

STRONG Program Medication Assisted Treatment Participant Handbook

The Wood County Criminal Justice Department created the STRONG Program with the help of Federal and State grant funding, community partners, and the Wood County Sheriff's Department. An earlier program called the Wood County Jail-MAT Program was replaced by STRONG in October 2024. The STRONG Program assists individuals currently incarcerated in the Wood County Jail that are screened for Opioid Use Disorder and/or Alcohol Use Disorder. The program offers eligible participants assistance with Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT), referrals to peer support and jail programming, case management and community referrals.

- **Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)** – a course designed for inmates who have a release date or are medically eligible for Medication Assisted Treatment. MAT assists individuals addressing their withdrawal symptoms and cravings. Participants will need to be able to fill out required program screeners for Opioid Use Disorder and Alcohol Use Disorder. They may also be required to provide a drug test upon admission into Wood County Jail. Signed Releases of Information may be requested to confirm community medication compliance.

Mission Statement

"Our mission is to empower individuals in the justice system to overcome addiction and reclaim their lives through comprehensive, compassionate recovery services. We provide personalized case management, medication-assisted treatment, and peer support to help individuals break the cycle of substance use and incarceration."

MAT Eligible Applicants

- 18 years of age or older.
- Substance Use Disorder and/or Alcohol Use Disorder
- Incarcerated in the Wood County Jail
- Have an existing compliant prescription in the community or are suffering from acute withdrawal from opiates upon entry
- Have a clear discharge date (to ensure continuum of care and insurance upon release)

Keep in mind that eligibility does not equate to automatic enrollment. You may be eligible for this programming, but that does not always mean that you are the most appropriate fit for MAT.

Termination From the STRONG Program

Participants may be terminated from the STRONG Program and removed from MAT.

Reasons include:

- Failure to sign necessary forms.
- Refusal to participate in scheduled jail programming.
- Failure to follow the rules and expectations set forth in the program or by the Wood County Jail.

All participants are expected to adhere to the rules and regulations of the Wood County Jail.

Failure to comply with these rules may have the following consequences:

- Denial of program application
- Termination from program participation and Medication Assisted Treatment

Service Breakdown

Case Management – Case Management services are an integral component of the STRONG Program and are mandatory for all participants, regardless of their specific program enrollment (e.g., MARP, RSAT). The Case Manager assists individuals in securing appointments needed for continuation of care once released to the community. These appointments focus on substance use disorder, recovery, and mental health.

During Case Management sessions, participants will receive the following:

- **Individualized Case Plan:** Development of a personalized plan outlining goals, objectives, and strategies for successful recovery and reintegration.
- **Community Referrals:** Connections to relevant community resources, such as Medication Assisted Treatment, therapy services, local/state/federal programs, and any resources deemed necessary on a case-by-case basis.
- **Transportation Assistance:** Support in arranging transportation to appointments.
- **Recovery Coach Referral:** Connection to a Recovery Coach for ongoing peer support.
- **Harm Reduction Kits:** Includes life-saving resources that individuals in recovery may find helpful: Narcan, testing strips, condoms, sharps container, saline, first aid kit, safe use resources and STI information.

STRONG Case Managers collaborate with the Wood County Discharge Planner to ensure proper continuum of care and resources. This includes housing, activating healthcare benefits, clothing and other resources deemed necessary.

Medication- While in this program, you will work with the STRONG Team to determine whether medication is an appropriate component of your treatment service plan. That decision, along with which medication may be most appropriate, will be between you and the nurse practitioner. If medication is deemed to be appropriate, you may be expected to complete a medication informed consent document specific to that medication. Our program is approved to consider naltrexone, buprenorphine, and methadone for your treatment plan.

If you do enroll in this program, you will be eligible for:

- The opportunity to meet with a Nurse Practitioner to discuss the initiation of a medication for Opioid/Alcohol Use Disorder while incarcerated
 - While you may advocate for a preferred medication, that decision ultimately belongs to the medical team
- The program will pay for this medication if you are found appropriate for medication assisted treatment
- Arrangements for initiation of long-term MAR services (i.e., Vivitrol® injections, Suboxone treatment) at a local clinic that accepts your insurance.