THE IDENTIFICATION & EXPLORATION OF KEY ARREST FACTORS AMONG VETERANS WITH HISTORIES OF INCARCERATION

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Research Study Name: ARREST
- Arrest Risk-Reduction Evaluation & Standardization Tool

**Goal:** The creation and development of a valid and reliable tool to predict arrest among at-risk Veterans
- Draws comparisons to:
  - STORM: Predictive Tool for Opioid Overdose
  - REACH VET: Predictive Tool for Suicide Prevention
RATIONALE FOR ARREST PROJECT

Void in Current Research & Literature: Criminal justice involvement is often operationalized by an arrest

Problem: Using arrest as the initiation for services is TOO late

1. Absent other CJ outcomes, Veterans are deeply involved in CJ system at the time of arrest
2. VA and Veteran Justice Outreach Specialists (VJOs) are reactive instead of proactive
3. Reactive response can be problematic – may not effectively identify Veterans in system
4. Veterans in need may not receive treatment in a timely manner, if at-all
GOALS AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES
GOALS OF ARREST PROJECT

Research addresses the identified void in the current research & literature

Development of a Valid and Reliable Measurement Tool for Veteran Arrest

Early Identification of At-Risk Veterans

Early Intervention for At-Risk Veterans
EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF ARREST PROJECT

Expected Outcomes:

1. Reduce the human and monetary costs associated with arrest
   A. Arrests can negatively impact:
      i. Employment
      ii. Housing
      iii. Pro-Social Relationships
      iv. Treatment Services

2. Reduce societal costs associated with arrest and recidivism
RESEARCH PLAN
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-Phase</th>
<th>Phase I</th>
<th>Phase II</th>
<th>Phase III</th>
<th>Phase IV +</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Establish &amp; maintain connections with key personnel (Clinicians, psychologists, VJO’s, etc.)</td>
<td>Administer Qualitative Interviews</td>
<td>Create an Arrest Factor Assessment Tool from Qualitative Interviews</td>
<td>Implementation of Assessment Tool</td>
<td>Conduct Re-Assessments at Periodic Intervals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Completed - Continuous</td>
<td>January 2020 to September 2020</td>
<td>Fall 2020 to Spring 2021</td>
<td>Spring 2021 to Fall 2021</td>
<td>Fall 2021 to Fall 2022</td>
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RESEARCH PROGRESS
RESEARCH PROGRESS

IRB Approved Study #19-093

Established & Maintain Connections with Key Members/Staff from:
- VA Substance Use Domiciliary
- VA Homeless Domiciliary
- Intensive Outpatient Unit (IOP)
- Tarrant County Veteran Treatment Court

Created:
- Veteran Qualitative Interview Script
- Professional Staff Qualitative Interview Script
- Recruitment Flyer
- Budget
  - Compensation
  - Transcription Services

Recruited & Enrolled 8 Veterans
- 2 Pilot—non-recorded
- 6 Audio-recorded
Promising findings from interviews point to more nuanced themes and concepts beyond that of ‘substance use’ or ‘mental health’

- Distancing or isolating from family/friends
- Self-medicating (Negative reaction to prescribed meds)
- Significant negative life-event leading to diminished prosocial networks (divorce or passing of a family member)
CHALLENGES & SOLUTIONS
**CHALLENGE #1**

**CHALLENGE:** Study is on Administrative Hold per ORD directive in response to COVID-19

- No in-person recruitment, enrollment, or interviews

**SOLUTION:** Transcribe completed interviews

- Contract services with VA-based transcription program
CHALLENGE #2

CHALLENGE: ‘Unchartered territory’ once Administrative Hold on in-person research is lifted

• Novel experience for everyone in the research community

SOLUTION: Rely on input from mentors while restarting research

• Balance research goals/timelines with ORD directives aimed at the safety of research subjects and teams
QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?