

Tarrant County Mental Health Jail Diversion Center



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Chief of Behavioral Health Services
MHMR



About MHMR



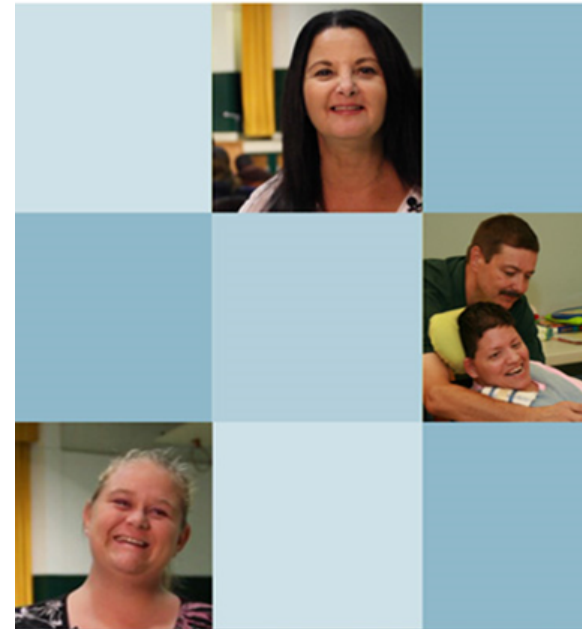
About MHMR

The Texas system of community-based services was established in 1969.

MHMR of Tarrant County is the second-largest community center in Texas.

Today services MHMR provides include:

- Mental Health for children, adolescents and adults
- Special populations: Veterans and Criminal Justice and more
- 24-hour Crisis Line, Crisis Outreach
- Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities (IDD) for youth and adults
- Substance Use Disorders for youth and adults
- Early Childhood Intervention for babies
- Child and Family Services for youth



Mental Health Jail Diversion Center History

1. Community Planning:

- Stepping Up
- Sequential Intercept Mapping
- Community Stakeholder Meetings

2. Visits:

- Harris County
- Travis County
- Bexar County
- Miami Dade County
- Salt Lake City
- Phoenix

3. Funding

- ARPA - \$8,207,403 expended (since 10/1/21);
\$17,052,457 budgeted (not including capital)

Key Partnerships

- Tarrant County
- Tarrant County District Attorney's Office
- Tarrant County Sheriff's Department
- MHMR
- Tarrant County Hospital District
- Law Enforcement Agencies across Tarrant County

Our goal...

To provide an alternative for law enforcement who encounter people engaging in illegal behavior that is the result of or related to a mental health crisis.



Who is Eligible?

- Brought in by Law Enforcement Officers
- Non-violent misdemeanor offense
 - Criminal trespass
 - Theft
 - Possession of marijuana
 - Disorderly conduct
 - False report
 - Terroristic threat (with no violence)
- Mental/behavioral health needs
- Willing to Participate

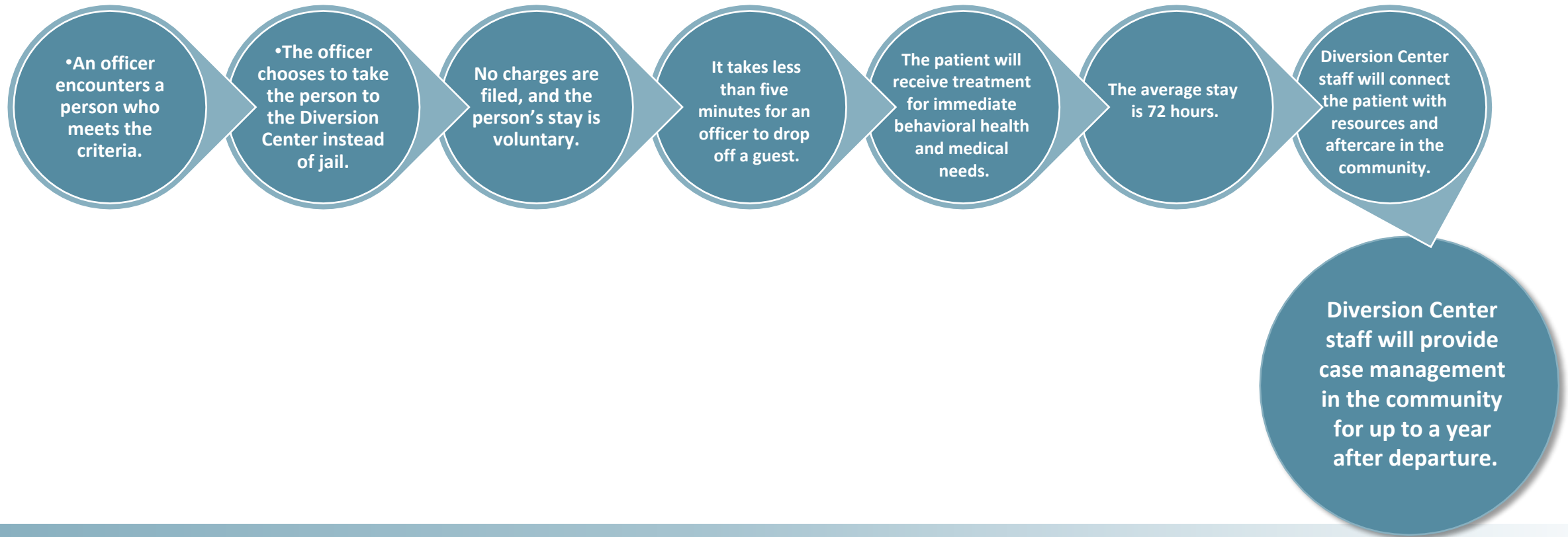


Who is Ineligible?

- No aggressive or violent patients
- No patients experiencing medical emergencies
- No patients experiencing mental health crises that require emergency care



How does it work?



Benefits of the Mental Health Jail Diversion Center?

- Increased access to treatment and services in the community
- Reduction in booking time for officers on patrol
- Reduction in exposure to risk associated with confinement
- Provides Officers a way to connect non violent offenders to Services
- It's the right thing to do



Recent Expansion – Referrals From Tarrant County Jail

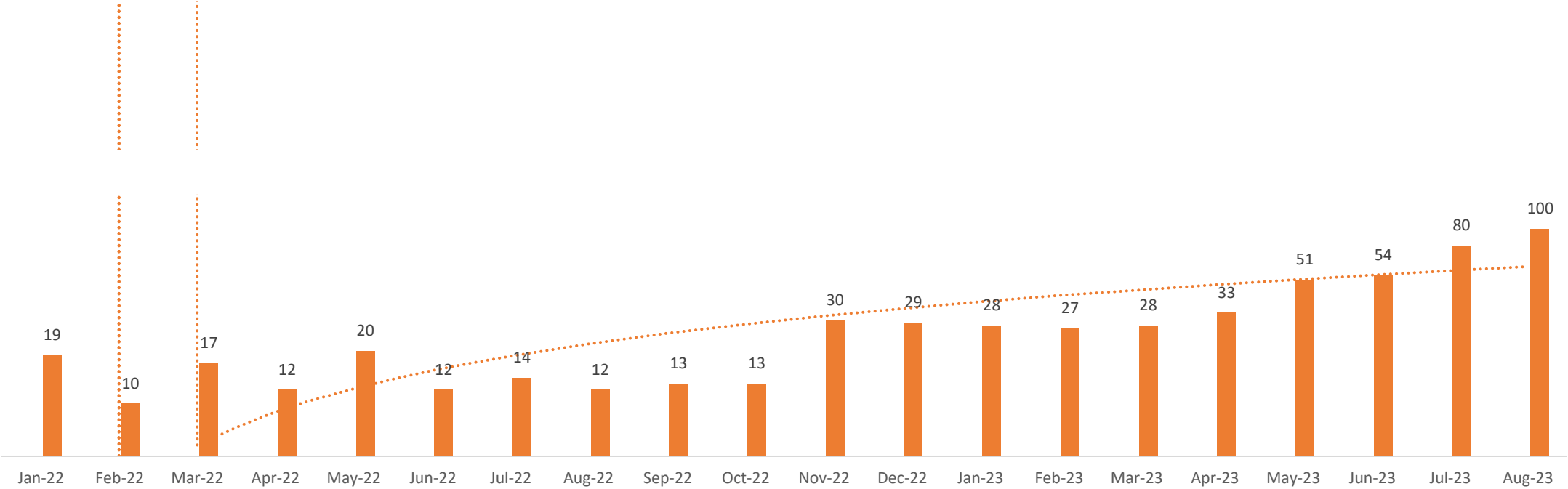
Booking Desk Dismissals

- Identified and Approved by TSCO staff
- Screened and Approved by MHMR
- Approved by District Attorney
- Transferred to Diversion Center

District Attorney Dismissals

- Identified by MHMRTC
- Screened by MHMR Navigators
- Approved by DA
- Transferred to Diversion Center
- Charges Dismissed

Persons Diverted By Month



MHJDC Bed Availability

Capacity

- 40 Beds Available
- Target Capacity 33 Per Day

August 2023

- Highest Daily Census 18
- Lowest Daily Census was 4
- Average Census 10 Per Day

Outreach CDA and MHMR

- FW Marshal's office – 5/23/23
- FWPD Northwest (4651 N. Main) – 7/11/23
- FWPD South/Central (3128 W. Bolt St.) – 7/14/23
- FWPD South (7650 McCart) – 7/18/23
- FWPD North (8755 N. Riverside Dr.) – 7/21/23
- Arlington PD East (2001 New York) – 8/18/23
- Arlington PD West (2060 W. Green Oaks) – 9/8/23
- Arlington PD South (1030 SW Green Oaks) - 9/29/23

Top Five Law Enforcement Referral Agencies

Agency	Referral Percentage
Fort Worth Police Department	53%
Tarrant County Sheriff's Department	21%
Tarrant County Hospital District	18%
White Settlement Police Department	2%
Arlington Police Department	1%

DeAndre

DeAndre came to the MH Jail Diversion Center and, at that time, was hesitant to talk to staff about his current situation. DeAndre didn't know where his life was headed but knew he wanted a change. Our peers, case managers and patient care technicians began to engage and connect with him. After a few days, DeAndre opened up and expressed his short term and long-term goals. He indicated he was going through turmoil and prayed to God for a blessing. The MH Jail Diversion Center was his blessing.

Through the Diversion Center and the efforts of his transitional peer and case manager, DeAndre was able to obtain critical documents which also led to secured housing and stability. The MHJDC staff worked closely with one of the MHMR housing programs to provide DeAndre with the most appropriate housing solution. This program will support independent living through housing and mental health case management, peer support services and a rental subsidy for up to 12 months. **DeAndre moved into his own apartment on August 1, 2023.**

Not only did DeAndre move into an apartment, but he also obtained employment. His peer specialist provided employment resources, resume writing tips and transported DeAndre to employment interviews. He was offered a job at a local restaurant and will begin training this week.

DeAndre called last week to thank the staff at MHJDC for helping him to overcome obstacles by giving him hope and encouragement. He also expressed how supported he feels as a guest in our transitional program. One last quote from DeAndre. "My world finally feels complete, and I owe that to y'all."

Questions?



For more information on any of our services, visit:



www.MHMRtarrant.org

[Facebook.com/MHMRtarrant](https://www.facebook.com/MHMRtarrant)



Call us anytime for mental health crisis support or access to MHMR services.