




JUSTICE AND MENTAL HEALTH IN EL DORADO COUNTY

Analysis and Recommendations to Reduce Behavioral
Health Needs in the Justice System
Kevin O'Connell June 23, 2023

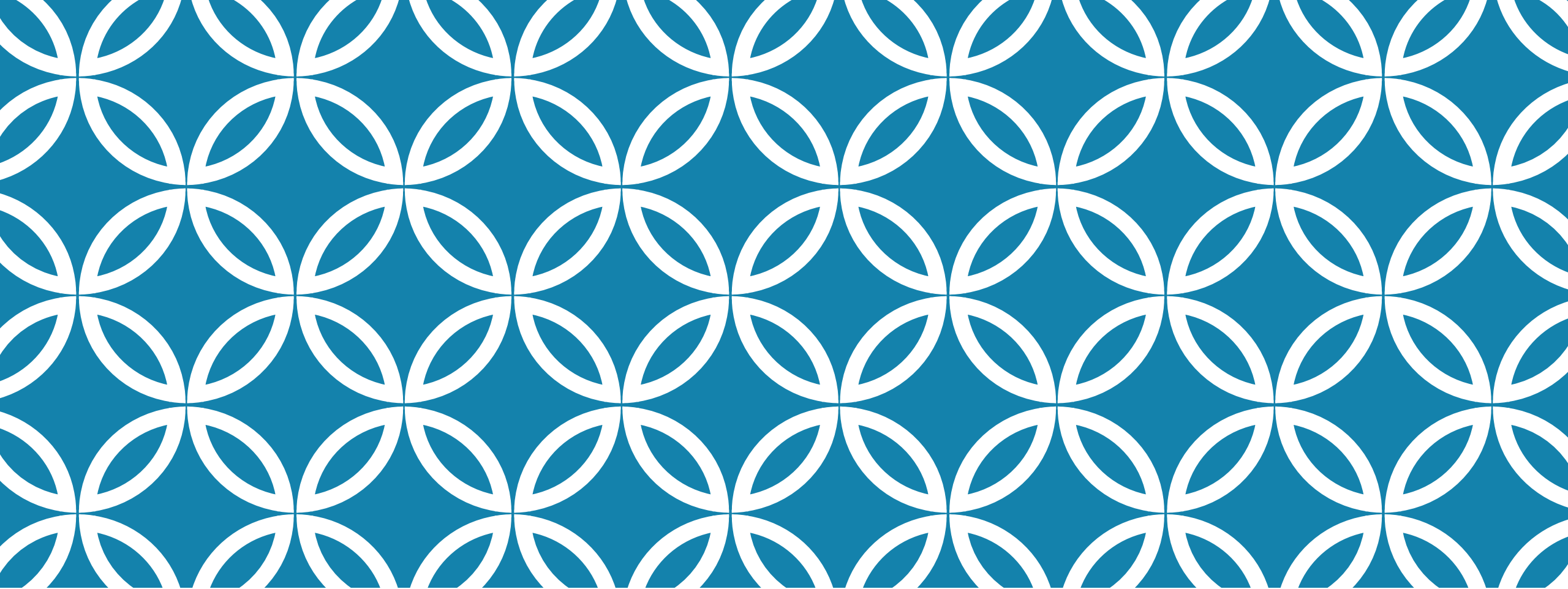


PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

Updates from the 2020 Strategic Plan

Population Takeaways

Recommendations to Sustain El Dorado's Efforts



UPDATES FROM THE 2020 STRATEGIC PLAN



GOAL 1

INCREASE USE OF DIVERSIONARY COURT PROCEEDINGS FOR PEOPLE WITH SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS, AS WELL AS IMPROVE THE FLOW OF INFORMATION BETWEEN COURT PARTNERS

As of June 2022, there were 78 cases in Mental Health diversion court; 48 were pending review and 30 were in treatment.

- Behavioral Health dedicated treatment resources and case managers to support the assessment and treatment
- The Public Defender's Office has increased its capacity to support people early in the court process through a grant that supports a case assistant as well as early representation at arraignment.
- County secured a state grant to look at ways to use process improvement and technology to improve connections among partner agencies, as well as ways to connect probation pretrial services

GOAL 2

INCREASE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN LAW ENFORCEMENT AND MENTAL HEALTH AROUND CRISIS RESPONSE

El Dorado County is planning for the expansion of its crisis continuum to align with new state requirements to operate 24/7 options beginning in 2024.

- Behavioral Health secured a planning grant to develop a plan and road map expanding services and linkages
- The county began supporting a team in South Lake Tahoe, in addition to the longer running PERT in West Slope

GOAL 3

INCREASE ACCESS TO TREATMENT FOR JUSTICE INVOLVED INDIVIDUALS DISPLAYING SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS ASSOCIATED WITH EMERGING MENTAL ILLNESSES

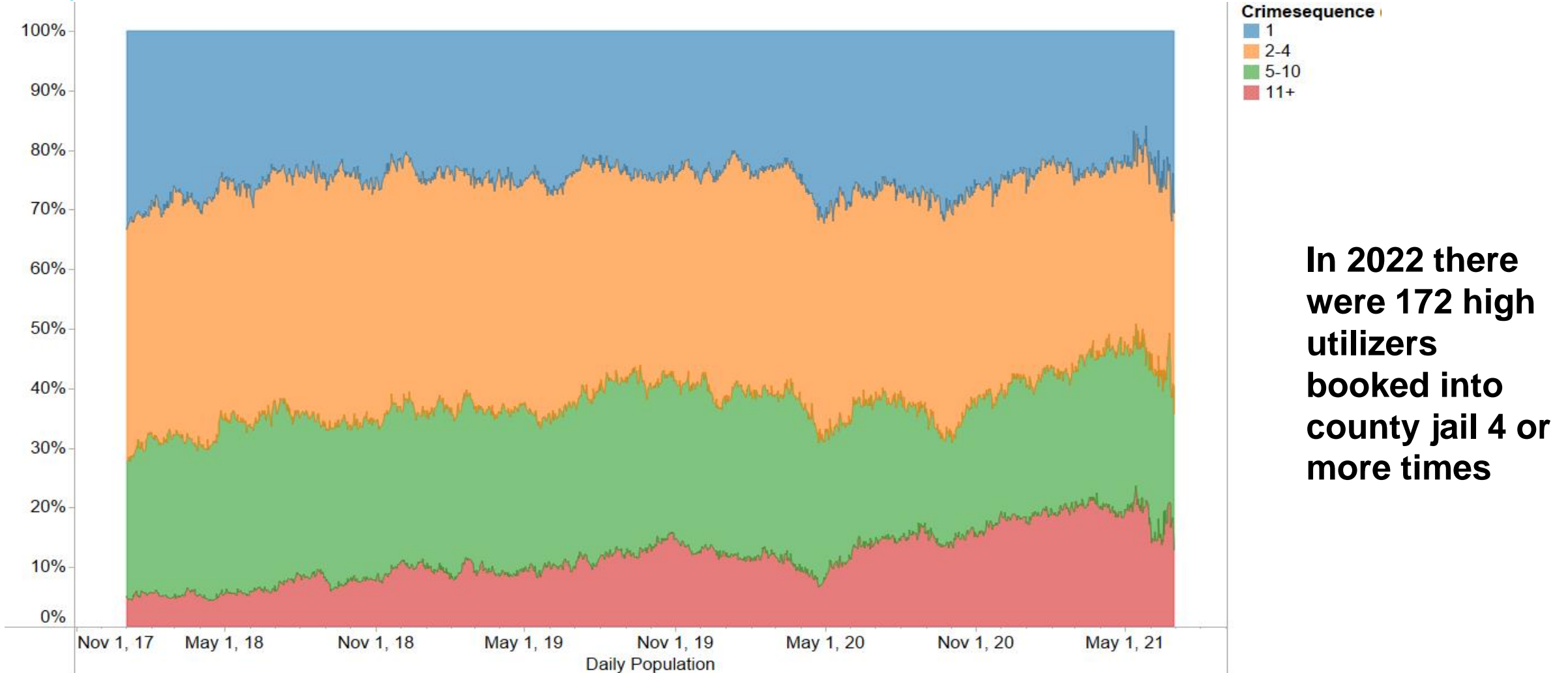
- The County's Forensic Full Service Partnership (FSP) began operating in 2020; there were 24 episodes opened through 2022. Consumers had fewer crisis episodes and jail bookings after entering the program than prior.
- Behavioral health linkage and/or case management services are provided for individuals with mild to moderate mental health issues through Prevention and Early Intervention funding.



POPULATION OUTCOMES



SEVENTY PERCENT (70%) OF THE COUNTY JAIL POPULATION HAS HAD AT LEAST 1 PREVIOUS ENTRY; 15% HAVE RETURNED TO CUSTODY MORE THAN 11 TIMES.



OVERALL, 55% OF ADULTS WHO STARTED PROBATION SUPERVISION FROM 2017 - 2019 WERE SUBSEQUENTLY BOOKED INTO CUSTODY WITHIN THREE YEARS.

Probationer One, Two, and Three-Year Jail Custody Return Rates by Cohort

Custody Return Rate Timeline	2017 Cohort (n=412)	2018 Cohort (n=417)	2019 Cohort (n=372)	2020 Cohort (n=401)	2021 Cohort (n=351)
1 Year	44%	43%	41%	32%	35%
2 Years	53%	50%	49%	42%	
3 Years	57%	55%	53%		

- One and two-year custody return rates dropped significantly between 2017 and 2021, but the reasons contain new crime and violation reasons

Predicted Probability of Probation Returns to Custody, by MH Need



*Logistic regression accounting for race, age, gender, case type, static risk to reoffend, and SUD service receipt, adults on probation with a MH need between January 2017 – March 2021

*(p<.05)

FEW PEOPLE EXPERIENCED CRISIS EPISODES OR ARRESTS
WHILE ENROLLED IN A FULL SERVICE PARTNERSHIP (FSP)
TREATMENT PROGRAM



RECOMMENDATIONS TO SUSTAIN EL DORADO'S EFFORTS





Recommendations

1 - 3

Continue to broaden data analysis to better understand the use of different county resources and explore alternatives to incarceration for those with SMI, including the use of pretrial release and community-based services.

Develop a “Release Playbook” for people released from custody that reflects needs as well as release options so that for most people, a plan for release could be operationalized at booking, especially for mental health needs, substance use, and housing.

Plan for CalAIM initiatives and Enhanced Care Management (ECM) which will create several new services that are available to people being released from jail, and a new ECM role that needs to be defined and operationalized within the county’s current landscape.



Recommendations 4 - 6

Plan for changes to the civil and criminal courts as Misdemeanor Competency and CARE Court legislation means there will be a number of new avenues for courts to increase access to treatment and services.

Increase connections for Reentry services to find opportunities for alternative custody options with a strong connection to services and programming.

Refine qualifications for use of diversion programs and develop a more coordinated approach for how and when to use programs involving those with behavioral health needs, including Mental Health Diversion and Behavioral Health Court.



Recommendations

7 - 9

Continue to develop practices, approaches, and alternatives where a doubt of competency to stand trial has been raised. The county faces a substantial penalty under the new state directive to reduce those found incompetent to stand trial, making integrated planning essential.

Form a cross-agency team to formalize coordination of assessments and screenings so that as more agencies work to assist people during pretrial, Reentry, and in the community, there is common knowledge of the approaches and tools used.

Increase the use of evidence-based information by increasing the extent to which research-informed workgroups develop awareness of practices for specific target populations, including developing a consensus on the research foundation behind programs and policies.



RECOMMENDATIONS 10 - 12

Conduct recurring Sequential Intercept Model workshops to help create and drive priorities involving justice and mental health systems. This would build off past engagement in early 2020.

Implement a grant screening template in order to summarize new funding opportunities from the federal and state levels to better identify and pursue only those funding opportunities that meet criteria for strategic fit or sustainability goals.

Develop a standardized CCP sponsored workgroup charter to guide CCP groups such as the Stepping Up workgroup to ensure consistent and clear staffing as well as group expectations.

TOOLS TO SUPPORT THE COUNTY'S PROGRESS

Data and Analysis Overview and Strategy

Sequential Intercept Model and Program Inventory

Caseload Shifts and Projections

Cost Analysis Overview

Process Improvement Methods



THANK YOU!

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