



Washington County Deflection Program

Kevin Barton, District Attorney

Danielle Farr, Deflection Program Coordinator

December 11, 2024

Deflection Making an Impact

2

“Working with the Washington County Deflection Program has been a dream come true. As a person in recovery and a treatment provider, creating deflection programming is impactful because we are collaborating in a way that maximizes our roles to ensure people can recover.”

-Tony Vezina, 4D Recovery Executive Director

“So far, PCS-U deflection is going extremely well. We have had multiple success stories, particularly of some more vulnerable people in our city who have been historically very resistant to going to treatment now actively seeking and getting treatment. We have also noticed a drop in open-air drug use since this began.”

-Officer James Weed Hillsboro PD

Program Structure

3

- Launched September 1, 2024
- Overseen by Deflection Operations Team (DOT)
 - DOT Program Coordinator (Behavioral Health)
 - DA's Office
 - Sheriff's Office
 - BHRN providers: 4D Recovery, MHAAO, Lifeworks NW
 - Community Corrections
 - Department of Housing (advisor capacity)
- DOT meets daily
 - Staff cases, make eligibility decisions, guide program

Eligibility, Process and “Success”

4

Who is eligible?

- PCS-U & PCS-A (as of 1/1/25)
- No other pending charges/cases
- Not currently on formal supervision
- No previous deflection in prior year
- No violent felony criminal history

How does someone enter deflection?

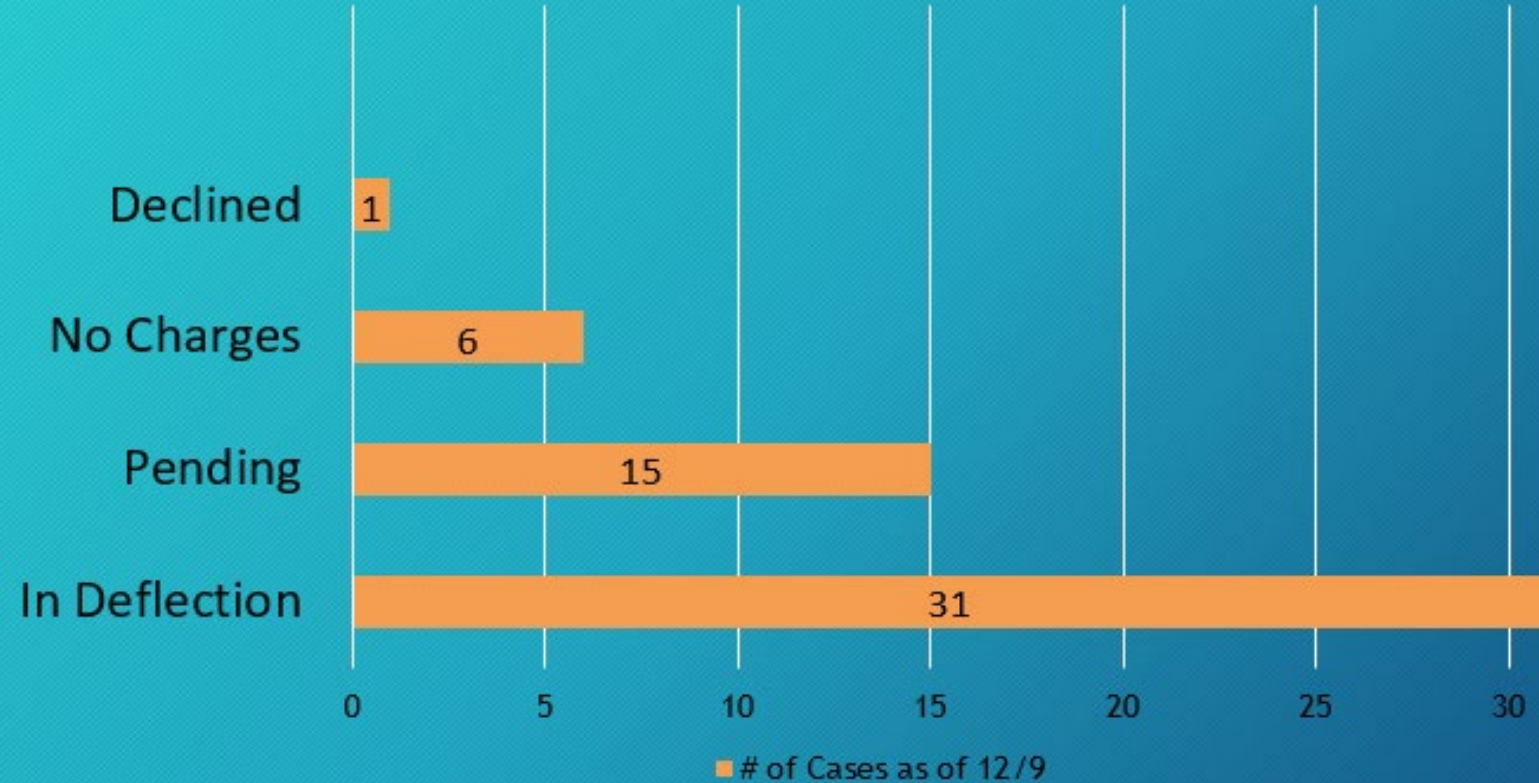
- Law enforcement officer cites or arrests a person for PCS
- Peer navigators and Deflection Program staff contact person
- If eligible, person must choose to enter program before court process starts

What counts as “success”?

- Person completes assessment,
- Person successfully engages in recommended SUD treatment,
and
- DOT concludes person will likely continue to engage in treatment post deflection

Status of Eligible Participants

5



Strong Partnerships

6

- We partner with 20 providers offering:
 - Peer-delivered services, including culturally specific
 - Substance use disorder outpatient
 - Medication for opioid use disorder
 - Housing
 - Mental health
 - Residential treatment
 - Primary care
 - Withdrawal management

Key Challenges and Opportunities

7

- Funding
 - Increased funding is needed to maintain community support/trust and meet community need
- Operational Challenges
 - Staffing, coordination with partners, data reporting burdens, data-sharing complications
- Maintaining contact
 - After initial contact, some individuals do not engage with peers and treatment and fail to appear (FTA) for court date

Start Small, Think Big

8

Where we are

- Early success is due to strong internal and external partnerships
- Committed to transparency, addressing challenges, and data-driven decisions
- Emphasis on the program's adaptability and the importance of building on initial successes

What lies ahead

- Continuing to work with stakeholders to refine the program
- Commitment to meeting the goals set by HB 4002
- Request for further support from the legislature to sustain and grow the program