

Medicaid coverage for the justice-involved individuals

This request will improve healthcare (physical, mental, and substance use treatment) in jails and prisons and improve care coordination during community re-entry.

\$838,600
Ongoing General
Fund request

\$1,056,900
Ongoing Medicaid
Expansion Fund

Improving transitions from incarceration

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) seeks funding to modify and update the Justice-Involved 1115 Demonstration Waiver currently in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) review process. The program will serve 755 Medicaid members leaving jails or prison.

This request aligns with newly released [CMS requirements](#) for justice-involved services. It modifies and updates previously approved funding to include the following:

- Extending Medicaid eligibility from 30 days to 90 days pre-release.
- 30-day supply of prescription medications upon release.
- Pre-release care and case management support.
- Social risk screening to identify individuals who qualify for homelessness services, including Housing-Related Support Services (HRSS) or rental assistance, and intensive case management.

Housing support services for justice-involved

DHHS proposes to strengthen services for individuals experiencing homelessness by expanding the existing HRSS program. DHHS proposes new rental assistance and intensive case management services to individuals at risk of homelessness.

Justice-involved goals:

- ✓ Improve access to care, continuity of care, coordination and communication through re-entry
- ✓ Reduce mortality
- ✓ Reduce healthcare costs through emergency room diversion and inpatient stays
- ✓ Reduce rates of recidivism



Creating value

The additional resources for justice-involved Medicaid members create significant value for the state by enhancing care and support provided to individuals prior to and following their release from incarceration.

Utah statistics:

- The rate of mental illness in Utah jails is 30% (6 times higher than the general public).
- Nearly 49% of justice-involved individuals screened indicated the need for further assessment for substance use disorder.