

Essential Elements For CIT Programs: Assessment Centers

The Challenge of Access to Services

The NAMI Virginia/Virginia CIT Conference

September 11, 2011

AGENDA AND SESSION GOALS

- Provide information and food for thought about this complicated area
- Identify the challenges, provide examples of efforts that are proving successful
- Engage participants in discussion of challenges, options and solutions

The Context: Who Is In Virginia's Jails?

- Approximately **293,000** adults are arrested annually*
- On any given day **25,804** inmates are in jail **
- On any given day **4,867** (19%) of those inmates are**
diagnosed or believed to have mental illness

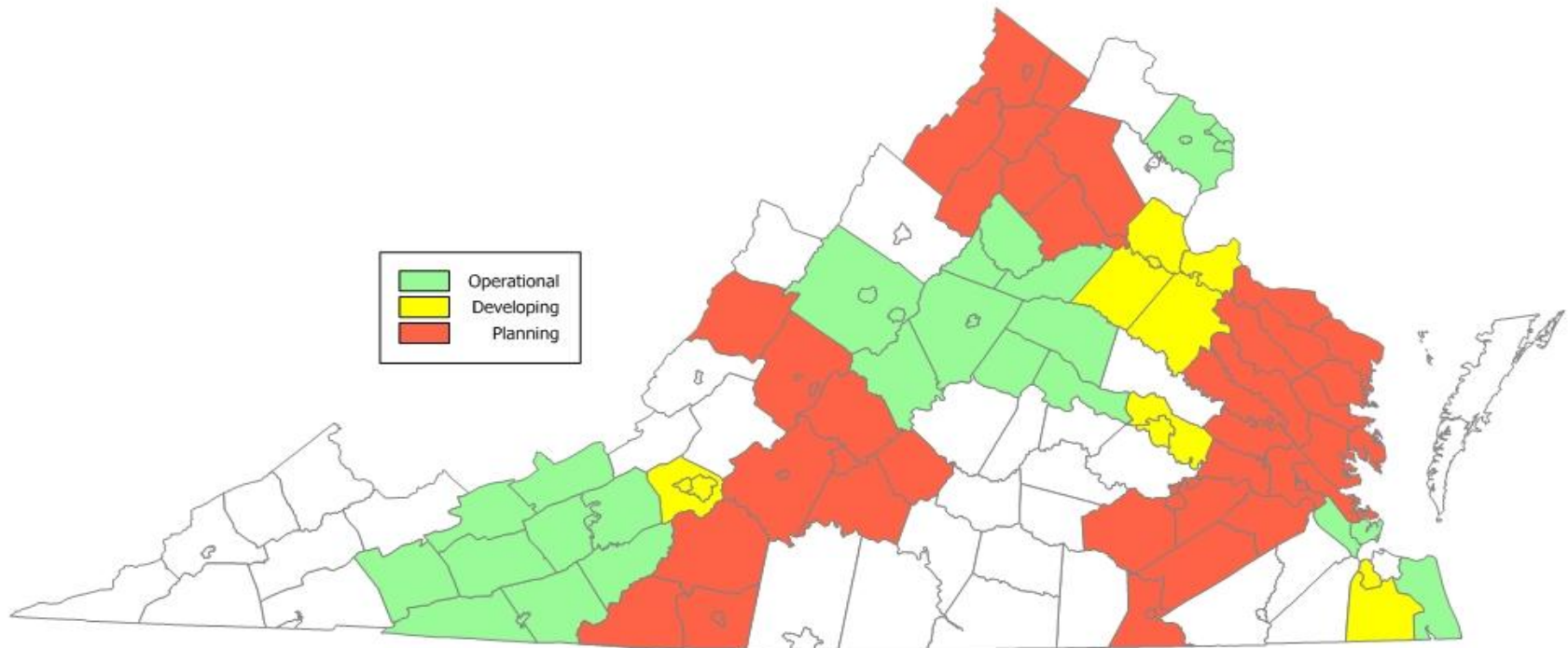
* Data Source: Virginia State Police (2006 – 2009)

** Data Source: State Compensation Board, Mental Illness In Jails Report (2010)

Figures based on 30 day average from data collected for the month of July 2010

The Context: Status of CIT Programs (as of 5/31/11)

23 Virginia CIT initiatives (9 operational, 7 developing, 7 planning)
2,354 and 382 other team members completed 40 hour CIT training
5 Programs Providing Therapeutic Assessment Site Capability



5 Essential Elements of Assessment Sites

- 24/7 availability of an assessment site for law enforcement to use as an alternative to incarceration and services access point
- 24/7 availability at that site of emergency services/clinical personnel who can determine clinical status and assess treatment needs for the individual
- 24/7 availability of law enforcement/security to support transfer of the ECO and to provide for the safety of all persons involved
- 24/7 ready availability of medical screening
- 24/7 ready access to dispositional options including TDO beds, crisis stabilization, detox, and other community based services

- What strides have been made toward achieving these goals?
 - Virginia Beach CIT
 - Thomas Jefferson Area CIT

- What are the impediments?

- What are other communities doing?