

SOAR Ends Homelessness and Supports Recovery – SOAR increases access to disability income benefit programs for eligible adults experiencing homelessness who have a mental illness and/or a co-occurring substance use disorder. SOAR ends homelessness through increased access to SSI/SSDI income supports.

1

SOAR = Income and Housing

SOAR provides the means to maintain housing and generates money for the local economy.

In 2015 alone, clients who worked with the State's ONLY full-time dedicated SOAR Case Manager in Maricopa County:

- 86% secured housing
- \$167,815.99 received in back-payments from 2015 initial applications
- SSI/SSDI monthly amounts spread across a full year would generate over \$275,000 to the local economy



2

SOAR Success in Arizona

SOAR-trained staff prepare comprehensive, quality SSI/SSDI applications that are quickly approved.

Arizona's average number of days to a decision for all claims submitted in 2015 was only 66 days with 74% of claims approved upon initial application. Compare this to the national average of 28% for homeless and non-SOAR applications.¹

74%

28%

SOAR-Assisted
SSI/SSDI
Approvals

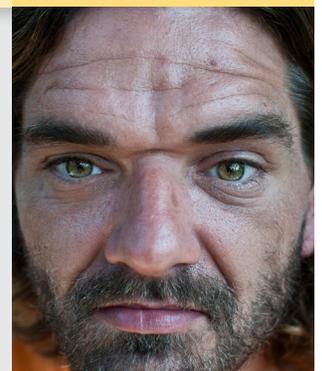
Non-SOAR
SSI/SSDI
Approvals

3

SOAR Reduces Institutionalization

SOAR facilitates re-entry efforts through access to housing and disability income.

The Lodestar Day Resource Center in Phoenix has developed an agency-specific pre-release agreement with the Social Security Administration to identify individuals in jail or DOC to be able to submit SSI/SSDI applications 90 days prior to release. Developing a similar process may be available for future full-time dedicated SOAR Case Managers.



SOAR Works!

“Thank you for my daughter back.”

– Mother of SOAR applicant who was connected to SSI benefits, SMI level of care, and housing in just 34 days.

“SOAR is a fire-starter. Be creative. Remember that it doesn't just end homelessness, it provides new opportunities for someone who couldn't have done it without you. It provides a path for people to feel like a person again: Whole with a voice that matters.”

– Loren Gallegly, Maricopa County Local SOAR Lead

“You've kept me alive.”

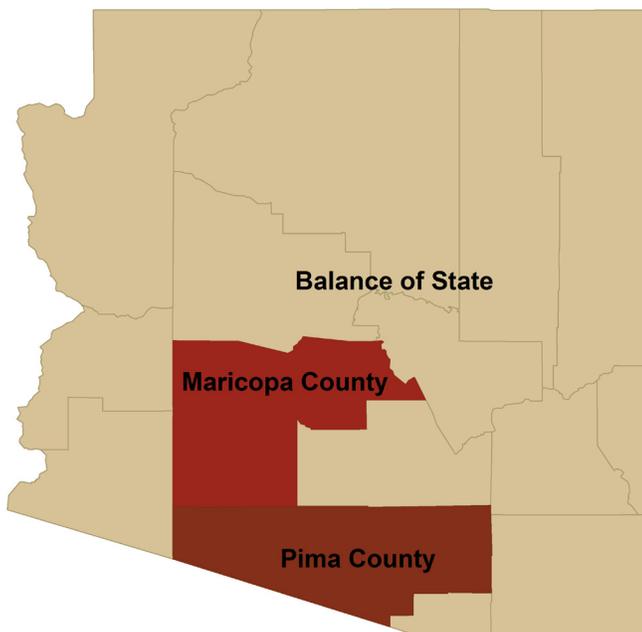
– SOAR applicant

Success Story



Chris, was abandoned by his mother as a toddler and spent an unhappy childhood in multiple group homes across the state. A brittle diabetic and IV Meth user since the age of 9, he had to rely on those same systems to keep him alive in later years. As an adult, this turned into multiple visits to psychiatric facilities, shelters, prison, and residential treatment centers. Chris had been denied SMI services 7 times and was hospitalized monthly in a never-ending cycle of tri-morbidity with local hospital costs in the millions. Chris was referred to SOAR and the SOAR Case Manager worked with him to collect the medical evidence necessary for his claim. In only 42 days, Chris was awarded SSI, obtained housing, remained sober, and had the freedom of his own income and a place to call home.

Arizona Point-In-Time Homeless Count (2015)



*Balance of State includes all counties in Arizona except Maricopa County and Pima County

SOAR serves clients with diverse needs, supporting holistic recovery to change lives. SOAR clients face:

Population Data	MAG	TPCH	BOS
Total # of Homeless	5,631	1,305	2,402
Chronically Homeless	443	328	487
Serious Mental Illness (SMI)	523	299	115
Substance Use Disorder	420	362	353

Continuum of Care

MAG = Maricopa Association of Governments (Maricopa County)
 TPCH = Tucson Pima Coalition to end Homelessness (Pima County)
 BOS = Balance of State (remaining 13 counties)

SOAR infrastructure has already been built. Social Security Administration field offices across Arizona have offered their support for SOAR applications with dedicated claims representatives.

Solutions

To Expand the Impacts of SOAR across Arizona:

- Increase awareness of SOAR across Arizona
- Increase the number of full-time SOAR case managers located in both Behavioral Health and Community-Based Organizations
- Create new SOAR partnerships with community medical and long-term care organizations

In Maricopa County, Arizona's
ONLY full-time dedicated
 SOAR Case Manager has a
74% approval rate on
 initial applications in 2015.