Improvement
- Results dissemination

- Use results for legislative advocacy
- Capitalize on Criminal Justice Reform movement

Planning: Assessing Readiness and Resources

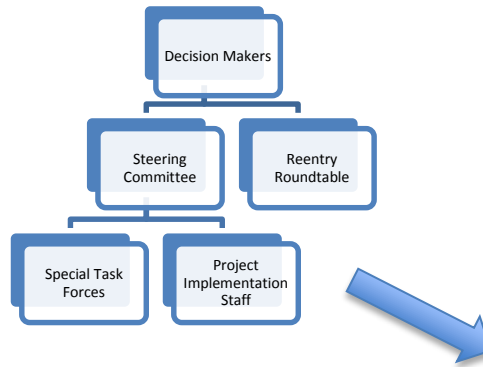
Organizational Capacity



Engage Evaluator & Partners

Value Proposition

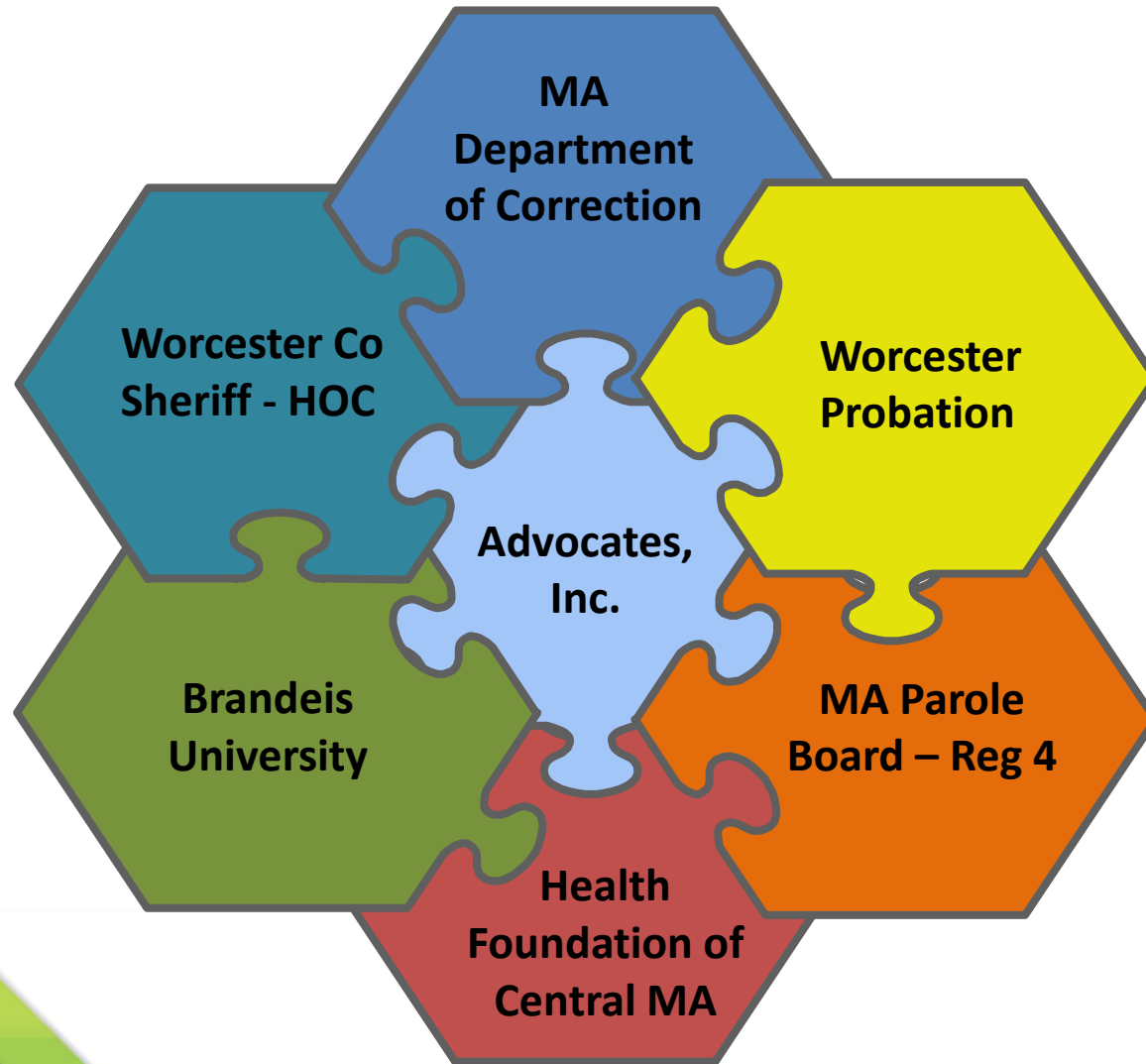
Planning Project Management Structure



Pilot Model Design

System and Resource Assessment
Strengths and Needs

Partners Work for Systemic Change



From Pilot to Implementation



- Tailor the program design for your locality
- Establish a framework to test the model
- Leverage partners to problem-solve and overcome barriers
- Utilize lessons learned to take model to scale
- Communicate and maintain transparency with funders and partners

Data, Data, DATA!

Lessons Learned



- Engage an evaluator on day one
- Gain buy-in and support from your criminal justice partners
- Be prepared to invest time and resources into data collection and reporting
- Share your results strategically and often

WISR Focuses on Barriers to Housing, Employment & Addiction Recovery

Pre-release services

Intensive case management

Employment support

Housing support

WISR Provides Access to Critical Services

No participant returns to community homeless

58% continuous employment at least 6 months

Among those still in community:

69% with family

14% in own apartment

16% in residential treatment/sober housing

1% in VA program



Healthcare insurance
91%

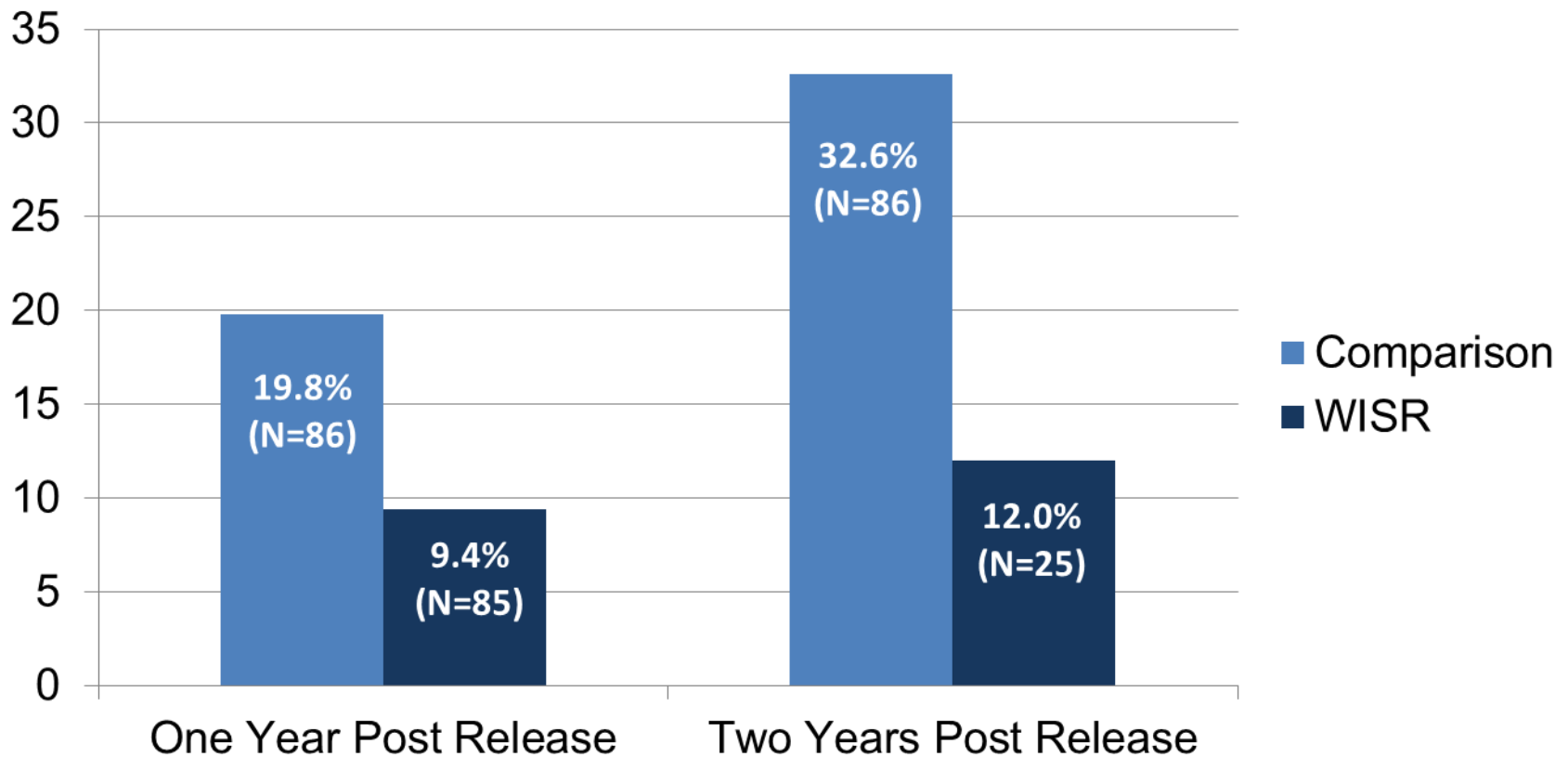


Primary care visit
55%



Substance abuse referral
56%

WISR Demonstrates Significantly Lower Recidivism Rates



Opportunities for Change

- National shift in criminal justice philosophy
- Growing bipartisan consensus
- Expansion of healthcare coverage-
Affordable Care Act
- Policymakers' calls for change