

# SBERING CENTER

SERVING AUSTIN & TRAVIS COUNTY

# thesoberingcenter # besafebesoberatx

PRESENTED BY DR. RHONDA G. PATRICK, LCSW, MPA | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# What is a Sobering Center?

Sobering Centers are public facilities where citizens can safely recover from acute intoxication; offering a safe place for high risk substance users to sober.

Sobering Centers are often utilized as an alternative to jail and emergency rooms.



# What's the Mission of the Austin Sobering Center?

The mission of Austin Travis County Sobriety Center is to enhance public health and public safety by providing an alternative to the emergency room and jail for publicly intoxicated individuals to sober up and, where appropriate, provide a safe environment to initiate recovery.

## Community Outreach and Education

- **Providing education to stakeholders**
  1. High Risk Substance Use
  2. Public Intoxication
  3. Targeting information to the “responsible person”
- **Conducting outreach to improve access**
  1. Law Enforcement
  2. Emergency Medical Services
  3. Jail Intake
  4. University students and groups
  5. Bars and Pubs
  6. Hidden and vulnerable (Deaf, MH, IDD, Homeless)

Community  
Engagement

Intake

## Sobering Center Model

## Paramedic

- Triage and assess for admission to Center
- Interface with LE and EMS regarding circumstances of transports and admissions
- Medical evaluation for individual to determine level of care needs- Medic-Respiratory, Cardiovascular, Neuro, Gastro
- Assign care plan to sober support staff
- When transfer out, warm handoff and transfer of care w/medical assessment for EMS transport
- Supervise and support SSS during monitoring of patients.
- Chart QA and ensure entered into Insync

## Behavioral Health Professional

- Substance Use Screening (ASSIST/DAST)
- Brief Intervention-Problem Identification
- Referral-Problem Identification
- Treatment Placement- Service Connection, Service Coordination, Service Collaboration
- Care Coordination- ensuring warm hand offs along the entire care episode
- Provider networking and coalition building
- Crisis management follow up-post discharge

SBIRT

Sobering

## Sobering Support Specialist

- Safe Monitoring- Control Center and 1:1
- Ongoing medical evaluation by Medic-Respiratory, Cardiovascular, Neuro, Gastro
- Comfort Care- clean up, hydration, snack
- Emotional Support and Compassion
- Crisis Management
- SUD Screening as part of discharge
- Post discharge follow up

# What Have We Accomplished?

## COMPREHENSIVE BUSINESS AND OPERATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE

- Physical Plant Renovation
- Comprehensive Administrative, Clinical, Personnel and Fiscal Processes
- Hiring and Training Competent Staff/Care Providers
- Strategic Plan
- Data and Evaluation: Snapshot Data

# What Have We Accomplished?

## SERVICE DELIVERY MODEL GROUND IN EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE AND BEST PRACTICE

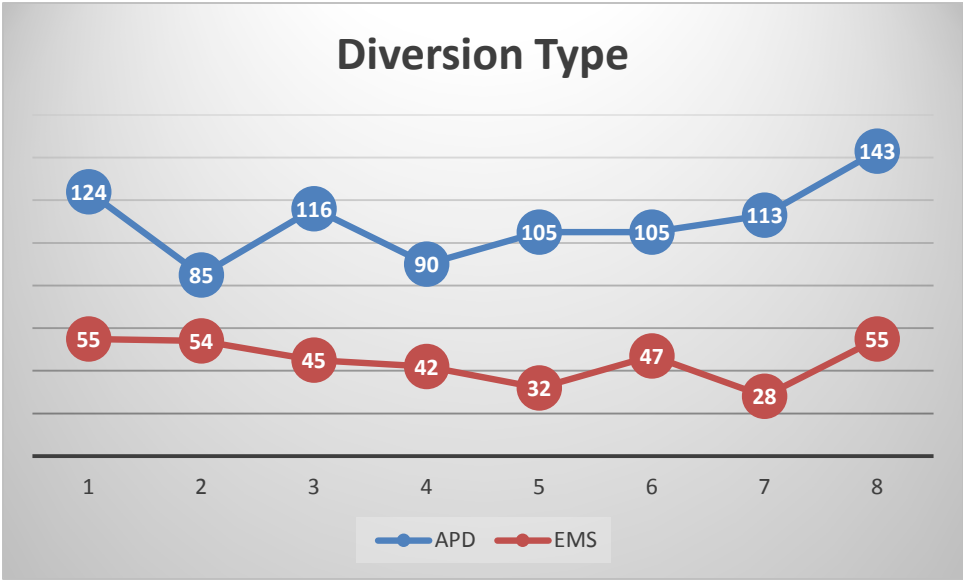
- Outreach & Education
- Screening, Brief interventions, and referrals to Treatment (SBIRT)
- Safe Sobering

# What Have We Accomplished?

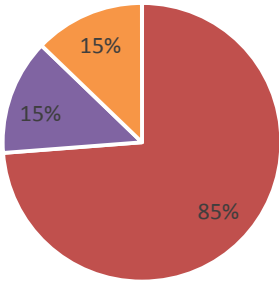
## COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- Stakeholder Expected ROI
- Coalition Building
- Substance Abuse Provider Collaborations
- Community Needs Assessment

General Demographics	Percentage
Sex	
Male	77%
Female	23%
Transgender	0%
Age	
Under 21	5%
21-30	31%
31-40	27%
40-55	27%
55+	3%
Race/Ethnicity	
Hispanic	40%
African American	9%
Anglo	44%
Asian	1%
Other	5%
Homeless	17%
Students	7%
Out of City	9%

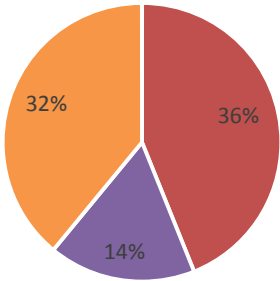


Admit Substance



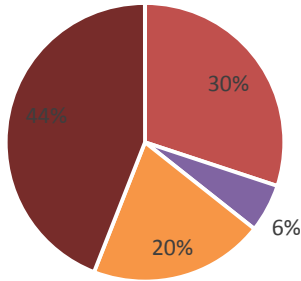
Alcohol Only All Illicit Substances Any Opioid Use

Screening Severity Catagory



Mild/Harmful Moderate/Hazardous Severe/Disordered

Post Party Transportation Plans



No Plan Drive Walk Other Ride



# What Still Needs To Be Done?

Robust Evaluation

SUD Planning

Sobering Access Expansion

*Get Connected!*

# Join the Cause!

[www.soberingcenter.org](http://www.soberingcenter.org)

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