BUILDING EFFECTIVE DEFLECTION TO ADVANCE PUBLIC SAFETY IN OREGON

A presentation delivered to the Oregon Legislative Assembly · 9/30/25

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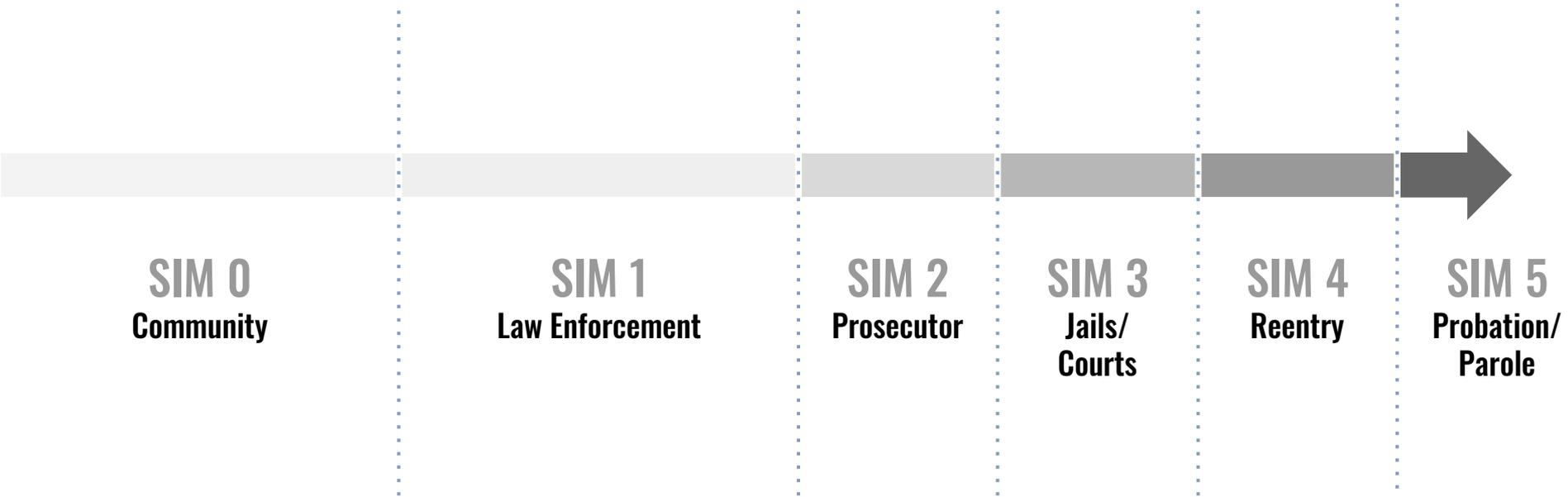# LISA DAUGAARD

Co-Executive Director · Purpose Dignity Action

MALIKA LAMONT

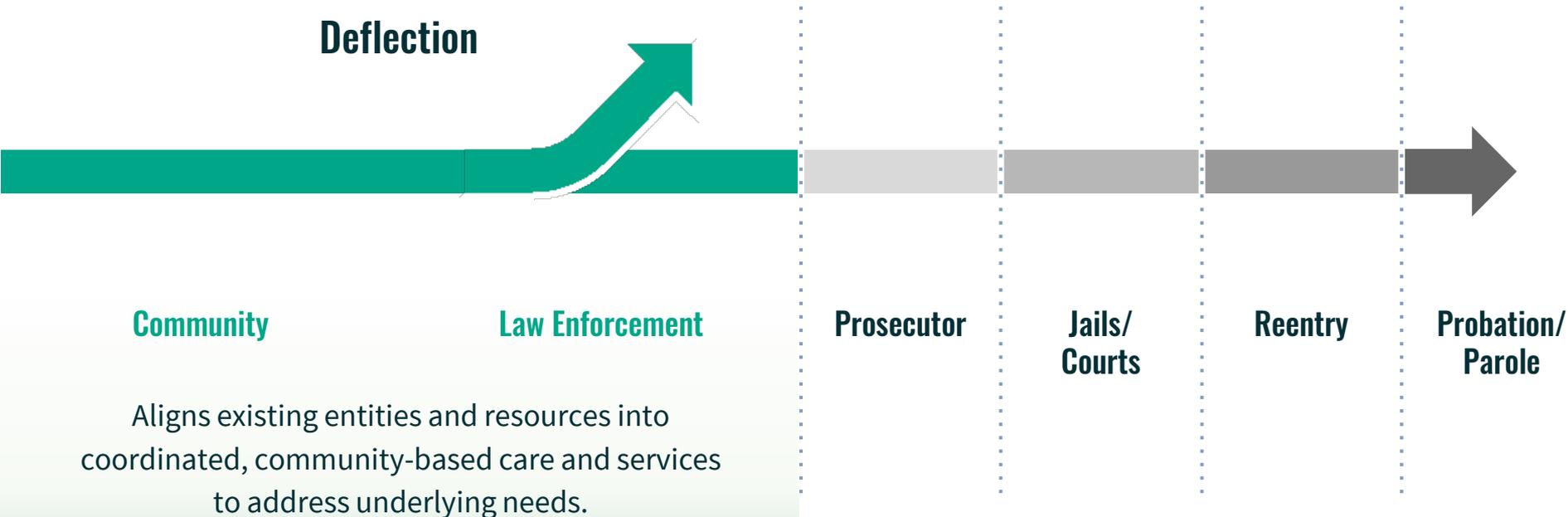**Director · WA State Technical Assistance · LEAD Support Bureau**

LEAD

But coordinated deflection also advances public safety.

Addressing unmet needs can reduce future contact with the justice system.

Deflection
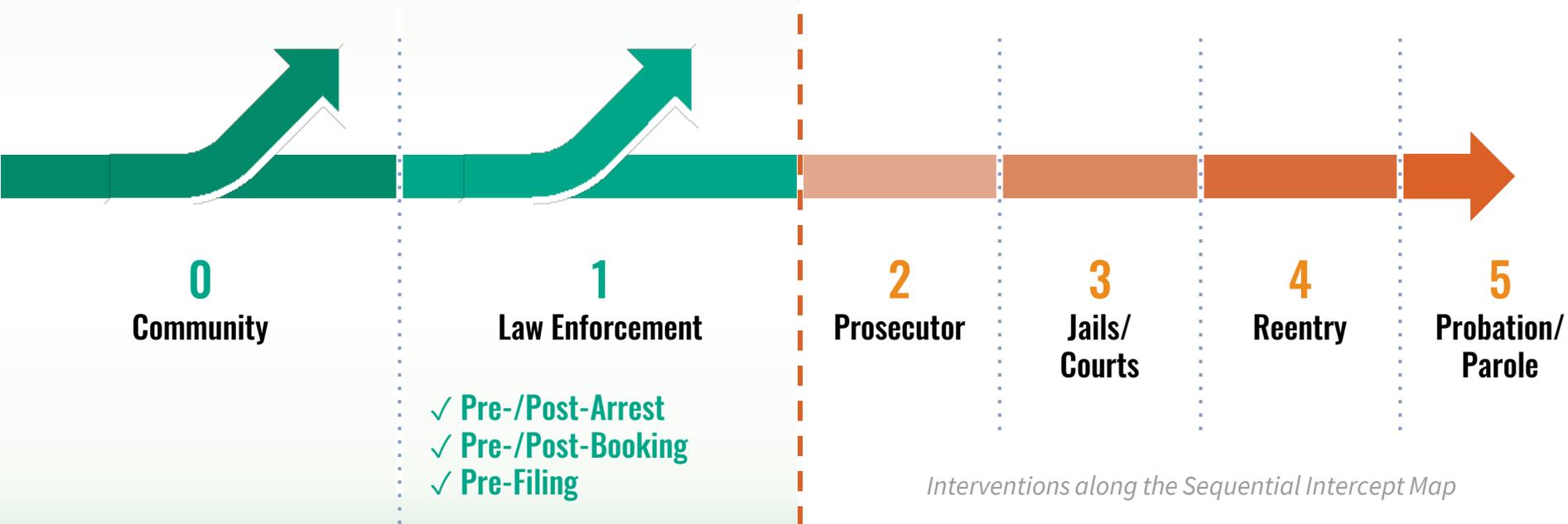
Community   **Law Enforcement**   **Prosecutor**   **Jails/ Courts**   **Reentry**   **Probation/ Parole**

Aligns existing entities and resources into coordinated, community-based care and services to address underlying needs.

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Deflection
COMMUNITY-BASED

Justice System
LEGAL-BASED

Addresses Causes Of Behavior

Referral
for Prosecution

Determines Guilt

0
Community

1
Law Enforcement

✓ Pre-/Post-Arrest
✓ Pre-/Post-Booking
✓ Pre-Filing

2
Prosecutor

3
**Jails/
Courts**

4
Reentry

5
**Probation/
Parole**

Interventions along the Sequential Intercept Map

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Deflection COMMUNITY-BASED	Justice System LEGAL-BASED
Community-based systems and services	Takes place in the justice system and requires lawyers
May or may not involve arrest	Involves jail booking and/or filing charge
Services are not determined by involvement in the justice system	Services are made available through involvement in the justice system
Addresses underlying causes of unlawful conduct driven by behavioral health challenges	May not address underlying causes, can generate adverse collateral consequences

Always ✓ Pre-Filing

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EFFECTIVE DEFLECTION

The moment of deflection – though important – is just the *first* response.

Effective approaches don't stop with diversion – they build a coordinated, effective answer to the question: "**Divert to what?**"

Achieving meaningful and lasting impact requires an effective *second response*. LEAD programs focus on this sustained ongoing response.

THE LEAD MODEL

PURPOSE: Advances safety by providing a better approach to address the crime and disorder caused by people whose frequent involvement in the legal system stems from long term, complex behavioral health needs.

METHOD: To do this, reorganizes existing entities and resources into a coordinated, evidence-based system that addresses the underlying needs driving unlawful conduct.

IMPACT: Research shows that, when implemented with fidelity to the model, LEAD reduces recidivism, as well as felony filings, jail stays & prison admissions. It also increases lawful income & improves shelter & housing status.

CORE COMPONENTS OF LEAD

Population-Specific: Focuses on people whose ongoing criminal legal involvement stems from long-standing and complex behavioral health needs; reduces need for legal counsel

Structured Framework for Multi-Agency Responsibility: Uses multi-agency, cross-systems engagement and oversight to enhance impact and efficiency

Post-Deflection Model of Care: Organizes existing resources into a coordinated, *post-deflection* model of care using evidence-based practices; improves Medicaid retention
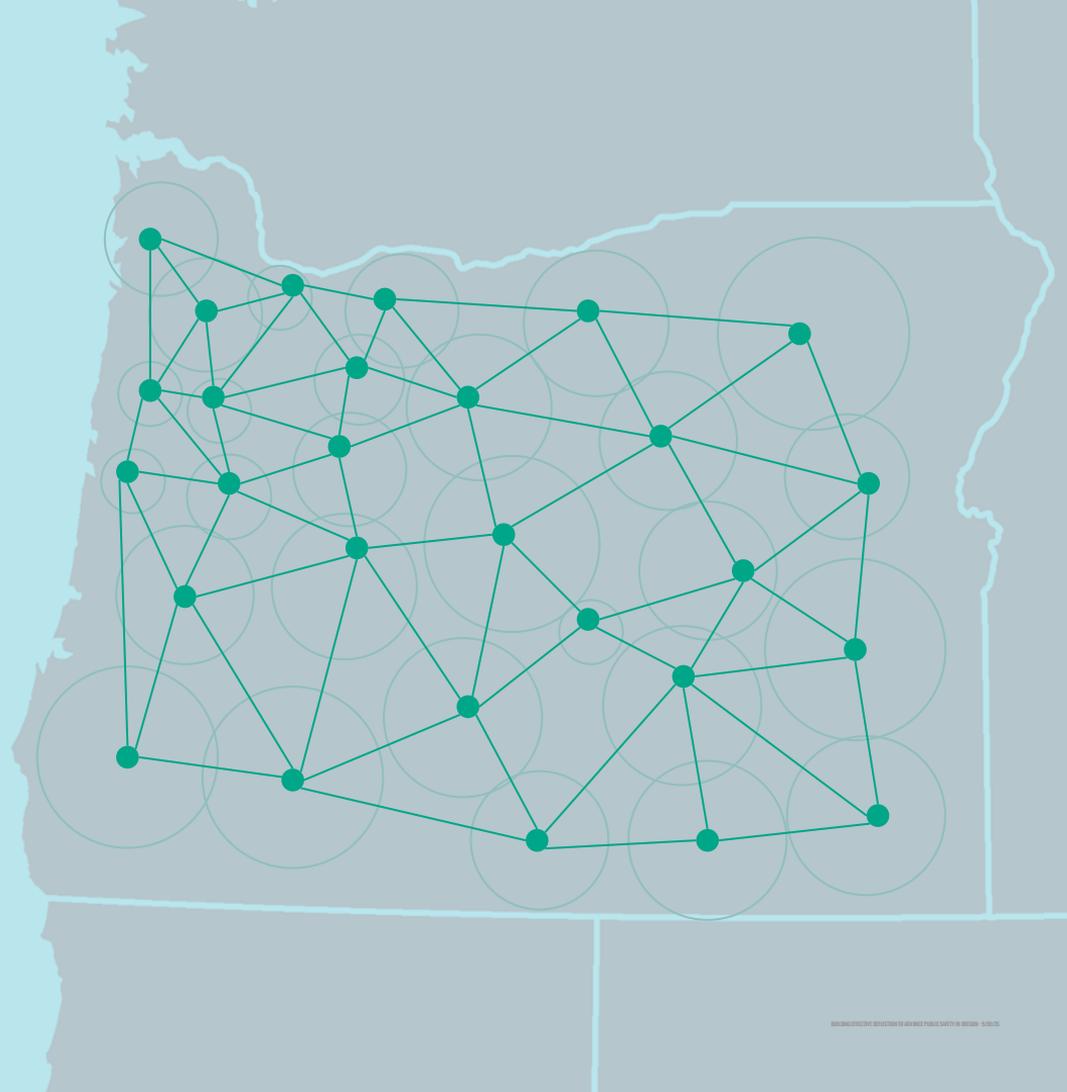
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WHATEVER YOU CALL IT:

The LEAD model can:

- improve public safety
- retain Medicaid enrollment
- reduce need for legal counsel

... statewide

MAXIMIZING IMPACT STATEWIDE

The consistent implementation of an evidence-based, intentional, and standardized set of methods
– WHILE STILL ALLOWING CAREFUL ROOM FOR LOCAL VARIATION –
is what transforms **local programs** into a **statewide strategy**.

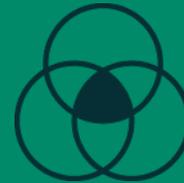LEAD

TOOLS FOR STATEWIDE SUCCESS

Framework that fosters consistent implementation

Consistent standards, training, and technical assistance

Standardized goals and consistent metrics

Tech capacity to foster efficiency, consistency, analyzability

CORE AREAS OF OUR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

MODEL OF CARE

MULTI-AGENCY PROJECT MANAGEMENT

ESTABLISHING AND SCALING

METRICS AND IMPACT

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

DATA AND COMMUNICATIONS

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WE'RE HERE TO HELP.

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