Pathways

Pathways is a partnership of the San Mateo County Courts, Probation Department, District Attorney, Private Defender Program, Sheriff’s Office, Correctional Health, and the Mental Health Services Division. Pathways for seriously mentally ill and dually diagnosed individuals (who are competent to stand trial) will establish three paths to treatment: a) post adjudication intensive supervision, b) post adjudication alternatives to incarceration, and c) diversion from the criminal justice system. For each of these paths, the goal is improved outcomes for seriously mentally ill and dually diagnosed offenders through integrating judicial and criminal justice sanctions/approaches and treatment for addressing individuals’ underlying behavioral health problems that underlie or contribute to involvement in the criminal justice system. The criterion for eligibility includes:

- Statutory eligibility for probation
- San Mateo County residency
- Have a diagnosis of a serious mental illness
- Voluntarily agree to participate in Pathways

Each defendant referred may receive:

- Collaborative probation and mental health eligibility review
- Pre Pathways information and support

For those court ordered into Pathways components include:

- Peer support/Mentoring
- Treatment and Recovery Plan Services
  - Treatment plan and medication services
  - Housing plan and supportive services
  - Supported employment, education or community services
  - Treatment & Recovery support for co-occurring MH/substance use
  - Psycho-educational/recovery services
  - Case management services including assistance/linkage with health care services
- Family Support
- Monitoring, supervision and support of treatment/recovery/behavior

Pathways Stages:

1. Pre Pathways—Information, education, support is provided to engage eligible defendants in treatment services.
2. Eligibility Review—Obtain and review case information in collaboration with attorneys, mental health & probation to determine eligibility and appropriateness for services.
3. Initiate Collaborative Plan—An individualized treatment plan is developed in a collaborative process to address the needs, symptoms & behaviors of the Pathways participant.
4. Supervision, monitoring and support—Support is provided to insure participation and compliance with the individual treatment plan. The effectiveness of treatment is periodically reviewed to maximize positive outcomes.
5. Completion—Successful completion of the terms of probation and Pathways treatment plan.