



Department of
Health and Human Services



Washington County Deflection Program

Danielle Farr
Deflection Program Coordinator

Kevin Barton
Washington County District Attorney

Eva Hawes
Translational Research & Policy Analyst



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Department of Health and Human Services

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

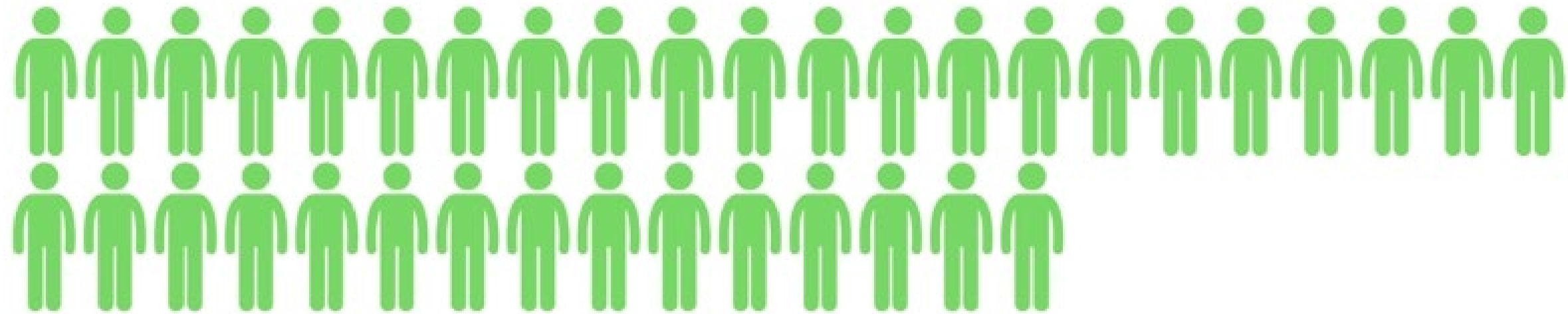
Deflection Peer
Delivered Services
Supervisors

Housing Services
Program Manager

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

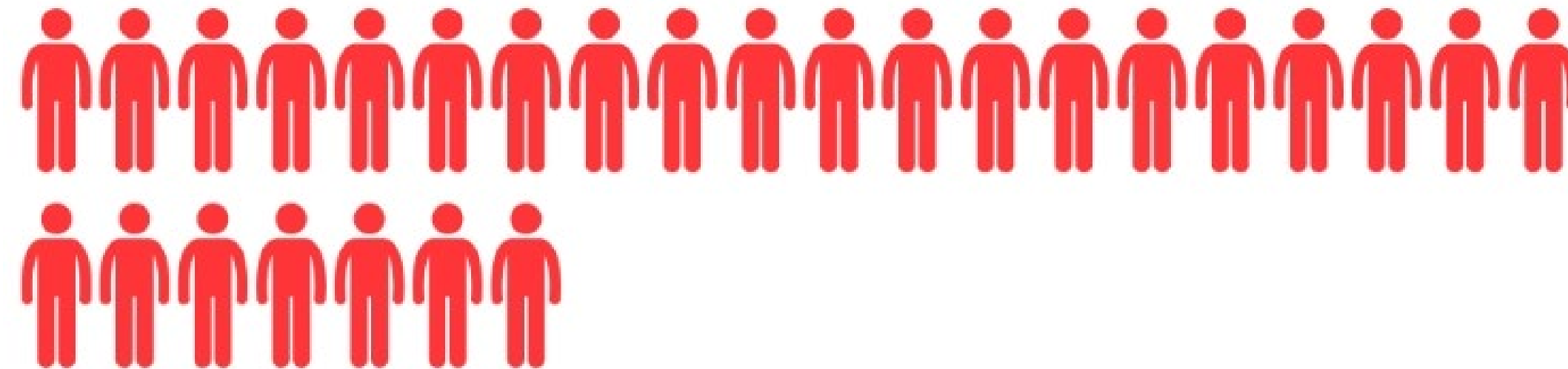
37

Successful
Completions



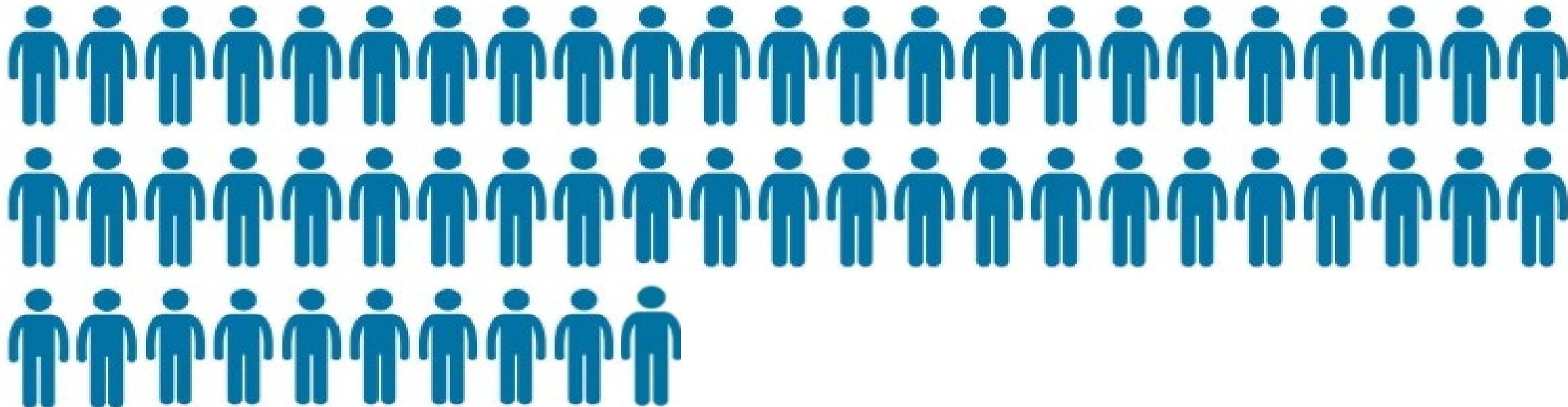
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Active Participants



56

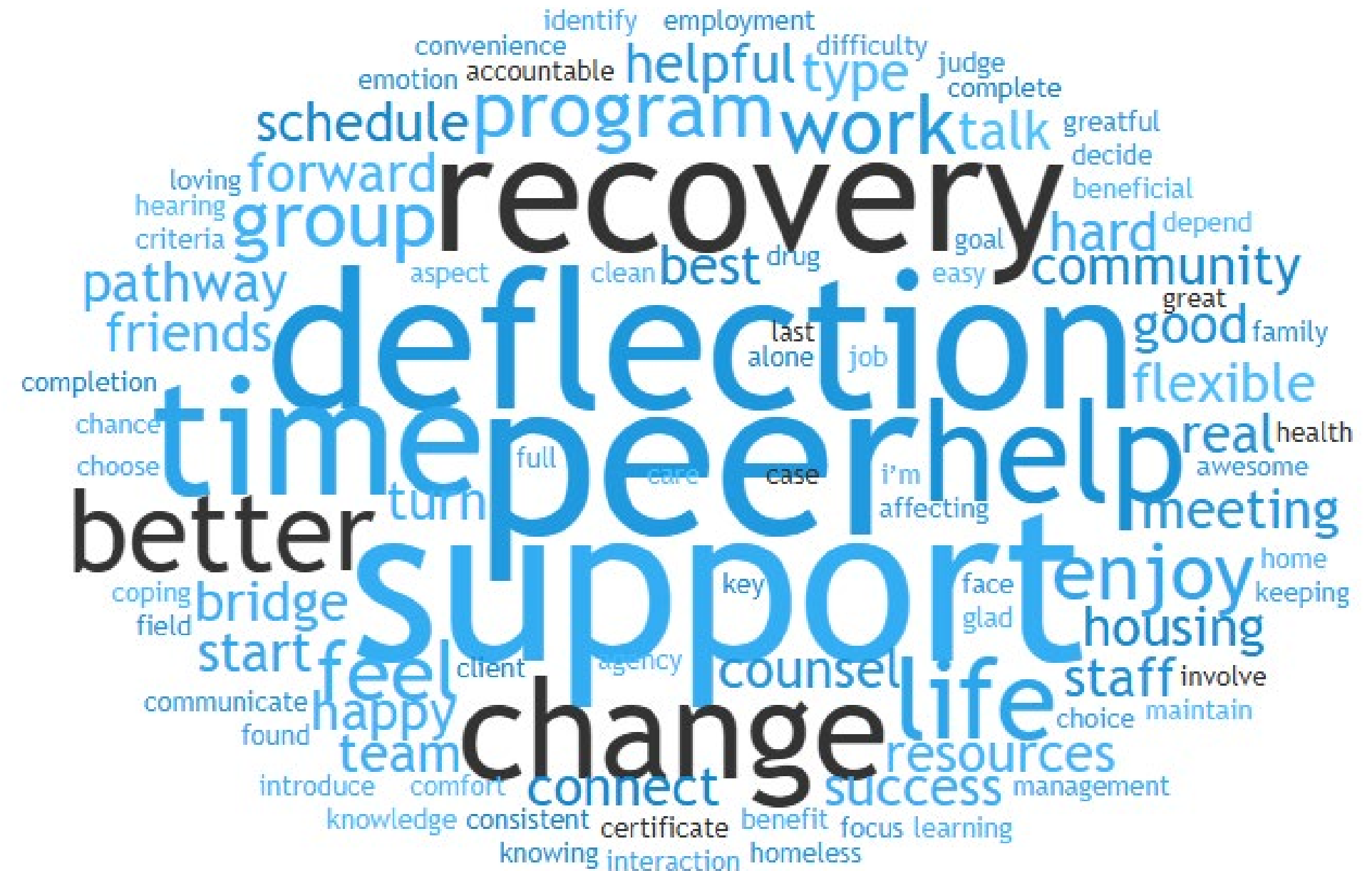
Other Exits





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

