

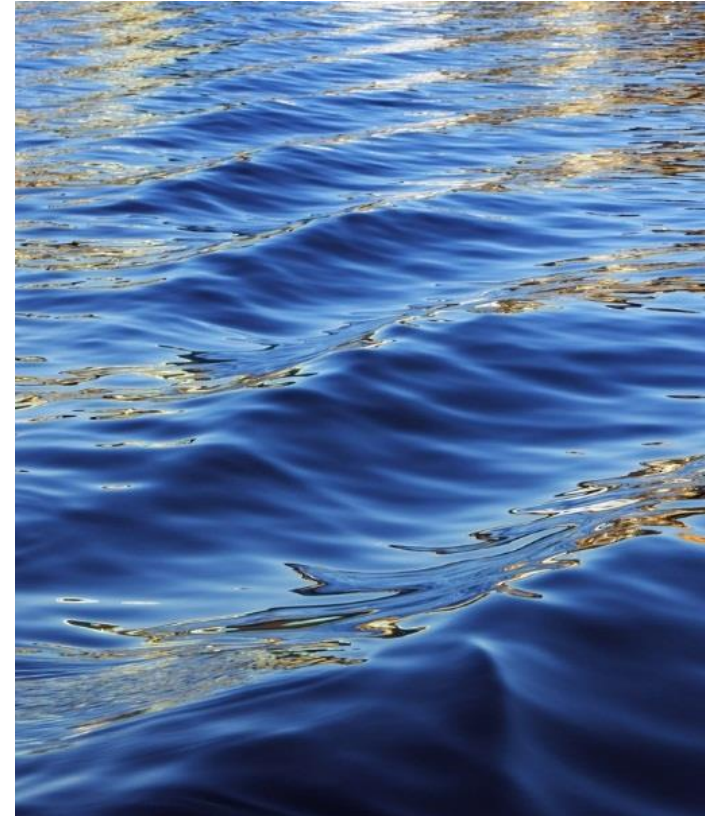
Behavioral Health Deflection **Best Practices and Standards Report Preview**

Presentation to the Joint Committee on
Addiction and Community Safety Response
Informational Meeting
Salem, OR

Elizabeth Needham Waddell, PhD
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SCHOOL OF
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Nationally recognized deflection definition

"Collaborative intervention connecting public safety (e.g., police, sheriffs) & public health systems to create community-based pathways to treatment for people who have substance use disorders, mental health disorders, or both, and who often have other service needs, without their entry into the justice system."

- Charlier and Reichert, *Journal for Advancing Justice*, 2020

Sources for the best practices report

- Literature review
- Consultation with experts
- Interviews with grantees
- BHD grant applications
- Grantee reporting
- Statewide program data

Program coordination

- Most programs are housed in law enforcement agencies
- Program coordinators operate at different levels across programs
- Coordination and communication with inter-agency partners is critical for retention and successful referrals

Eligibility

- Broadening eligibility beyond stand-alone misdemeanor PCS will extend the reach of deflection programs
 - Allowing other low-level "quality of life" crimes or prior convictions
 - Writing rules that are deliberately flexible to enable case-by-case considerations

Deflection pathways

Pathway	Definition
Self-referral	Individual voluntarily initiates contact, seeking treatment.
Active outreach	Law enforcement/community organization performs outreach.
Naloxone-plus	Law enforcement/first responder/crisis worker engages individuals during overdose response.
Officer prevention	Law enforcement initiates a referral, but no criminal charges are present.
Officer intervention	Law enforcement initiates a referral, and criminal charges or potential charges present.
Community referral	A community-based behavioral health team de-escalates crises and refers to services.

First point of contact

- Most involve law enforcement
- Encouragement of self referrals and social referrals with no charges present to reach a broader eligible population
- Co-response has been shown to facilitate program participation, connections to resources, and reduced recidivism

Handoff to programs

- “Warm handoff” is when law enforcement or other first responders connect individuals to services or program staff **in person**
- Warm handoffs are the best strategy for engagement and retention
 - Law enforcement officer to a peer support specialist on scene
 - Law enforcement transporting to a deflection drop-off center
 - Mobile crisis team connecting to deflection program staff

Defining success

- No standardized definition
- Case-by-case approaches to determine success, based on individual assessment by program staff
- Pre-determined metrics of completion defined by a program

Questions