



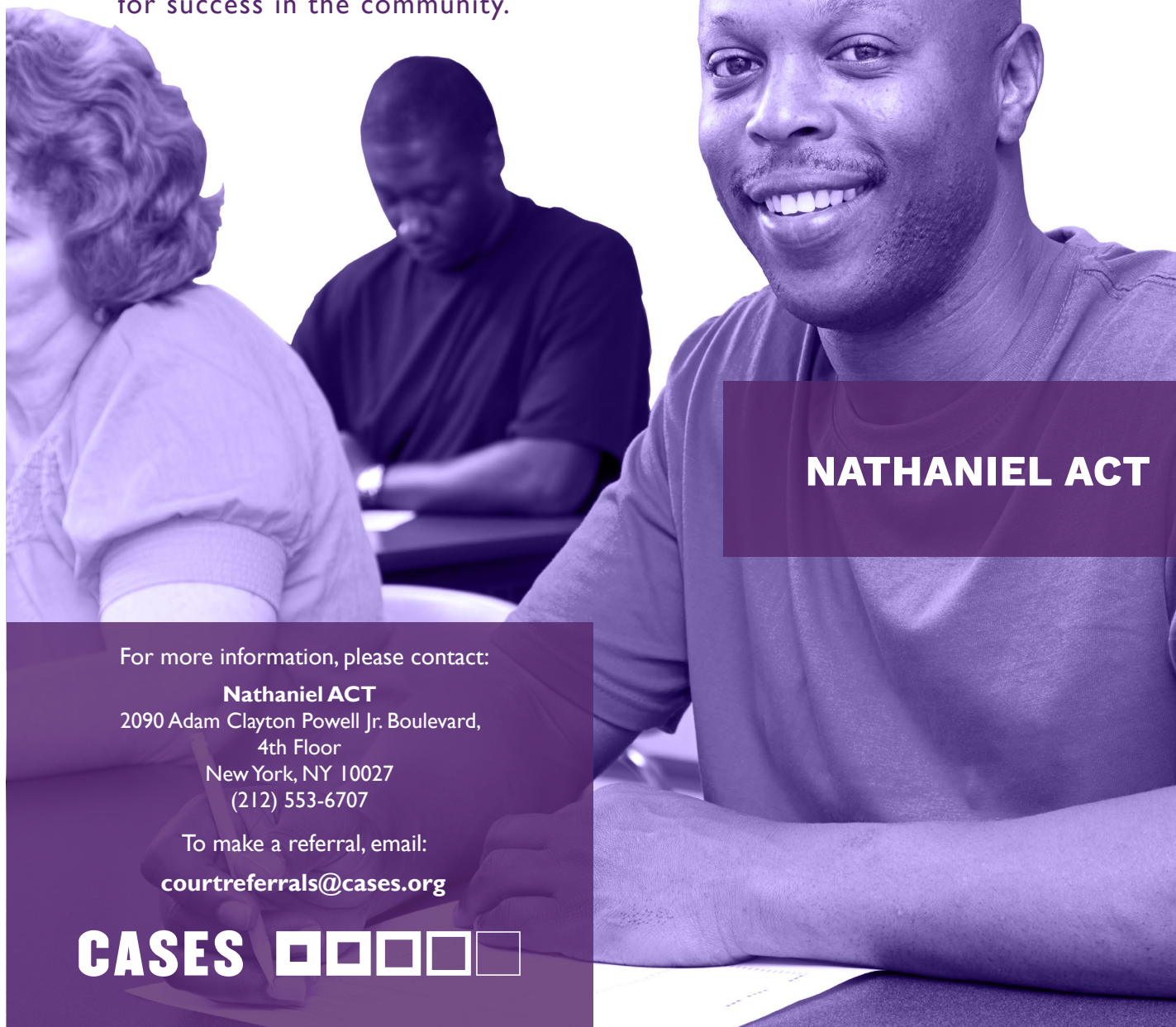
OUR APPROACH

Nathaniel Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) offers an 18-24 month alternative to incarceration for adults with serious mental illness charged with felony offenses including violent arrests. Launched in 2000, the Nathaniel Project was named for a man whose schizophrenia went untreated as he cycled in and out of jail and prison for 15 years.

In 2003, CASES transitioned the program to an ACT team licensed by the NYS Office of Mental Health. ACT is an evidence-based practice providing intensive, mobile team treatment delivered primarily in clients' community settings. ACT staff include experts in psychiatry, mental health, nursing, social work, substance abuse, peer support, housing, employment, and criminal justice.

Nathaniel ACT is structured as an **alternative to incarceration (ATI)** program, with services available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. During ATI supervision, the ACT team reviews the participant's treatment status daily and adjusts services based on comprehensive clinical assessment, treatment needs, and participant goals. Participants who complete program requirements are typically sentenced to probation or have their criminal charges reduced or dismissed.

The mission of CASES is to increase public safety through innovative services that reduce crime and incarceration, improve behavioral health, promote recovery and rehabilitation, and create opportunities for success in the community.



NATHANIEL ACT

For more information, please contact:

Nathaniel ACT

2090 Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Boulevard,
4th Floor
New York, NY 10027
(212) 553-6707

To make a referral, email:

courtreferrals@cases.org



PROGRAM SERVICES

- Immediate subsistence services to support the transition from jail to the community
- Comprehensive clinical assessment and treatment planning
- Psychiatric and nursing services including medication management
- Specialist services including family, housing, substance abuse, and employment services
- Crisis intervention
- Peer advocacy services
- Ongoing individual and group services
- Ongoing advocacy and support with managing requirements related to involvement in the criminal justice system

REFERRALS

The Nathaniel ACT Program accepts individuals in the Manhattan Supreme Court age 18 and above with serious mental illness who are:

- Facing a felony charge
- Facing a minimum of one year of incarceration

Priority is given to individuals found incompetent to stand trial after arrest or those meeting the above criteria who have continuous high treatment needs that are not met in traditional mental health treatment settings.

PROGRAM GOALS

The goal of Nathaniel ACT is to ensure its consumers have the support they need to succeed in treatment, achieve stability in the community, and avoid further justice involvement. Through its use of person-centered service planning, the ACT team helps consumers achieve the following:

- Housing that is safe, affordable, and based on choices and preferences of the consumer
- Controlled symptoms and managed side effects with medication used as prescribed
- Reduced substance abuse
- Reduced emergency room use and inpatient admissions
- Reduced dangerous behaviors and involvement in the criminal justice system
- Development and progress toward education and/or employment goals
- Integration into the consumer's natural community



CASES Nathaniel ACT has received national recognition, including the American Psychiatric Association's Significant Achievement Award and the American Probation and Parole Association's President's Award.



OUTCOMES

Nathaniel ACT has achieved significant impact on recidivism rates among consumers, a population with an average of more than eight lifetime arrests and who at program intake are facing a prison sentence on average of 4.5 years. Program results include:

- Among Nathaniel ACT graduates since 2013, none have a new felony conviction in the two years following program completion
- No new Nathaniel ACT clients since 2014 have had a violent arrest within one year of program intake

In addition to its criminal justice focus, Nathaniel ACT also supports critical health and wellness outcomes for clients, who achieved the following improvements in 2015:

- **200% increase** in employment
- **50% increase** in education activity
- **56% decrease** in homelessness
- **63% reduction** in harmful behaviors