



Dallas County Deflection Center

Doug Denton

Executive Director, Homeward Bound

Lee Pierson

Chief of the Mental Health Division



Respite Center

- Collaborative effort among agencies addressing mental and physical health issues that bring them to the attention of law enforcement
- Currently providing a 12 hour drop off period for individuals committing Criminal Trespass or encountered during a trespass report
- Homeward Bound offers a 16 bed short-term program with wrap-around services to assess and triage to appropriate care



Funding

- Overarching Concepts
 - Reduce Jail Population - Reduce # of Mentally Ill Persons Incarcerated
 - Address Mental Health/Addiction problems – reducing recidivism
- Funding to develop the program was sought by the Dallas County District Attorney's Office from DOJ, Bureau of Justice Assistance
- The North Texas Behavioral Health Authority (LBHA) committed SB292 funding to support MH housing and treatment
- Dallas County funded renovation of 7500 sq ft space to accommodate medical clinic, behavioral health offices and 16 residential beds



Intake Process

- Law Enforcement Officer arrives with detainee and presents potential client for admission. Officer completes short form identifying subject and description of encounter. Officer returns to service in 15 minutes



- Homeward Bound and NTBHA staff engage individual to determine appropriateness for admission.



Services Available

- Homeward Bound provides Professional and Peer engagement along with residential care – 24-hour staffing, meals, transportation
- NTBHA provides mental health screening, connections to community mental health providers and supported housing as well as funding Homeward Bound's residential services
- Parkland Hospital HOMES program provides onsite health screenings and primary care attention to client health needs



Dallas Deflects

- Alternative to Jail – 15 minute drop off for officers
- Community based diversion program – **Homeward Bound**
- Links clients to treatment and services in the community
- Housed at Homeward Bound
- Opened **August 2022**



Dallas Deflects by the Numbers

- Over **230** individuals brought to the Center
- Dallas Police **70%**, DART transit **15%**
- **8%** identify at Veterans

RACE ETHNICITY



72% of Intakes are Black

Black households make up 60% of the homeless population.

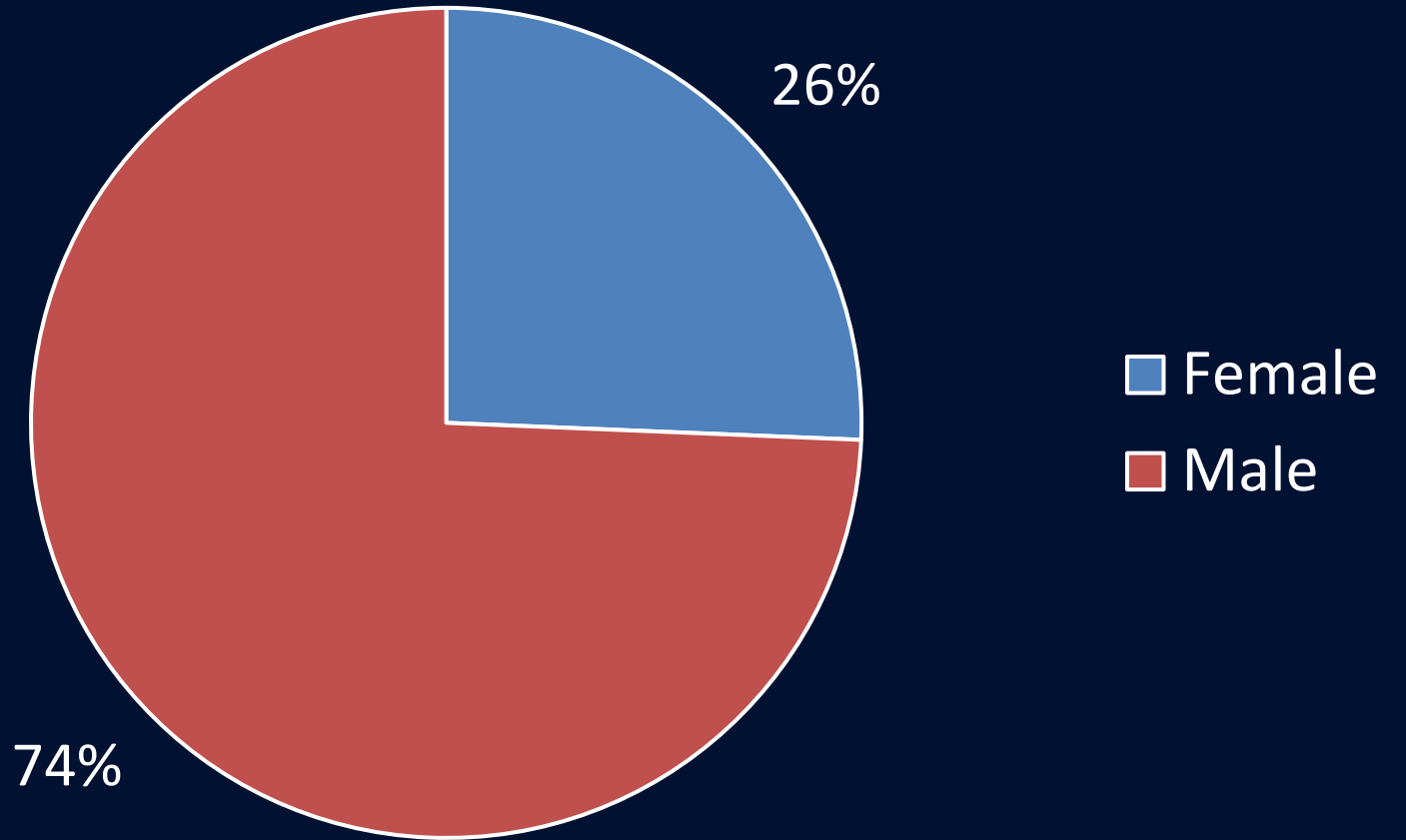


Dallas Deflects Intakes

The homeless population

37% female

63% male





Community Partners

Downtown Dallas Inc.

- Providing collaboration and planning

Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute

- Planning and research

Homeward Bound

- Donated the wing for the facility

Parkland Hospital

- \$990,000.00 a year for medical services

Parkland Foundation

- \$350,000.00 for renovation

Dallas County Commissioners

- \$1,200,000.00

Mark Cuban

- \$277,000.00 Security

AT&T

- \$50,000.00 Renovation

Texas Bar Foundation

- \$11,525.00 Room renovation

North Texas Behavioral Health Association

- \$1,400,000.00 per year for mental health and residential services

Dallas County Diocese – Bishop Burns

- \$15,000.00

Department of Justice grant

- \$968,900.00

Dallas County Commissioner Theresa Daniel

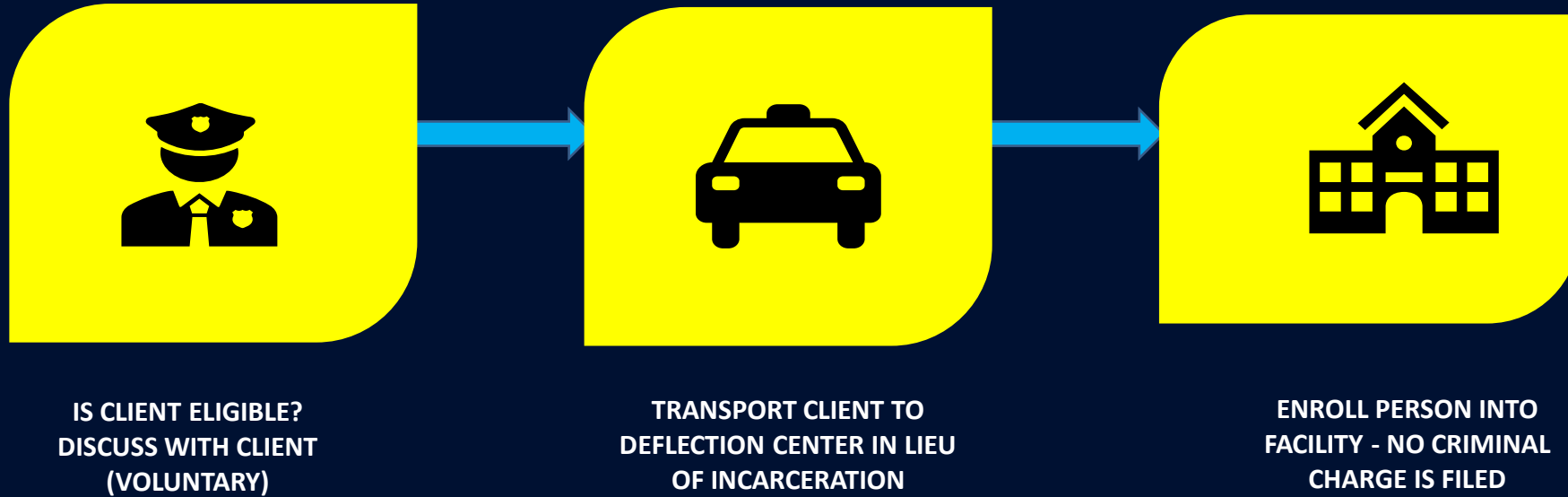
- \$2500.00 Outdoor Space

Dallas County District Attorney John Creuzot

- \$15,000.00 Room renovation



Role of Police



- Officers' role will be **only** 1) determine eligibility 2) transport & 3) enroll individual in the facility
- Officers are then free to return to service – Goal is **15-minute** turnaround



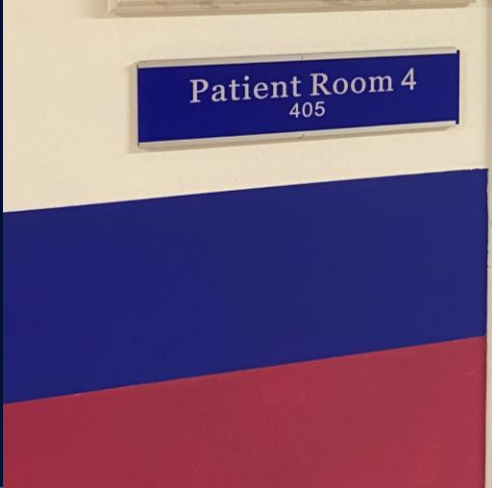
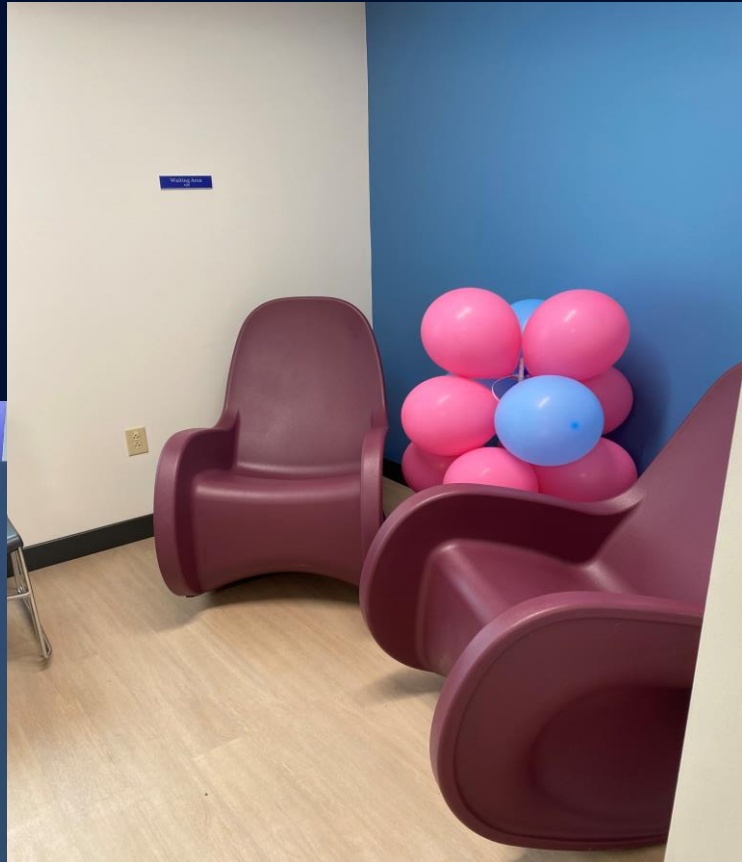
Who can go to Deflection Center?

- Criminal Trespass – Class B
- Must be at least 18 years old
- No outstanding warrants
- The Deflection Center WILL take an individual with a Class C warrant
 - However, each LEA will set its own policy regarding Class C warrants
- Not a registered sex offender
- Does not meet the criteria for APOWW



APPOW

- If individual decompensates to meet level for APPOW – follow standard APPOW protocol
- Transport individual to nearest inpatient health facility





Dallas County Deflection Center

- 5300 University Hills Blvd
- Dallas, TX 75216

- P: 214.535.5618

- Intake Hours: 9:00 am to 9:00 pm (7 days a week)



Questions – Deflection Center



Thank You