

MAAP

Motivated Addiction Alternative Program Billings, Montana

In 2014, a Community Innovations initiative was created to showcase and facilitate projects successfully assisting vulnerable individuals, through collaborative, comprehensive efforts involving the following sectors: enforcement, business, government, tribal, faith, and social service sectors.

To specifically address issues of chronic, public intoxication and transiency in Billings, MT, MAAP was created. MAAP is a collaborative program intended to move people from addiction and cyclical negative behavior through a continuum of assistance and treatment designed to give people the hope and motivation needed for recovery and transformation.

MAAP serves a small subset of the population that has frequent interaction with emergency services, medical facilities, and law enforcement due to addiction issues often coupled with co-occurring disorders. In 2014, these interactions cost the city over \$8.5 million in unreimbursed services.



How It Works

1. Officers address open container or alcohol related trespass offenses by offering a choice between citation and addiction counseling.
2. On the 5th offense in any 30-day period, the individual is arrested and appears before a judge who, upon conviction, offers treatment in lieu of incarceration.
3. Provision is made for intensive outpatient treatment, case management, peer-to-peer mentoring, and access to available services.

FAQ's

- **How does the MAAP program actually help the city?** Considerable amounts of time and money are spent repeatedly by providers, medical facilities, and law enforcement to serve this often neglected, at-risk population with very little to no results. As a focused, effective, and collaborative effort, MAAP not only saves the community millions of dollars in unreimbursed expenses, but allows these entities the opportunity to fully accomplish their original work plans and missions.
- **What offenses fall under the MAAP?** Offenses to the City of Billings code for open container and the State of Montana code for trespassing (if related to alcohol) are the current citations tracked by MAAP that would begin a person's "MAAP count." Once a person receives 5 interactions for these offenses in any 30-day period, they are mandated into either a treatment program or incarceration.
- **Is there consistency in sentencing for these offenses?** Sentencing guidelines have been created in collaboration with the city courts and law enforcement that consider treatment options and offense counts.
- **Are you criminalizing addiction or homelessness?** The MAAP is an early-intervention program designed to get people off the streets and provides addiction treatment services in lieu of incarceration for criminal behavior related to chronic, public intoxication.
- **How long is the treatment program?** Individuals will undergo a comprehensive substance abuse screening and commit to 12 hours of intensive outpatient counseling per week for 4 months. Detox services and additional treatment programs are available as needed.
- **Is the counseling program culturally centered?** Yes, the program utilizes the teachings of the White Bison Wellbriety movement, recognized as a best practice treatment model.
- **Are you forcing people into treatment?** No.

The Billings MT MAAP is a collaborative effort of the following partners:

Downtown Billings Alliance | City of Billings | Billings Police Department
Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council | Community Crisis Center | Rimrock
Billings City Attorney's Office | Billings Municipal Court | Billings Public Defender's Office

For more information: 4realchange.org/community-innovations