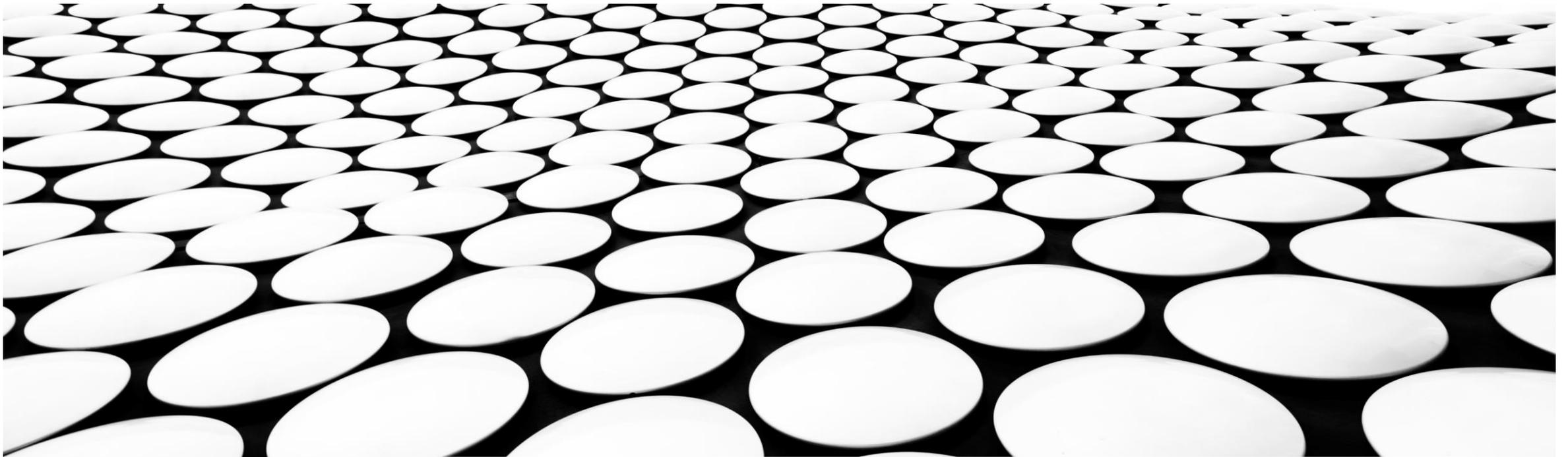

SACRAMENTO PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE

SECURING SUPPORTING HOUSING TO MAXIMIZE TREATMENT NEEDS



Tiffanie Synnott, Acting Chief Assistant & Supervisor Sacramento County Public Defender

REPORTING THE SYSTEM



DEPT.
OF
CORRECTIONS

**CHANGE OUR
APPROACH TO
INDIVIDUALS
ENTERING THE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
SYSTEM:**

**FOCUSED ON THE
PERSON AND NOT
THE CRIME.....**



**CARE
NOT
CAGES**

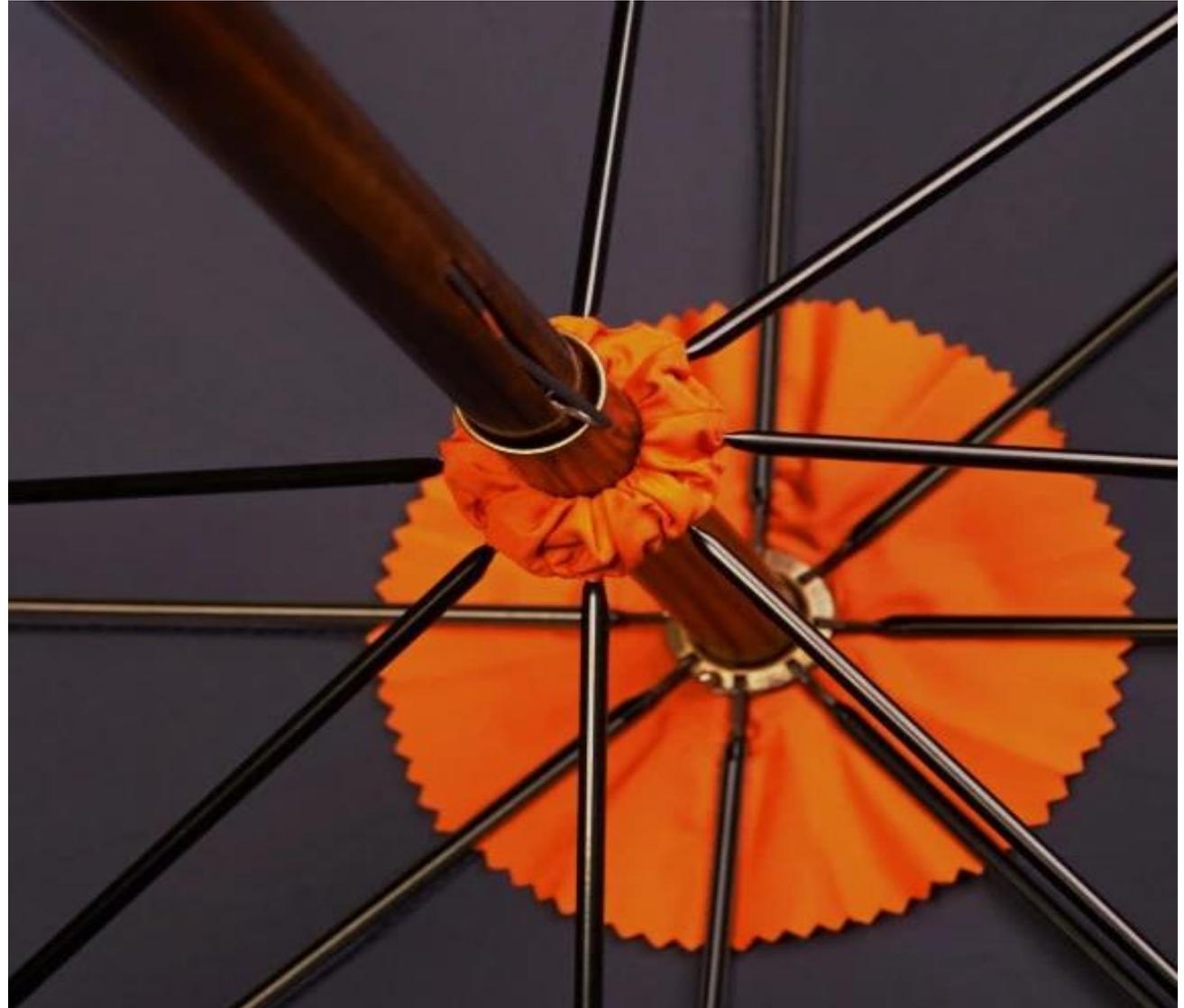


HOLISTIC DEFENSE

COMBINING AGGRESSIVE LEGAL ADVOCACY WITH ADDRESSING ANY OTHER UNDERLYING NEEDS AN INDIVIDUAL MAY HAVE. EXAMPLES MAY INCLUDE LINKING INDIVIDUALS TO MENTAL HEALTH, SUBSTANCE USE, GENERAL ASSISTANCE.....AND HOUSING



**UMBRELLA:
ATTORNEY-CLIENT
RELATIONSHIP**



BxD

ACCORDING TO A STUDY BY RAND AND UPENN LAW,
10 YEARS OF BxD'S HOLISTIC DEFENSE



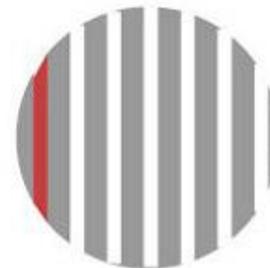
REDUCED THE RATE
OF INCARCERATION

by 16%



SHORTENED
SENTENCE LENGTH

by 24%



CUT PRE-TRIAL
DETENTION

by 9%

HOLISTIC DEFENSE

SAVES MONEY

&

REDUCES RECIDIVISM

&

HELPS PEOPLE

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Holistic defense reduces the **likelihood of a custodial sentence** by **16%** and **expected sentence length** by **24%**, **without increasing future crime.**



Over study period, holistic defense averted **1.1 million** days of custodial punishment

3,200 fewer people incarcerated each year if all NYC defendants had comparable holistic defense

IS THIS A BIG DEAL?

Taxpayer savings **\$160 million**

VS.

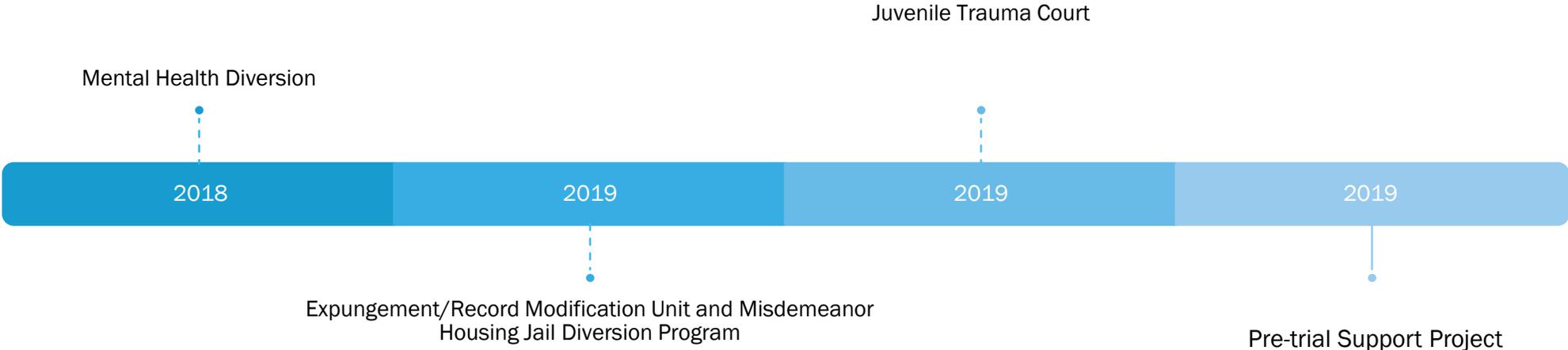
Holistic defender costs **\$95 million**

**WHAT IF WE TESTED
HOLISTIC DEFENSE IN
FOUR AREAS AND
INCLUDED AN
EMPHASIS ON
HOUSING**

- Mental Health Clients
- Post-Plea population
- Misdemeanor housing program
- Juveniles
- Pre-Plea population



TEST OUT THIS CONCEPT HOLISTIC DEFENSE 4 GRANTS





MENTAL HEALTH DIVERSION



WHERE DID YOU FIND HOUSING?

Continuum of care:

- Study housing system
- DBH resources
- Partnered with Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) Funding and Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) State Grant

50%

OUTCOMES:

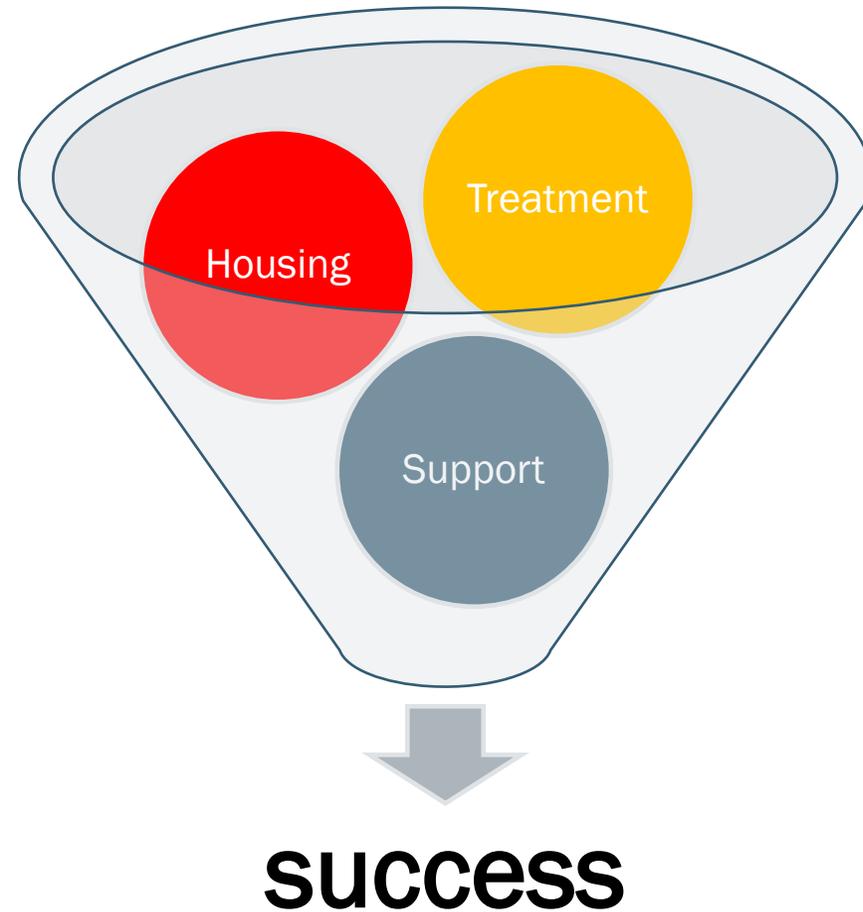
Within one year....

Over 200 applicant for MHD

Over 100 granted

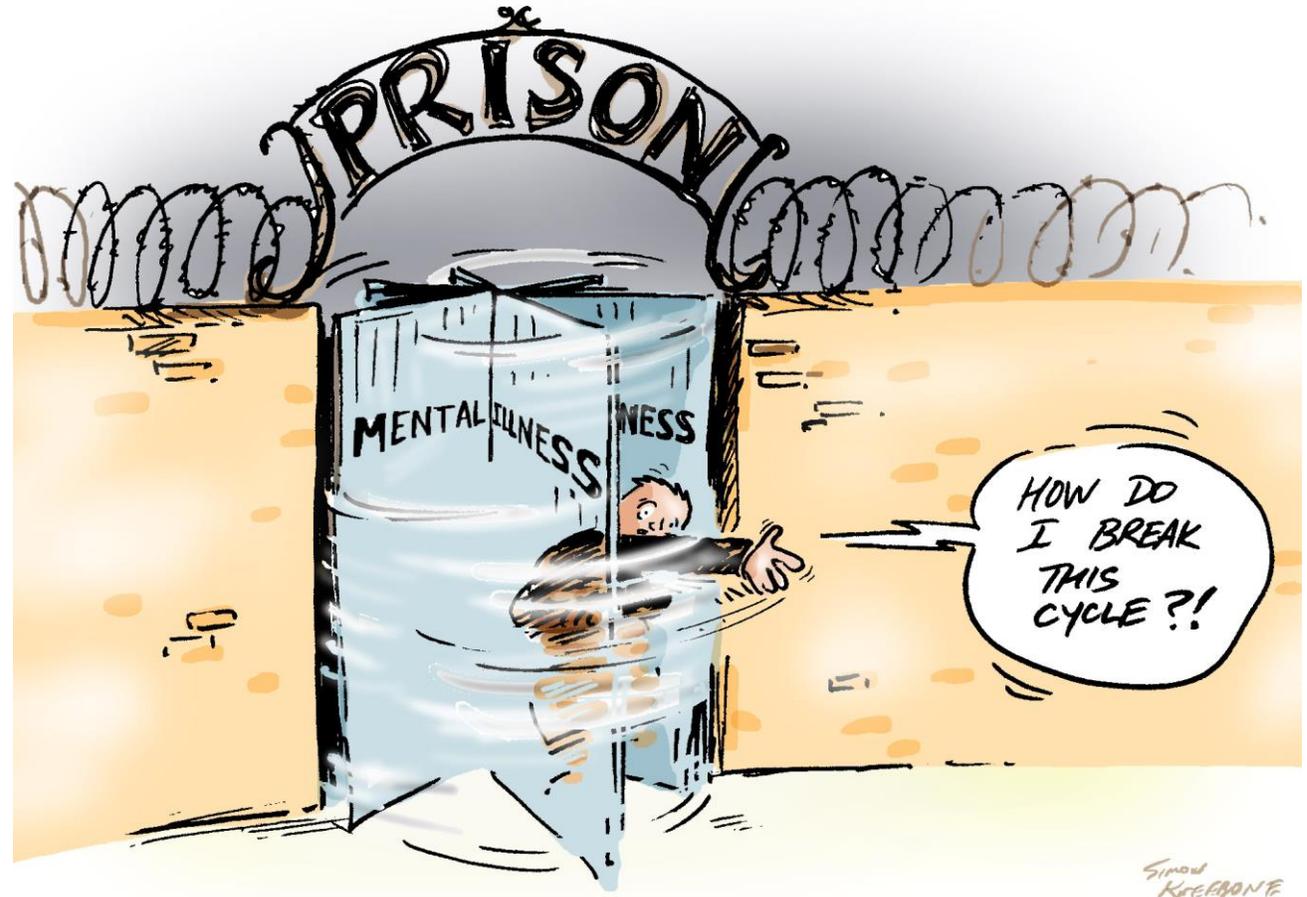
Decrease in recidivism

Decrease in the revolving door



FELONY MHD

- State offered us a grant in 2019 and 2021 to try to create a program for felony IST or likely to be IST
- State gave us three years to divert 32.5 people and 6 IST
- Had to stay in the program for at least 30 days
- Pure diversion



EMPOWER: 2021

- Collaboration of all partners
- First forensic component of care
- Mental health, substance use, SSI, Clothing, Food, social workers, transportation, groups, medication
- Funding dedicated to **Housing**



OUTCOMES:

- 34 people in 6 months
- 6 IST
- 1 did not engage
- All housed
- Process of establishing a house for IST in community





FLEXIBLE HOUSING POOL JAIL DIVERSION



GETTING A SEAT AT THE TABLE WITH STATE FUNDING

Front door access to housing
criminal justice system

Misdemeanor clients diverted into
housing using Flexible Housing
Pool Model

Clients were given property
manager, case manager, and
support from Public Defender
Social Worker and Court



OUTCOMES

46 beds

46 clients housed

Majority not in HMIS
when identified



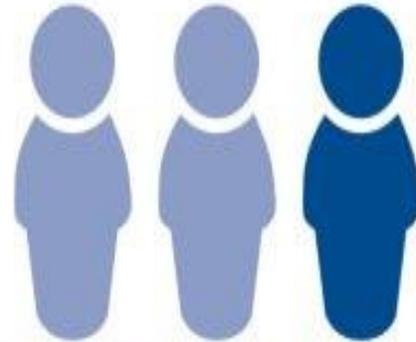


EXPUNGEMENT: RECORD MODIFICATION



RECORDS IMPACT LIVES

Criminal records (national data)



77,000,000

Approximate number of American adults
— 1 in 3— with a criminal record

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2016

600,000

Inmates released each year

Incarceration: Communities of color most affected

■ African-American males ages 18 to 19: 11.8 times more likely be imprisoned than white male same age

x11.8

■ African-American females: twice as likely as white females to be imprisoned

x2

■ Hispanics: 856 per 100,000

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics: Prisoners, 2016

IMPACTS

Employment

Education

Housing

Professional Licenses
(15,000)

Supporting kids and
family

A CENTER FOR AMERICAN PROGRESS GRAPHIC

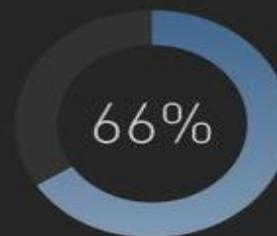
Criminal records are a family sentence

Opportunity barriers for parents with criminal records and their children

Nearly half of U.S. children have a parent with a criminal record.



Criminal background checks are used by...



Colleges



Employers



Landlords

...so even a minor record can be a life sentence to poverty.

HEAP

- Partnered with Homeless Emergency Aid Program (State grant)
- 2 Law Students \$220,000 over two years
- New process with the court, probation and DA
- Waived court administrative fee
- Calendar cases within 2 weeks



OUTCOMES

708 individuals served

Over 3,600 act of services





JUVENILE TRAUMA COURT



CHANGING THE FOCUS

Instead of the crime the youth is charge with to.....

the underlying trauma the youth has endured and provide supportive services and **housing** to youth and families



GRANT: JUVENILE TRAUMA RESPONSE COURT (JTRC)

- Education Attorney
- Dependency/Delinquency Attorney
- Community Intervention Workers
- UC Davis-clinical assessments
- **Social Workers**





OUTCOMES

This quarter 7/1/21-9/30/21

- 43 youth in the program
- Linked them to services and support
- Improved grades
- **Stable housing**
- Supported family dynamics
- Collaboration with dual system
- Youth report: safe, supported, not alone





PRE-TRIAL SUPPORT PROJECT



CHANGING THE WAY WE MEET CLIENTS

- Meeting your client in the cage
- 5 seconds to speak to them
- Little to no privacy
- During Court



NEW APPROACH

- Interview them prior to court
- Spend 25-45 minutes with them
- 4 Evidence-based tools to assess **housing**, mental health, substance use, and trauma
- Call their families
- Coordinate housing
- Help with their animals
- Negotiate their release
- Coordinate their release
- Link to service
- Case management
- Provide CIW

Treat
others
the way
you
want to be
Treated

OUTCOMES: LAST 3 MONTHS....

642 individuals assessed

89% needed social worker support

52% need mental health support

44% need substance use and prevention support

48% need housing

3% had medical issues

10% expressed employment and educational needs



WHAT WE
FOUND

OUTCOMES

- 182 had coordinated case plans
- 120 linked to mental health
- 68 linked to substance use and prevention treatment
- 4 connected to educational/employment
- 11 provided other services (DMV, animal support, etc)
- **80 linked to housing**
- **Less than 3% recidivism**
- **41% on average released from custody after gathering information from needs assessment**



IMPACT OF HOLISTIC DEFENSE OVERALL WITH 5 PROGRAMS



FOCUSING ON HOUSE
WE ARE SEEING THE
TRUE IMPACT OF
HOLISTIC DEFENSE.....

Reduction in recidivism

Addressing Trauma

Cases resolve for less time

More people get collaborative
courts or Diversion

Less pre-trial time

Less sentenced time

More collaboration with partners

CHANGING
LIVES
TOGETHER

COLLATERAL CHANGES:

1 TO 9 PAID SOCIAL WORKERS

**0 TO 14 SOCIAL WORKER
INTERNS**

**SHIFT IN CULTURE AND
MORALE**

**NEW COMMUNITY
PARTNERSHIPS**

**ADDITIONAL COUNTY & STATE
FUNDING**

STATE RECOGNITION &

CLIENTS HOUSED.....



FOCUS ON **HOUSING AND YOU WILL GET THE OUTCOMES OF
HOLISTIC DEFENSE THAT CHANGE, REPAIR, AND IMPROVE
LIVES.**

TIFFANIE SYNNOTT, ACTING CHIEF ASSISTANT & SUPERVISOR SACRAMENTO PUBLIC DEFENDER

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