



Deflection Center Program Update

July 17, 2024
Buckman Community Association
6:30 - 7:45 pm

Agenda + Objectives

- Overview and Introductions
- Welcome from Chair Vega Pederson
- Overview of program and process
- Q&A, Discussion
- Next Steps



Background

- [HB 4002](#) changed drug laws in Oregon, re-criminalizing possession of controlled substance
- 23 counties committed to implementing a **Deflection Program** by September 1, 2024
- Connection between public safety and treatment



Deflection Program Requirements

- Coordinate between the district attorney, law enforcement agencies, community mental health program (CMHP) and provider(s) from a Behavioral Health Resource Network.
- Define eligibility and success
- Respond to the cultural and linguistic needs of the community using evidence-based and trauma-informed best practices.



Deflection Goal:

Connect individuals who would otherwise be arrested **solely** for possession of a controlled substance to a behavioral health pathway toward recovery.



Deflection Eligibility:

Eligible individuals are those who come into contact with law enforcement and are found to be in possession of small amounts of illegal drugs for their personal use, but **not engaged in other criminal behavior** during that encounter.



Deflection Success:

Phase 1 success is a **screening, referral, and to-be-determined engagement requirement.**

The Leadership Team understands the complexity of the public safety need, the impacts of fentanyl, and existing gaps in the treatment system. They will work collaboratively to **further define the engagement requirement by September 1.**



Phased Approach

PHASE 1

Sept 1, 2024

Deflection Center

- Short-term leased facility
- Assessment, screening, connection to treatment and recovery services
- Basic needs services and place to recuperate
- Transportation

PHASE 2

Q2 2025

Deflection Center with Sobering

- Short-term leased facility
- 24/7
- Assessment, screening, connection to treatment and recovery services
- Basic needs services and place to recuperate
- Transportation
- Sobering services and Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD)

PHASE 3

2026

Sobering Center

- County-owned 24/7 facility for law enforcement and voluntary walk-ins
- Triage, assessments, screenings, and connections to treatment and recovery services
- Sobering services, Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD), and Withdrawal Management
- Increased capacity



Phase 1: Deflection Center

- Temporary facility leased at 900 SE Sandy
- Beginning on September 1, law enforcement can bring individuals to the Center
 - No walk-ins or queuing
- Not for individuals in need of acute care
- Onsite staff and hired security
- Transportation will be provided for people entering and exiting



Services Provided:

- **Access:**

- Basic needs and recuperative support
- Screening, referrals, and connections to treatment

- **Transportation:**

- External consultant contracted to create transportation program
- Coordinate transportation to and from the Center
- Support care coordination by transporting individuals to their next step or a designated location

- **Security:**

- Contracted security onsite
- Scope, role, and responsibilities discussion underway



Community Commitments

- Convene a Good Neighbor Advisory Committee to support:
 - Peaceful and orderly environment
 - Outside cleanliness
 - Prevention of excessive loitering outside the building
 - Communication expectations to address concerns promptly
- Provide on-site security during all open hours
- Provide transportation for individuals
- Continuous quality improvement: law enforcement, participants, community



Next Steps

- Multnomah County Board Briefing:
 - Tuesday, July 23rd
- Leadership and key partners continue developing pathways to treatment, Treatment Readiness programming, and data tracking
- Provider selection and program ramp-up
- Convene Good Neighbor Advisory Committee



Questions + Discussion

- What are your outstanding questions?
- What may be missing from our planning, or should be considered in the future?
- When issues arise, how do we want to communicate and address them?