



2018 NACo HEALTH & JUSTICE FORUM

JANUARY 17-19 | SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE

FORUM ON THE INTERSECTIONS OF HEALTH & JUSTICE:
LINKING SYSTEMS AND IMPROVING OUTCOMES



Improving Outcomes for Individuals with Behavioral Health Needs Who Come into Contact with the Justice System

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Dr. Stewart has no financial disclosures or conflicts of interest to report regarding the content in this presentation.

She is President-Elect of the APA Board of Trustees but *the opinions expressed in her presentation today are her own and do not reflect the views or policies of the APA.*

Stepping Up Initiative

The Stepping Up Initiative urges county leaders to convene teams of local community decision makers and diverse stakeholders to develop action plan to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in jails

- Jails spend **two to three times more money** on adults with mental illnesses that require intervention than on those without those needs, yet often do not see improvements to public safety or these individuals' health.

Stepping Up Initiative

Counties can:

- Increase public safety, apply resources effectively, and put more people on a path to recovery.
- County leaders convene teams of agency decision makers and diverse stakeholders to develop a six-step action plan to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in jails.
- Emphasizes **partnership and collaboration** at the local level

Reducing the Number of People with Mental Illnesses in Jail: Six Questions County Leaders Need to Ask

- Is our leadership committed?
- Do we conduct timely screening and assessments?
- Do we have baseline data?
- Do we conduct a comprehensive process analysis and inventory of services?
- Have we prioritized policy, practice and funding improvements?
- Do we track progress?

Overview: www.stepuptogether.org

Shelby County Initiatives

Jericho Project

- A jail diversion program that links criminal detainees with serious mental illnesses who were cycling repeatedly through the justice system with community release options and treatment resources. Program created to serve persons with serious mental illness and substance use disorders and builds links to community treatment and services tailored to the particular needs of incarcerated clients
- Target population consumes disproportionate and costly jail resources
- Transitional case management services provided for individuals stable on medications until they are successfully linked to mainstream public mental health services, usually through state-funded Medicaid resources

Shelby County Initiatives

Pre-Trial Services

- Offers alternatives to incarceration at all stages of the process by providing intervention strategies prior to arrest, after arrest, prior to trial, and after conviction with the goal of reserving jail space for those who cannot be handled in less restrictive and costly ways
- Assists with the presentation of information that allows a bond to be set on defendants from Shelby County jail and provides supervision for defendants released on their own recognizance
- Provides community service workers to link with various community based agencies to address various court-related issues and needed services. They offer groups/classes in areas of: anger management, batterers intervention, job readiness and parenting

Shelby County Initiatives

Mental Health Court

Funded by a grant from the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services it that combines judicial supervision with community mental health treatment and other support services

Provides adjudication for people with mental illnesses, to direct them toward services and monitor their progress away from repeated incarcerations.

Joins the existing veterans and drug courts sponsored by the County

Shelby County Initiatives

In the juvenile justice system plans are underway to create or expand two programs to address needs of youth with behavioral health issues:

- Evening reporting centers
- Youth assessment center

Both are intended to do for adolescents what is already in place in the adult criminal justice system

**Risk factors
are not
predictive factors
due to
protective factors**



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Improving Outcomes for Individuals with Behavioral Health Needs Who Come into Contact with the Justice System



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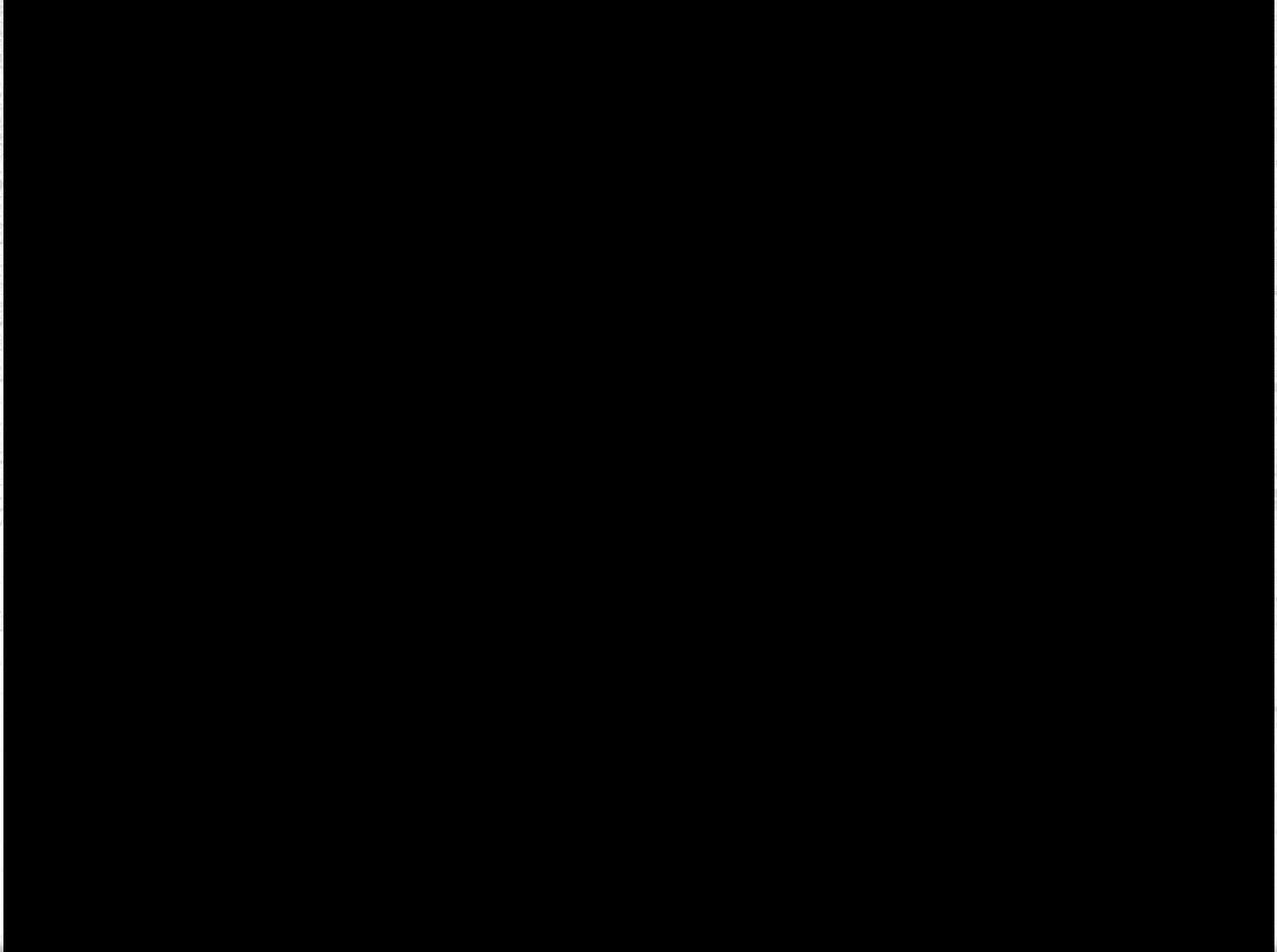


YELLOW LINE

PROJECT



Yellow Line Project Video





INCREASE:

- > Service options & solutions
- > Access to health care & treatment
- > Working relationships between law enforcement and human services

REDUCE:

- < Unnecessary incarceration
- < Systemic costs
- < Jail Population

Introduction Statements

- Before “the Yellow Line” matters for individuals with mental illness and chemical dependency (over 84% of people in jail have a mental illness or are chemically dependent)
- Reducing dependency on jail beds and state services is highly desirable
- Multidisciplinary collaboration is complex, but rewarding, when you see more than one department working together

Big Picture / Workflow

Law Enforcement:

Call for Service

Mobile Crisis Team:

24/7 Screening for
MI/CD

Community Based Coordinator:

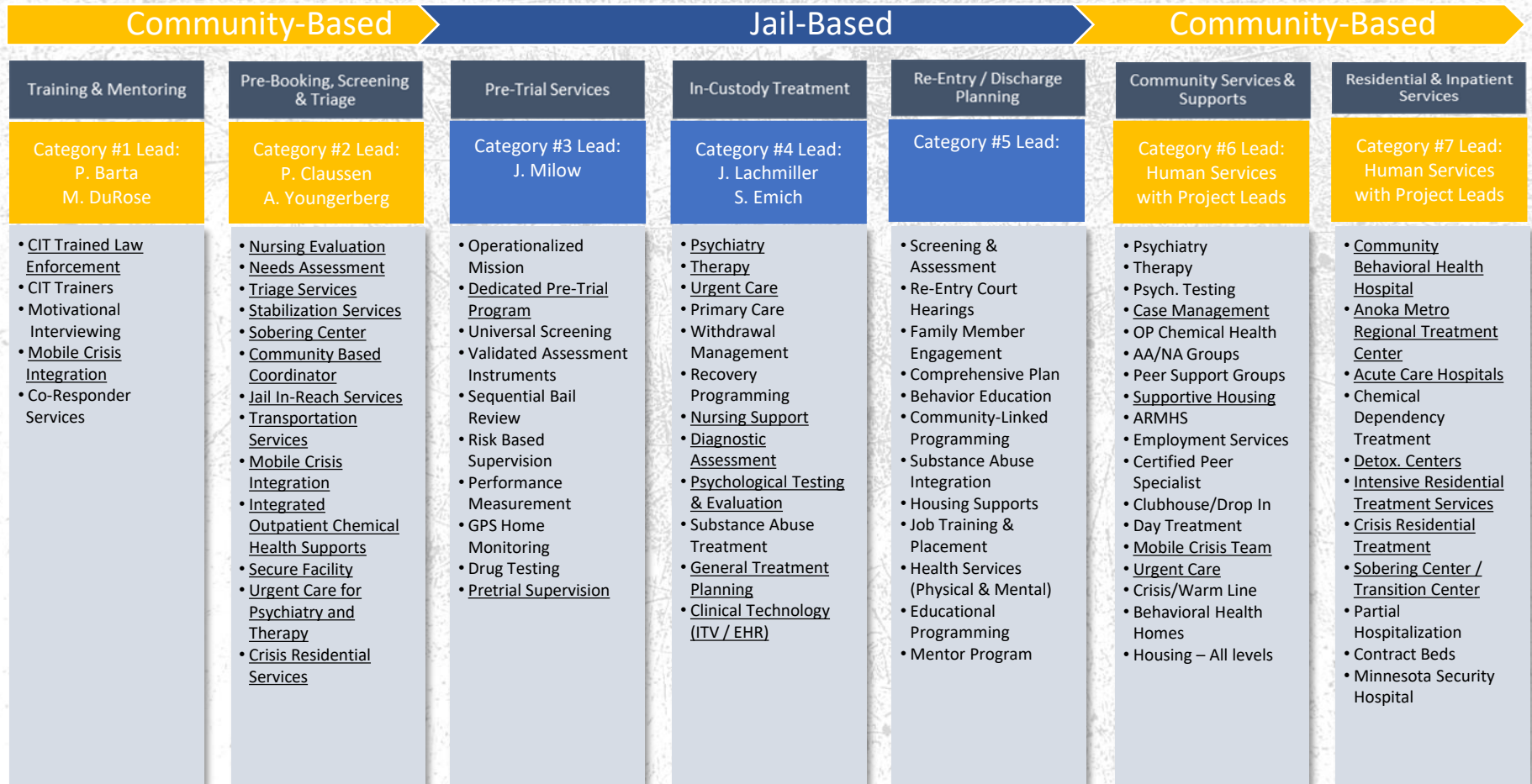
My Yellow Line Plan
(Treatment plan and
service coordination)

Key Roles

- A Cop is not a Social Worker; a Social Worker is not a Cop
- Mobile Crisis Teams are a critical link to ensure 24/7 access to screenings
- It is important that Social Services are integrated into early response with Law Enforcement and Mobile Services
- The YLP uses the role of “Community Based Coordinator” to provide key linkage in coordinating a person’s short-term treatment plan

Jail Project Priorities – Blue Earth County

Continuum of Care – Jail Services



Active YLP Development Projects

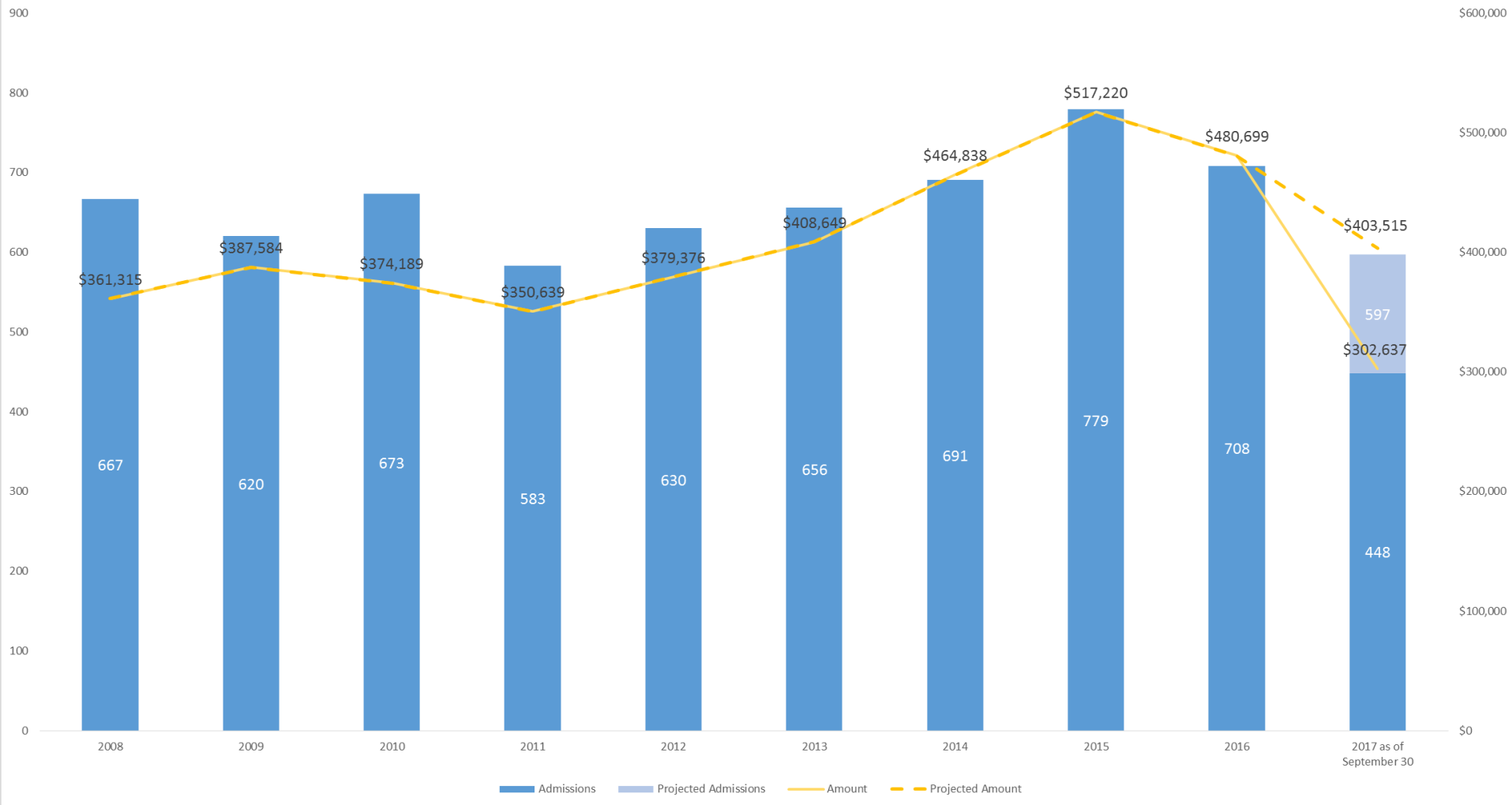
Financial Modeling

- Planning Grant from DHS in 2016 and 2017
- Redirection of Systemic Savings (County Contribution)
 - Detoxification Services
 - AMRTC and CBHH
 - Jail Facility Expansion (Beds and Building)
 - Other: Legal, Court, Probation, etc. (more difficult to account for)
- Crisis Services Grant for Regional Mental Health Mobile Team
- Community-Based Service Coordination (pending CMS approval)

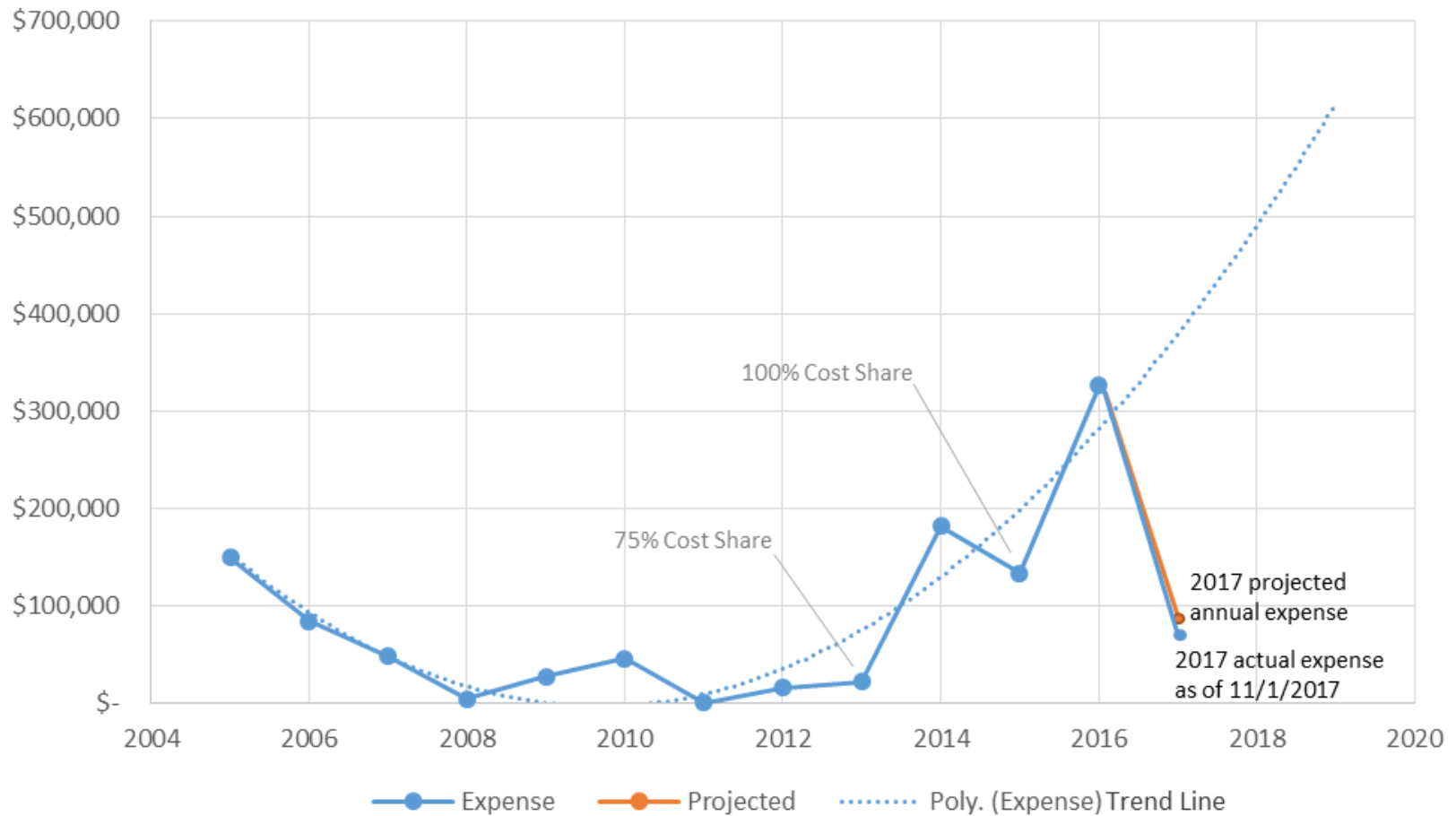
Deliverables

- 700+ Individuals screened to date
- 55+ Individuals diverted from jail
- Significantly improved communication between jail and human services

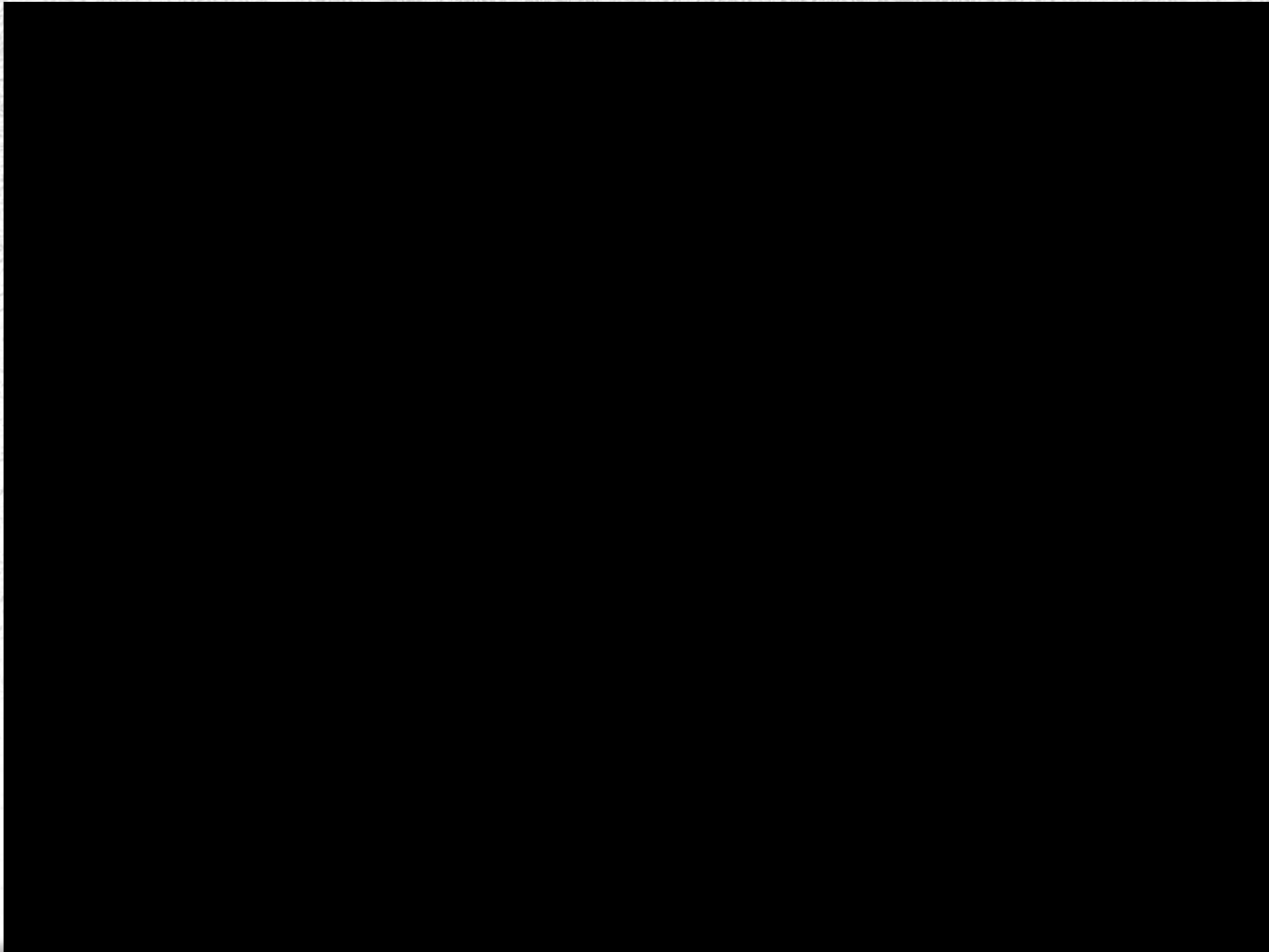
Detox Admissions and Costs by Year



AMRTC Cost of Care History Blue Earth County Expenses



Local Government Innovation Award



YELLOW LINE PROJECT

www.YellowLineProject.com

Reach out Initiative

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What are we doing wrong?

- Recidivism



Reentry planning

- Much easier for the prison population because of a known release date.
- Pretrial detainees however we often times don't even know the release time.
- There is on a legal significance between pretrial and convicted persons, not a clinical significance.
- To make every encounter with the criminal justice system meaningful strategies must be in place at each intercept.

Jail is where the volume is!

- Stepping up tool kit, jail is where the volume is.
- 19,000 releases annually from prison in Arizona and 200,000 from county jails.
- Jail is the beginning of the process, why wait till the end?
- The information needed to meaningful service linkage is available immediately upon booking.
- Assessments determine the underlying issue and strategy to be used, not the charges.

Crisis requires action now!



Prison reentry is important but late



At the first sign of trouble.....



Bring in the heavy resources!!!





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