

Follow up QUESTION: Also, to follow up, on Item 7, Question 1, I asked if Road to Recovery was distinct from SAMSO, and the response was that they are distinct programs. I'd like to know how they are distinct and what prompted the Road to Recovery program to be created. COUNCIL MEMBER TROXCLAIR'S OFFICE

ANSWER:

1. Road to Recovery is an integrated mental health and substance use disorder treatment program for individuals who have a history of repeated contact with the criminal justice system. The appropriate level of care for clients is determined using a validated risk assessment tool. All assessments and treatment modalities use evidence-based methodologies to determine individualized treatment plans based on the referred client's needs, risks, and required level of care.

2. SAMSO: The interlocal agreement for Substance Abuse MSO among the City of Austin, Travis County, and Austin-Travis County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center d/b/a Austin Travis County Integral Care (ATCIC) originated in 1999. The City and County developed the Interlocal Agreement in order to contract for substance abuse treatment services utilizing a Managed Services Organization (MSO) approach. The purpose of this new approach is to better coordinate and standardize substance abuse treatment services for the community and to designate the target populations to be served, eligibility criteria, services to be covered, and expected outcomes according to those standards and requirements set forth in this Agreement. Under this Agreement, ATCIC provides specific services as the MSO in order to prevent duplication of administrative services and promote a continuum of care for clients. This Agreement also facilitates the coordination of City and County funded services with state funded services in order to maximize leveraging of all available funds.

As the local authority for mental health and intellectual/developmental disabilities services with extensive experience in this area, ATCIC serves as the MSO under this agreement. In the model established under the Agreement, individuals are authorized and then served by organizations in the network that provide the assessment and treatment of "eligible clients" (the "Network"). In addition, the following MSO functions are provided: Credentialing, Gate Functions, Utilization Management, Quality Management, Management Information Systems, Financial Management, Administration /Contract Management, and Network Development and Management.