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Road Map Initiative

Cycling high users of Chicago's homeless system, hospitals,
and the Cook County Jail

2021

Road Map Initiative: Analyses & Action

We wanted to understand the scope and breadth of people cycling across the homeless system, emergency health departments and the criminal-legal system. The Road Map Initiative is focused on solution building that marries data analysis with systems thinking to remove “roadblocks” to services for people who are in need. The results can help policymakers, administrators of programs and services, and direct-service professionals by:

- Addressing policies and practices that result in systemic racism.
- Informing the allocation of resources to disrupt cycling across multiple systems and incentivize cross-sector, cross-provider coordination and collaboration.
- Improving quality of life for Chicagoans cycling across our emergency services.

Milestones:




- 2018** Smart Policy Works convened partners to begin systems process mapping in order to better understand how people access public programs and “flow through” services.
- Smart Policy Works and the University of Chicago’s Urban Lab – Health Lab launched an effort to link data across sectors to establish a baseline understanding of the scope and breadth of cycling across systems.
- Smart Policy Works, Safer Foundation and TASC conducted a housing stability survey of people involved in the criminal-legal system in Chicagoland.
- 2019** Urban Labs – Health Lab and Smart Policy Works co-convened a Data Advisory Council, which includes the City of Chicago All Chicago, Cook County Sheriff’s Office, Illinois Department of Public Health, Heartland Alliance Health, Mercy Housing Lakefront, Safer Foundation, TASC and the University of Illinois Health & Hospital System.
- Smart Policy Works conducted “journey mapping” with people with lived experience to gain an “outside-in” view of public systems.
- 2020** Urban Labs-Health Lab completed cross-sector data linking.
- 2021** Smart Policy Works and Heartland Alliance Health launched the Road Map Initiative Phase II: Analyses to Action.

Quantitative analysis revealed important insights...

1. Very few people access all three sectors over four years (3,000) – and even fewer (1,200) persist in their cycling
 - These 1,200 people spend **1 out of every 5 days** in an institutional setting
 - Service utilization cost for the 1,200 **cost \$300 million over** four years
2. Homeless-services clients are most likely to have cross-sectoral engagement
 - 4 out of 10 have **at least one hospital or jail stay** over four years
3. The effects of systemic racism are apparent
 - Of people cycling across all three systems, **84% are Black**, 79% over the age of 45
 - Almost half of people cycling between CCJ and emergency shelters are under 35
4. Cycling high users are more likely to need detox when detained in Cook County Jail
 - Alcohol dependence and **alcohol-related disorders** drive hospital in-patient and ED stays
5. Access to stable housing is a challenge
 - Of people cycling in all three sectors, **only 15%** accessed permanent housing in the continuum of care

Human Cost of Systemic Racism...

Demographics of high users of hospitals, the homeless system and the jail underscore the effects systemic racism.

<p>86% MALE</p> 	<p>84% BLACK</p> 	<p>50 AVERAGE AGE</p> 
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Common charges for detention in Cook County Jail:




- SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER (Narcotics)**
- "CRIMES OF SURVIVAL" (Retail Theft, Trespassing)**

Top three causes of hospital emergency visits and in-patient stays:

- Schizoaffective disorder
- Alcohol dependence
- Unspecified psychoactive substance use with unspecified withdrawal

** Top three causes of hospital emergency & in-patient stays reflects less than 25% of all hospital visits of "cycling high users"; however, data analyses of emergency visits of "super utilizers" in Cook County identifies alcohol-related disorders as #1 for emergency visits.*

Profiles of Cycling High Users...

<p>OLDER WITH COMPLEX NEEDS 86%</p> 	<p>OLDER WITH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CHALLENGES 10%</p> 	<p>YOUNGER WITH FAMILIES 4%</p> 
OVER THE COURSE OF FOUR YEARS, THEY HAVE SPENT ...		
<p>312 Days on average in public systems</p>	<p>371 Days on average in public systems</p>	<p>284 Days on average in public systems</p>
IN JAIL:		
<p>1 in 3 Received medical or mental health services or required detox</p> <p>Most common charge: Possession of Narcotics</p>	<p>63% Received medical services</p> <p>64% Received mental health services</p> <p>59% Required detox common charges: "Crimes of Survival" (retail theft, trespassing, parole violation)</p>	<p>None Received medical services</p> <p>Under 1 in 5 Received mental health services or required detox</p> <p>Most common charge: Domestic Violence</p>

Road Map Initiative 2021: From Analyses to **Action**

Engage

Generate ideas on how to improve quality of life for high users of the homeless system, the emergency health departments and the Cook County Jail.

Test

Vet and test the ideas using a proven model for innovation to guide our process.

Deliver

Vetted, scalable “turnkey” pilots by November of 2021 ready to implement by January of 2022.

Steering Committee 2021

- Smart Policy Works LLC
- Heartland Alliance Health
- TASC, Inc.
- Mercy Housing Lakefront
- Metropolitan Planning Council
- Safer Foundation
- University of Chicago's Urban Labs, *Health Lab*
- All Chicago
- Cook County Sheriff's Office
- Chief Judge's Office – Safety & Justice Challenge
- UIC Health & Hospitals System
- Chicago Department of Family Support Services, Homeless Prevention Services
- Bobby E. Wright Center
- Illinois Health Practice Alliance
- RUSH

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