

ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION

Since 1967, **CASES has operated alternative-to-incarceration (ATI)** programs in New York City courts, successfully diverting people from jail into services in the community and helping them avoid recidivism. Many of these programs have specialists based in courtrooms who work in-person alongside judges, attorneys, and clients, even during the COVID-19 pandemic.

CASES is pleased to announce two exciting developments in our ATI programs:

- **Expanded eligibility criteria**, providing ATI options for people who previously would have been jail- or prison-bound
- **Enhanced services**, ensuring the success of clients with a wide range of needs and levels of assessed risk

These programs include alternatives for youth and young adults, individuals with mental health needs (including those with co-occurring substance use disorders), and individuals with serious mental illness (SMI).

To make a referral, contact courtreferrals@cases.org.

ROAR

Replacing the Court Employment Project (CEP), now with expanded age eligibility

What is it? Reframing Opportunity, Alternatives & Resilience (ROAR) is the CASES flagship youth and young adult ATI operating in the Bronx, Brooklyn, and Manhattan Supreme and Criminal Courts

Who is eligible? Youth and young adults ages 16-27 who are jail- or prison-bound, including those who are charged with:

Criminal Court: Misdemeanors resulting in jail sentences of at least one month that can be resolved with pre-plea, reduced plea, or non-plea alternative dispositions

Supreme Court: Nonviolent and violent felony offenses that can be resolved with pre-plea, reduced plea, SCI, and post-plea alternative dispositions

Key features include:

- Specialized clinical assessments guiding more nuanced, comprehensive service and treatment planning
- Team-based approach focused on supporting positive youth development via a continuum of integrated support and treatment services
- Increased emphasis on mobile services delivered to participants in the community
- Help attaining HSE diplomas, paid internships, and employment
- Access to treatment focusing on mental health, improved family relationships, and reduced substance use

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Nathaniel Community Success

Replacing the Court-based Intervention & Resource Team (CIRT), now accepting violent felony and criminal contempt charges

What is it? Nathaniel Community Success (NCS) is an ATI for individuals with mental illness and/or co-occurring mental illness and substance use disorders facing charges in the Brooklyn and Manhattan Criminal and Supreme Courts

Who is eligible? Young adults and adults ages 16 and over who are jail- and prison-bound, have indicated mental illness—including those with co-occurring mental illness and substance use disorders—and are charged with:

Criminal Court: Misdemeanors resulting in jail sentences of at least one month that can be resolved with pre-plea, reduced plea, or non-plea alternative dispositions

Supreme Court: Nonviolent and violent felony offenses that can be resolved with pre-plea, reduced plea, SCI, and post-plea alternative dispositions

Participants with a primary diagnosis of severe developmental disabilities are excluded.

Key features include:

- Specialized clinical assessments guiding more nuanced, comprehensive service and treatment planning
- Risk-responsive approaches to reduce recidivism
- Close coordination of mandated services with outpatient behavioral health treatment, housing services, and/or other urgent supports as needed

Nathaniel ACT

What is it? Nathaniel Assertive Community Treatment (Nathaniel ACT) is an evidence-based ATI model providing intensive mobile treatment and support for individuals with serious mental illness (SMI) otherwise facing incarceration for charges in the Brooklyn and Manhattan Supreme Courts

Who is eligible? Adults with SMI, history of high service needs, and history of high use of hospitals and emergency rooms who are charged with:

Supreme Court: Nonviolent and violent felony offenses that can be resolved with pre-plea, reduced plea, SCI, and post-plea alternative dispositions

Key features include:

- Evidence-based Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) model, which includes a team composed of psychiatrists, nurses, social workers, case managers, and peers
- 24/7 support proven to promote recovery and wellness in the community, including attainment of housing, reduced use of inpatient hospitalization, and reduced recidivism