

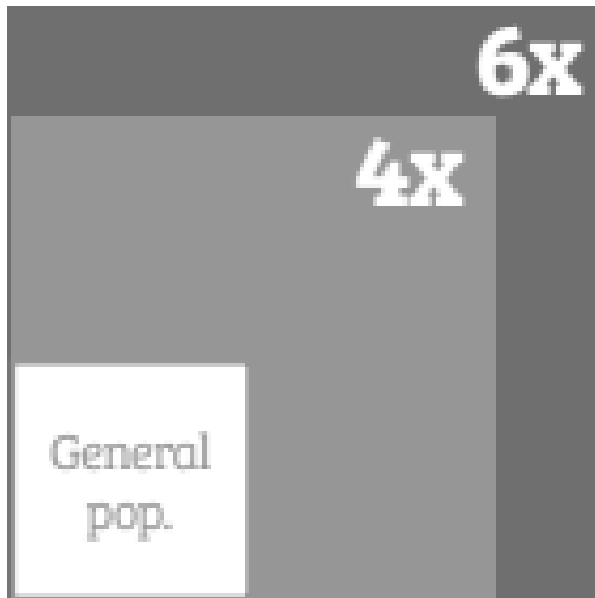


# Sequential Intercept Model: Legislative Action

Amber Widgery, NCSL

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# Jails: De Facto Mental Health Institutions



Rates of serious mental illness in jails are four to six times higher than in the general population.

# Jails: De Facto Mental Health Institutions

## Jail populations

Number of people held in local jails each day

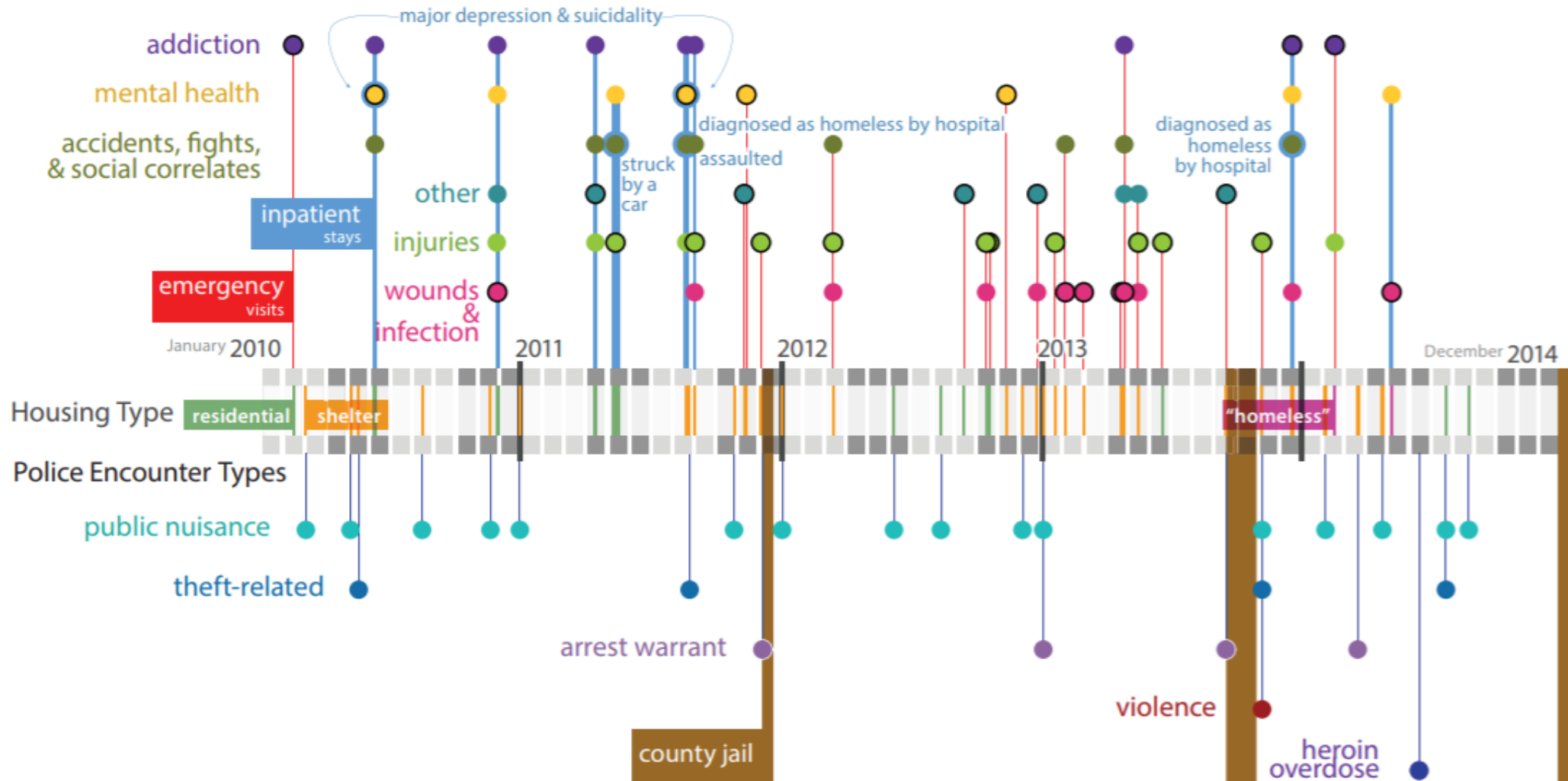
**2015**  
700,000

**1970**  
157,000

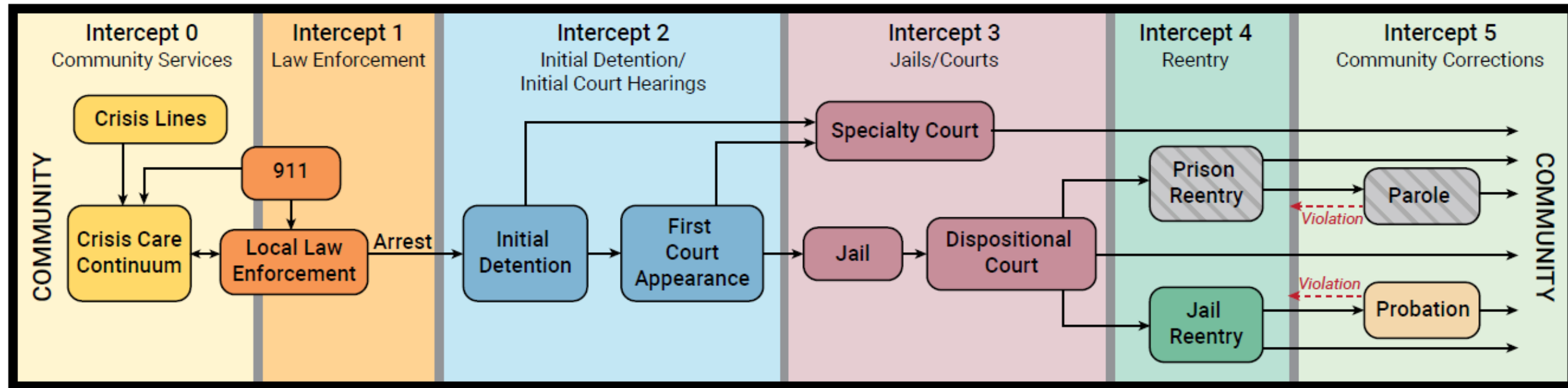
- In 44 of the 50 states, a prison or jail holds more individuals with mental illness than the largest remaining psychiatric hospital.
- The use of the justice system to address the mentally ill has contributed to significant growth in overall jail populations. At least 700,000 people were held in local jails each day in 2015. By contrast, that number in 1970 was just 157,000.

**Figure 4. Case study of a cross-sector complex-care patient**

Diagnosis Categories ○ primary diagnosis



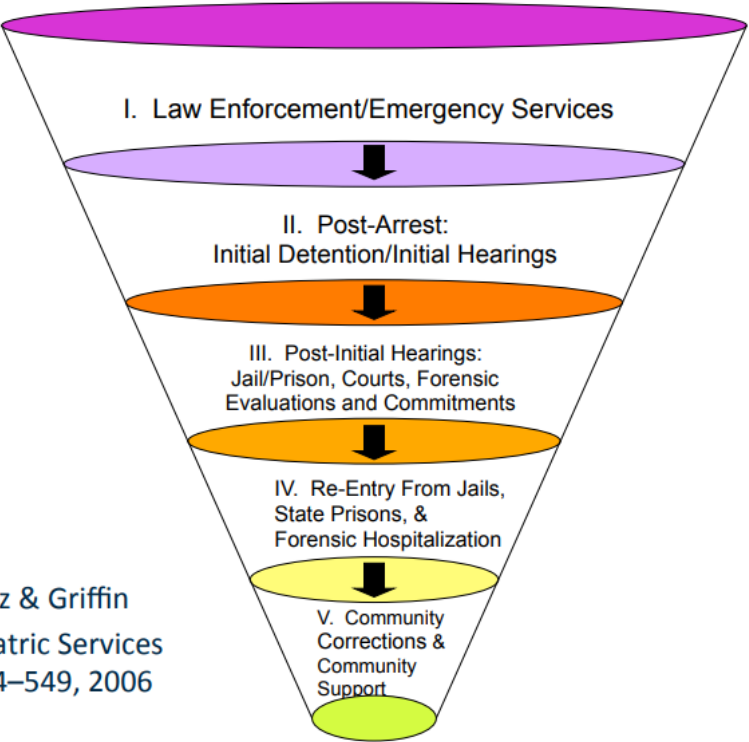
# Coordination Through the SIM



“The Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) was developed over several years in the early 2000s by Mark Munetz, MD and Patricia A. Griffin, PhD, along with Henry J. Steadman, PhD, of Policy Research Associates, Inc. The SIM was developed as a conceptual model to inform community-based responses to the involvement of people with mental and substance use disorders in the criminal justice system.” See also: Mark R. Munetz & Patricia A. Griffin, Use of the Sequential Intercept Model as an Approach to Decriminalization of People with Serious Mental Illness, 57 Psychiatric Services 4, 544-549 (2006); Dan Abreu et al., Revising the Paradigm for Jail Diversion for People with Mental and Substance Use Disorders: Intercept 0, Behav. Sci. Law, 1-16 (2017).

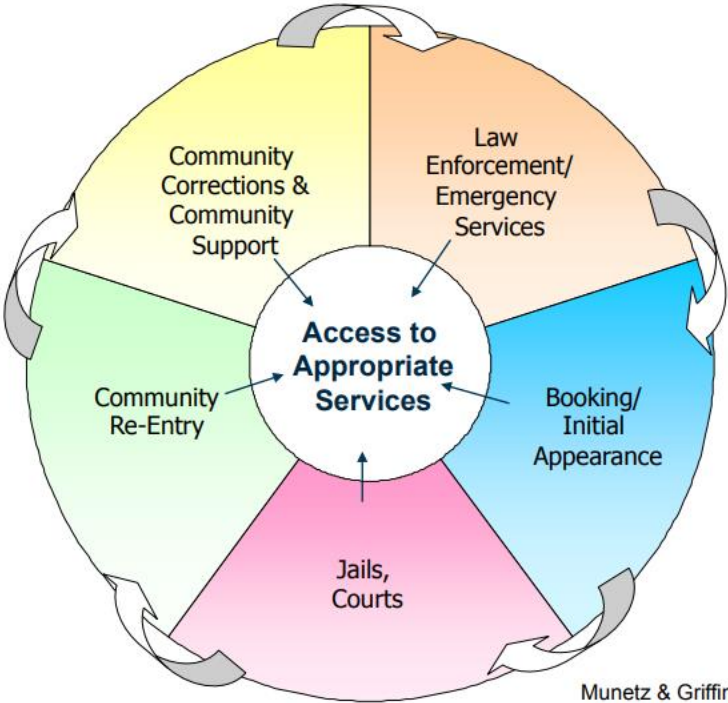
## Sequential Intercepts

Best Clinical Practices: The Ultimate Intercept



Munetz & Griffin  
Psychiatric Services  
57: 544–549, 2006

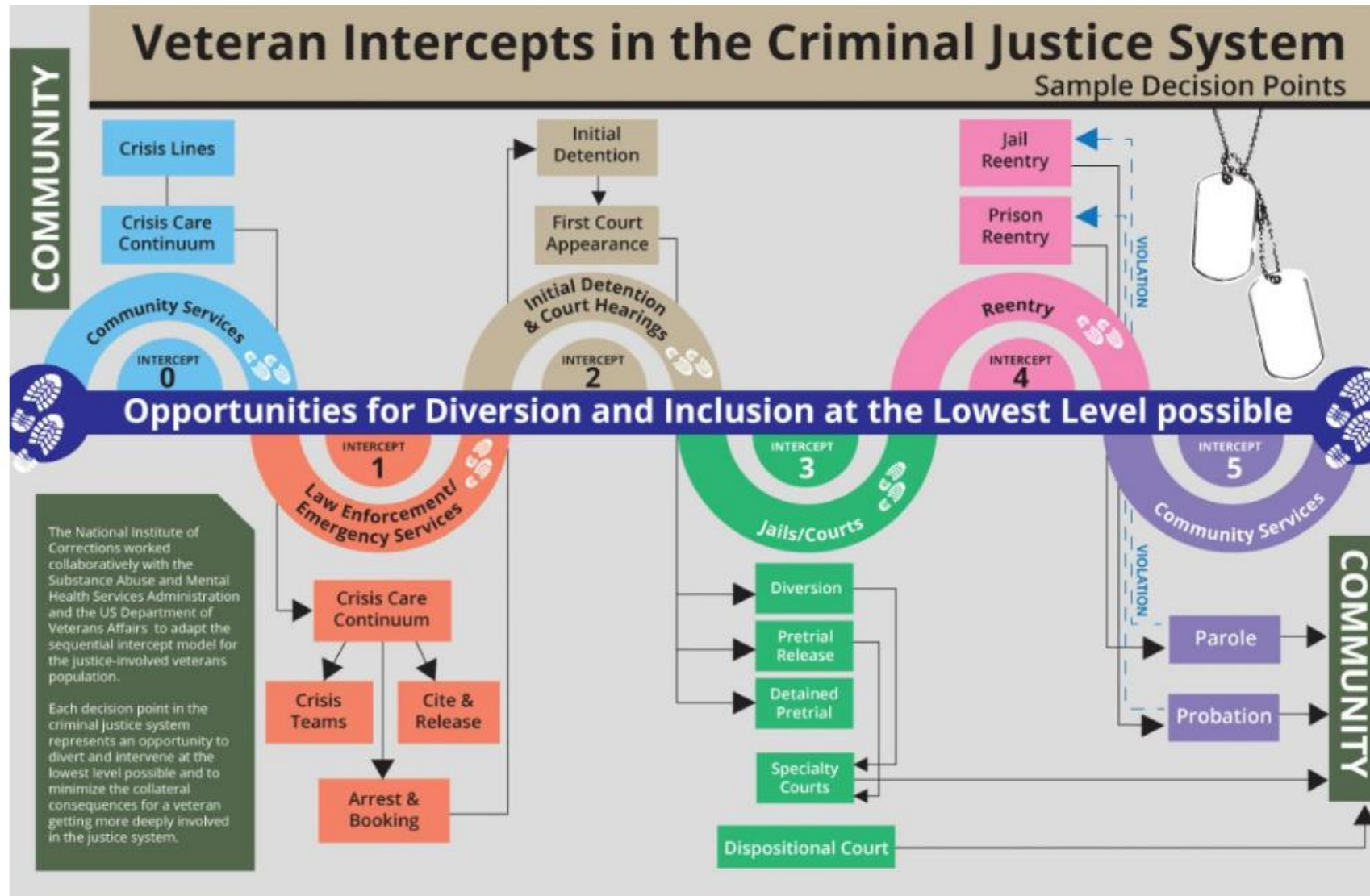
## Sequential Intercept Model: A Circular View



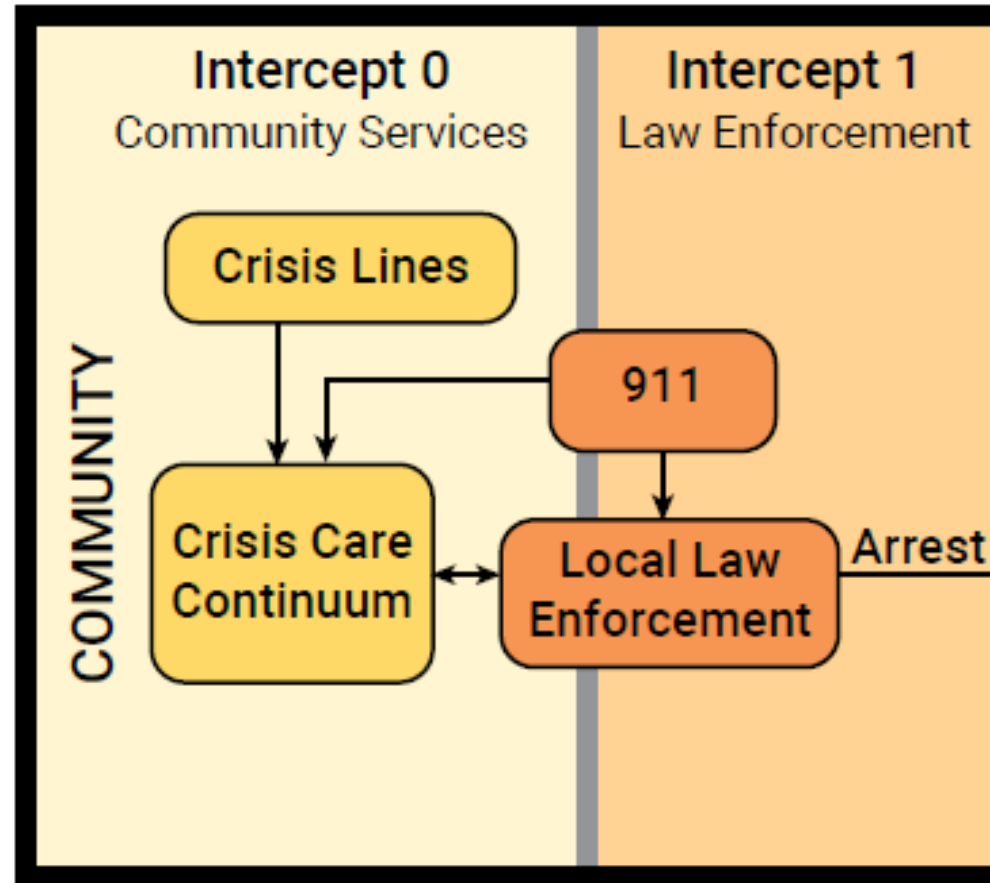
Munetz & Griffin, 2006



# Different Versions of the Model, Cont

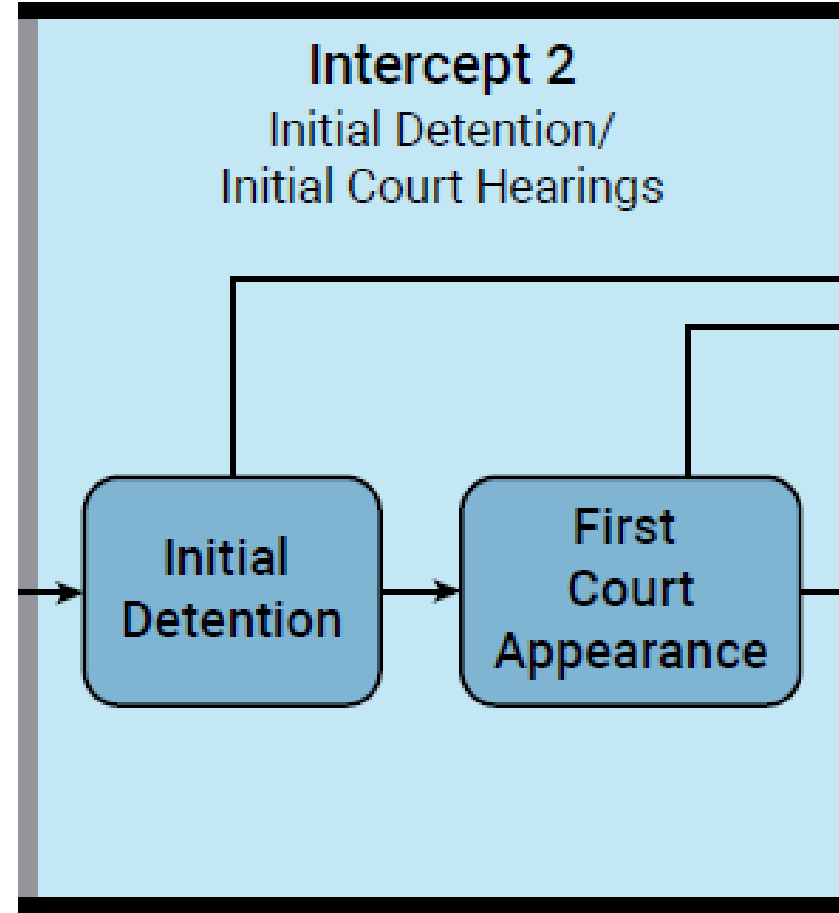


# Intercepts 0 & 1

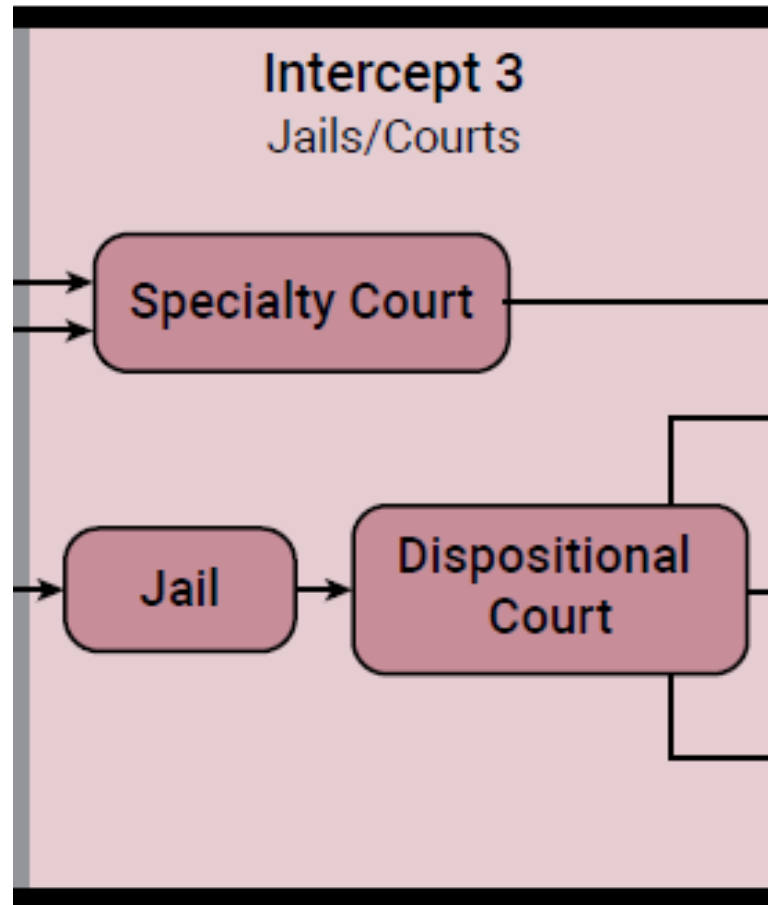




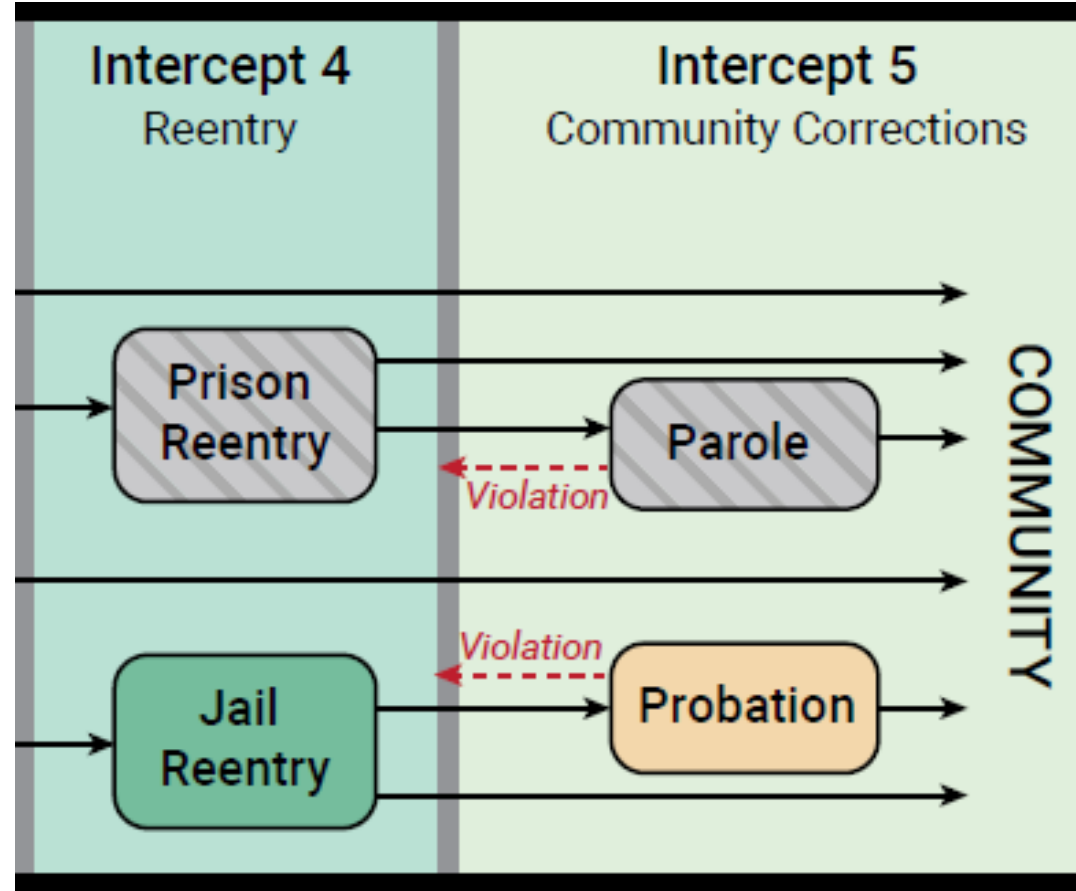
# Intercept 2



# Intercept 3



# Intercepts 4 & 5





## State Legislation Addressing the SIM

- At least 8 states have enacted legislation since 2009 specifically mentioning the SIM.
- Most states have enacted legislation addressing at least one intercept.
- Scope of these laws has included funding for SIM mapping, greater system coordination and support for connections to treatment and community-based services.

# Resources

- NCSL's Legislative Primer Series on Front-End Justice:
  - Mental Health
  - Diversion and Deflection



Questions?

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