



# Washington County Deflection Program

Danielle Farr  
Deflection Program Coordinator

Kevin Barton  
Washington County District Attorney

Eva Hawes  
Translational Research & Policy Analyst

January 14, 2026



Department of  
Health and Human Services



Department of Health and Human Services

[www.washingtoncountyor.gov](http://www.washingtoncountyor.gov)



# Deflection Process



**Six Months of Supportive Coordination**



# Deflection in Washington County

## Who is eligible?

- Possession of a Controlled Substance (PCS-U, PCS-A, or PCS charge plus one or more of the following:
  - Criminal Trespass I/II
  - Disorderly Conduct II
  - Theft III (when no restitution is sought)
  - Not on formal supervision
  - No previous deflection
  - No violent felonies

## How does someone enter deflection?

- Law enforcement officer cites or arrests a person for possession of a controlled substance.
- Deflection peers begin outreach efforts.
- If eligible, a person must choose to enter the program before the court process starts.

## What counts as “success”?

- Person completes a SUD assessment.
- Person successfully engages in SUD treatment recommendations while in deflection.

AND

- Person demonstrates they will likely continue to successfully engage in treatment once deflection ends.



# Deflection Leadership and Team Chart at Washington County

## Deflection Planning and Implementation Team (DPIT)

County  
Administrative  
Office (CAO)

Behavioral Health  
Resource Network  
(BHRN)

Community  
Corrections

District Attorney  
Office (WCDA)

Health and Human  
Services (HHS)

County  
Counsel

Sheriff's Office  
(WCSO)

## Deflection Operations Team (DOT)

Deflection Sr.  
Program  
Coordinator

Deflection DDA

Deflection  
Lieutenant

Community  
Corrections  
Liaison

Behavioral Health  
Resource Network  
(BHRN) Rep

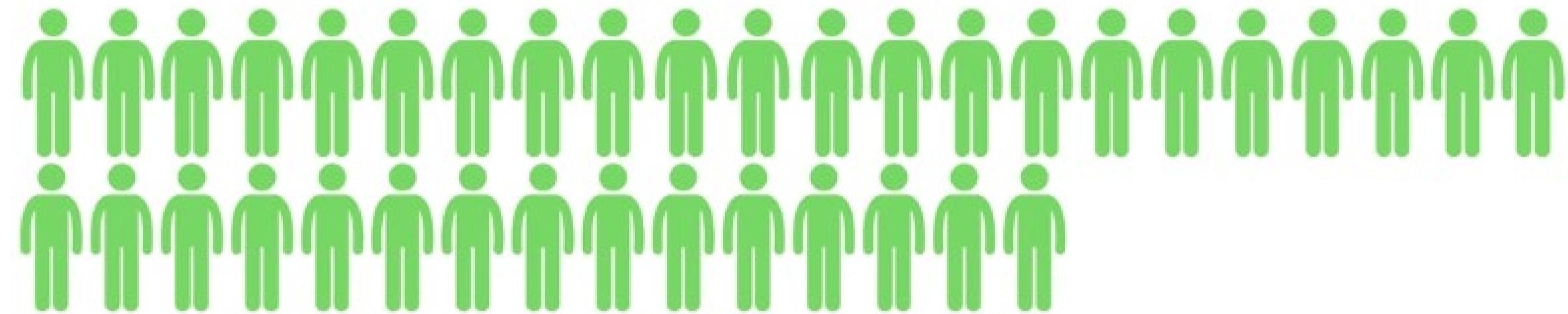
Deflection Peer  
Delivered Services  
Supervisors

Housing Services  
Program Manager

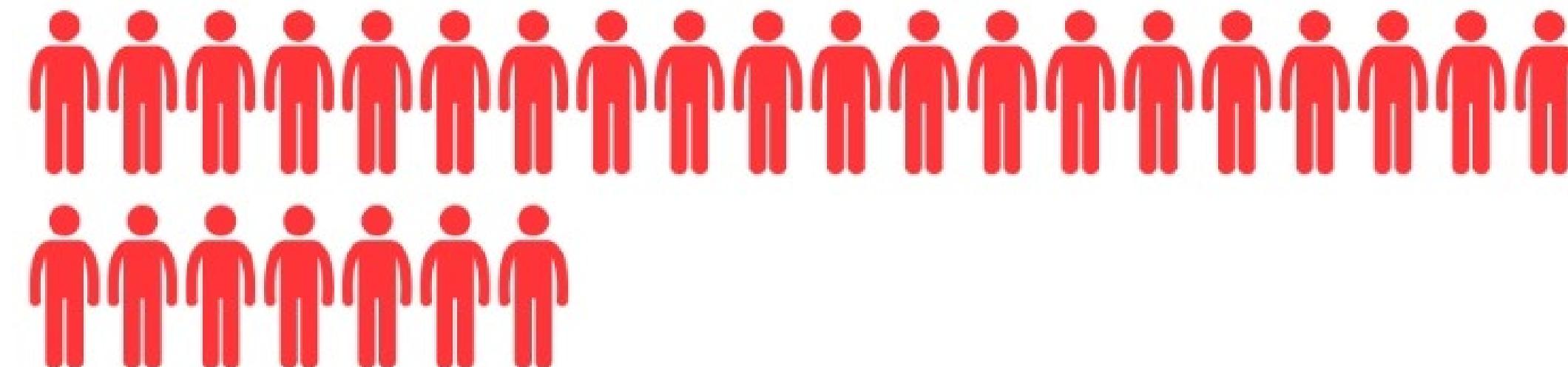


120 People Served in Deflection (9/5/2024-1/8/2026)

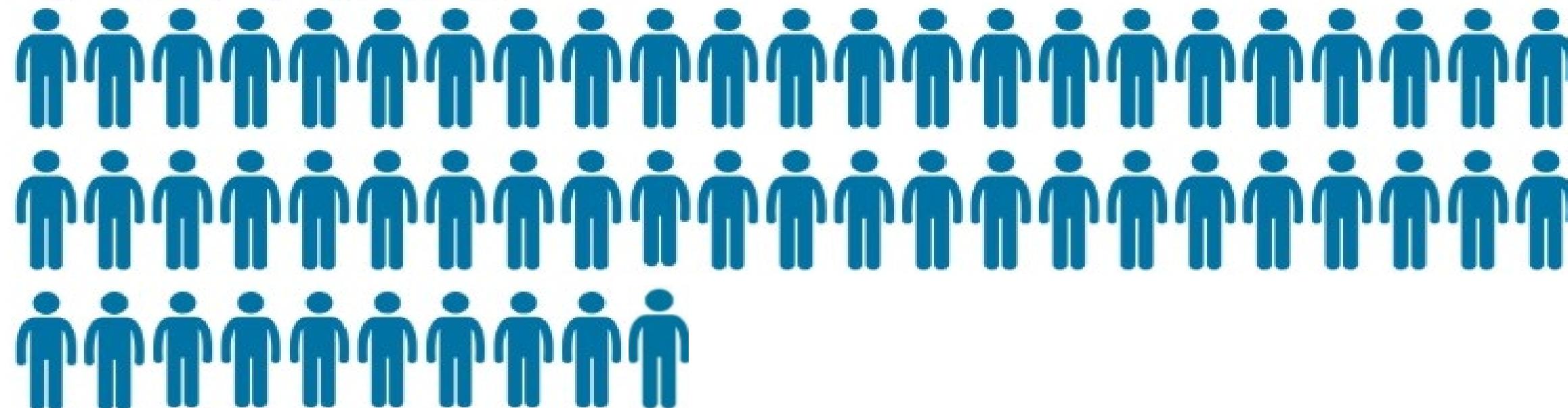
**37**  
Successful  
Completions



**27**  
Active Participants



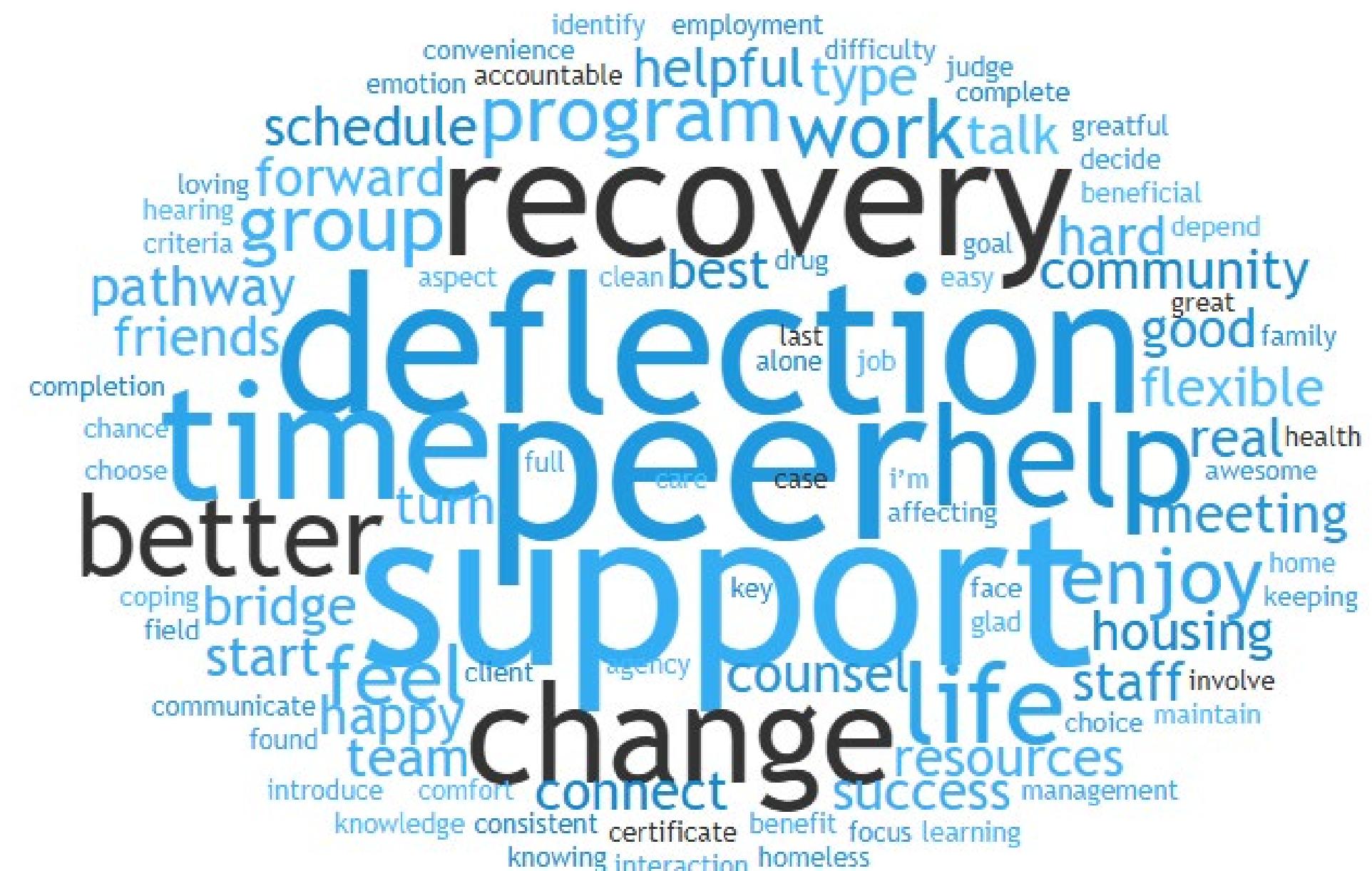
**56**  
Other Exits





# Program findings

- **Nearly one in three (32%)** report first time in treatment.
- **One quarter (25%)** have experienced an overdose before.
- **Nearly three in four (72%)** are experiencing some form of homelessness when entering the program.
- **15** participants went from unsheltered to sheltered.





# Looking Forward

- Implement new data management software
- Begin jail in-reach efforts
- Implement contingency management supports
- Add a non-citation pathways
- Build additional service partnerships





# Challenges

- Deflection needs time to grow and wait for evidence-based practices before making more changes.
- Quality vs. Quantity
- New innovative programs need investment to build in a sustainable way.
- BHRN funding needs continued investment



# Questions and Discussion

