

The Society for Applied Anthropology  
69th Annual Meeting  
March 17 – 21, 2009  
Santa Fe Convention Center

---

**Participatory, Rapid Assessment and Planning at the Criminal Justice –  
Mental Health Interface**

**Nancy L WINTERBAUER,<sup>1</sup> Ryan Marie DIDUK<sup>1</sup>, and Amy TINDELL<sup>1</sup>**

(1) Duval County Health Dept, Inst for Health, Policy, & Evaluation Research

The nation's mental health system is in disarray; services are fragmented, under-funded, and reach a fraction of those who need treatment. Against this backdrop, individuals with mental illness, substance abuse/dependence, or co-occurring disorders are over-represented in the criminal justice system. We engaged diverse community stakeholders in a rapid assessment and planning process to: 1) develop and enhance collaborations at the criminal justice – mental health interface in order to; 2) craft a strategic plan to initiate system change in an urban, southern county. Process and results are discussed and framed by the sequential intercept model approach to decriminalization of mental illness.