



1. WHAT IS LEAD?

LEAD shifts public safety paradigms from punishment to community care.

Centered at the intersection of public health, public safety, and racial justice, LEAD reduces the criminalization of behavioral illness by developing non-punitive, community-based systems of response and care.

LEAD extends the harm reduction philosophy beyond substance use and into systemic change.

Just as harm reduction services meet people where they're at, LEAD meets systems where they're at.

LEAD takes all forms of harm seriously.

Whether it's the distressing evidence of human suffering on our streets, the disruptions and fear caused by public disorder, or the harm caused by our criminal legal system: the harms must not be ignored or minimized. The LEAD philosophy recognizes that these harms must be acknowledged and that they require meaningful response.

LEAD focuses primarily on systems and structures, not individual choice.

LEAD's model for cross-sector planning and stewardship catalyzes a collective intention to reduce individual and systemic harms by shifting both policies and practices.

- **At the policy level**, stakeholders work to reduce the overuse of the criminal legal system to respond to challenges better addressed as issues of public health. This includes cultivating shared commitments to build effective, non-punitive diversion pathways to community-based care.
- **In practice**, this means that LEAD shifts program practices to emphasize street-based, low-barrier, non-contingent intensive case management for people whose unlawful or problematic conduct stems from unmet behavioral health needs, including drug offenses, public order offenses, and crimes of poverty.

LEARN MORE ABOUT LEAD

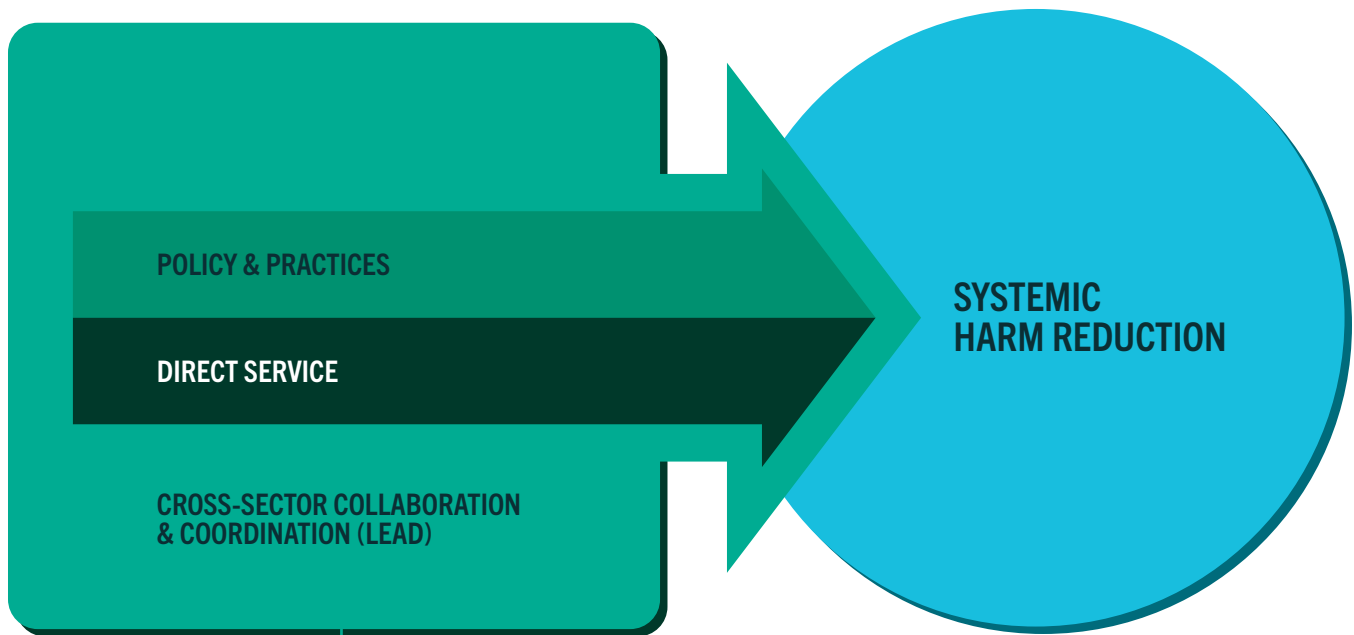
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2. THE LEAD THEORY OF CHANGE

LEAD works at two levels, simultaneously improving individual well-being while building effective non-punitive systems.



The LEAD Logic Model details the connections among intentions, actions, and outcomes at multiple levels: systemic, programmatic, and individual.

3. THE LEAD FIDELITY FRAMEWORK

The How-To Guide for Systemic Harm Reduction

Every LEAD initiative develops under unique circumstances and has its own starting point, so variations in local implementation are expected and encouraged. But while the model is adaptable, LEAD is built on a set of foundational principles and operational elements grounded in harm reduction. LEAD implementers can use the Fidelity Framework to support ongoing reflection on the intentions and operations of their LEAD initiatives and alignment with the LEAD model.



The LEAD Fidelity Framework provides definitions and rationales for each of LEAD's essential elements.

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