

JONATHAN TAYLOR NGUMBI, 32
OCT 9, 1991 - NOV 2, 2023



Treatment Not Tragedy

Taylor died on November 2nd, 2023 in Kaufman County Jail within six days of his arrest during a mental health crisis. Living with serious mental illness, he spent over 12 years cycling through hospitalizations, incarceration, homelessness/inappropriate settings. Because we do not have a continuum of care and housing that was appropriate for Taylor's complex level of need, he was left to die alone in solitary confinement during pretrial detention.

Current Failures:

Sixteen arrests and eighteen hospitalizations, **repeatedly** cycling him through the system

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Unreliable LMHA intervention and restricted jail medication formularies **despite a positive CCQ* check**

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Kept in **solitary confinement** for a total of 3+ years while **incompetent to stand trial**

Proposed Interventions:

Long-term, community-based mental healthcare that met his true level of need

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Legal mandates for continuity of care and medications following a positive CCQ* check in jail and post-release

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Preventative community-based systems that move people who meet criteria into **civil proceedings** instead of forensic commitments through jails

*Continuity of Care Query (CCQ) is a legal mandate under the Sandra Bland Act requiring jails to check if someone has had contact with the public mental health system in the past 3 years

Right Care Right Time Right Place
Keeps Everyone Safe



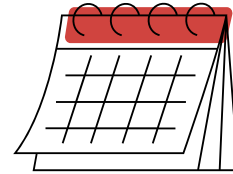
www.texasjailproject.org

When in crisis, the length of stay is often inadequate and **lacking safe discharge** options, especially for people who need stable step-down opportunities. This is a **public safety issue** as it **primes people for re-arrest**.



Incarcerated people are **dropped from SSI benefits and unenrolled from LMHA services after 30 days**, leaving them with fewer options post-release, no medications, ongoing care, or resources

CYCLE OF HARM

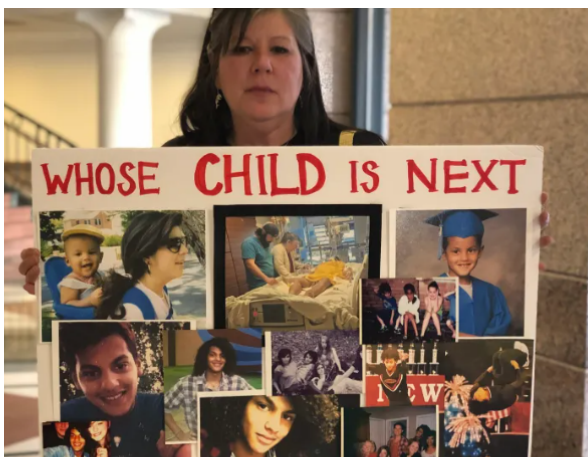


It can take up to 4 **months** or more for individuals **to regain these services**. Leaving them vulnerable to **exploitation, incarceration or even death**.



Continuity of Care Saves Lives and Money

In Texas, it is up to county jails to contract with the LMHAs for supplemental services. In the absence of contracts, there is **no requirement for LMHAs to provide continuity of care to their own clients** who are in jails. Even when contracted, LMHAs are limited by the jail formularies and rules for providing appropriate care. When not contracted, they are **mandated to provide only crisis services upon request from jails**. This disjointed system forces people to stay stuck in a revolving door that **may ultimately cost them their lives**.



Taylor's mom, Deborah, fights every day to keep her son's memory alive.



Taylor's story has made statewide headlines. Read the full piece on KXAN.



Watch Deborah's testimony at TCJS and SBHCC hearings less than a month after the senseless death of her son