

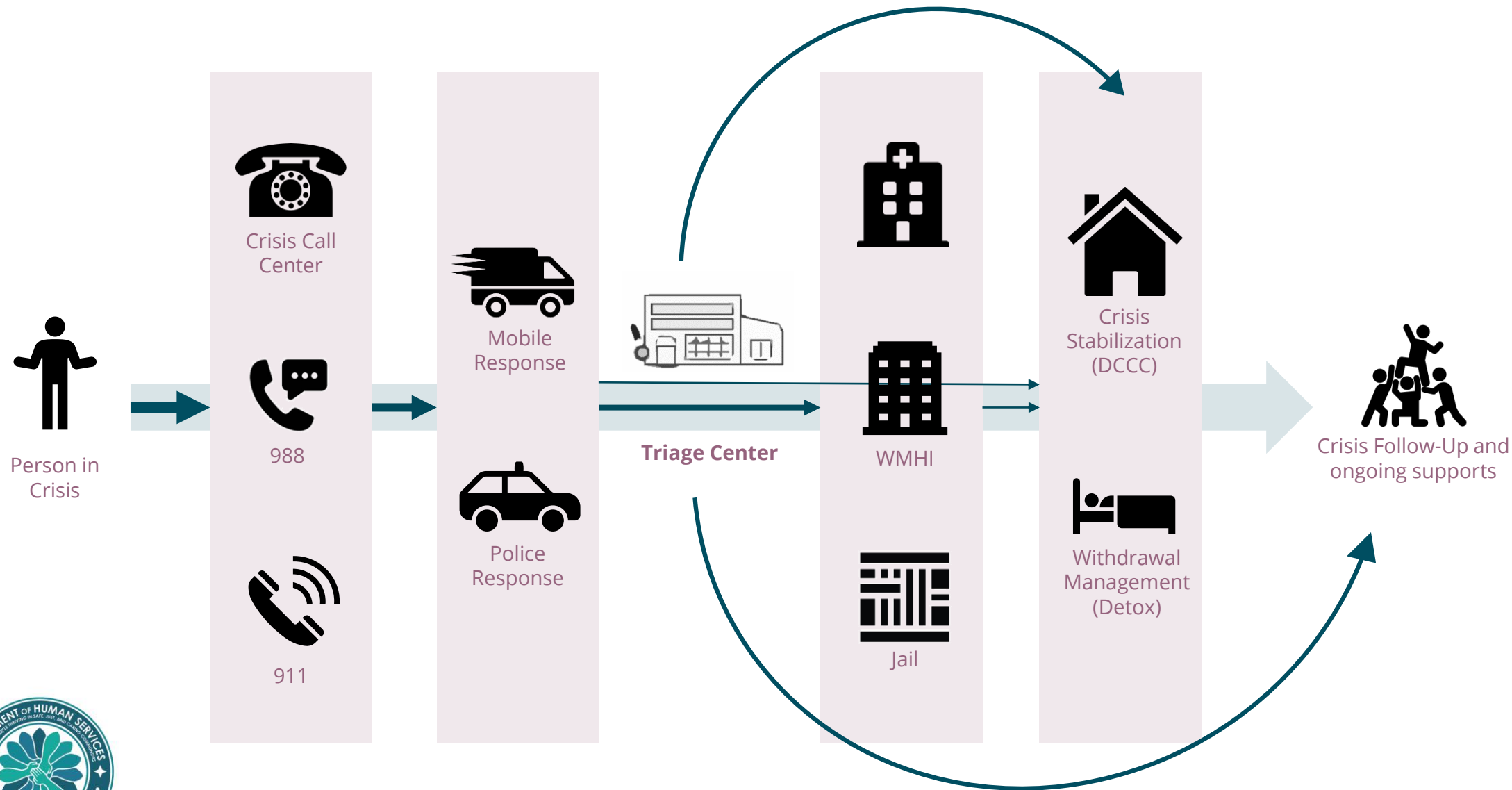
Dane County Crisis Triage Center

Update for Dane County Community Justice Council – BH Subcommittee

May 14, 2025



The crisis continuum



The need is identified

Investigating Solutions to Racial Disparities and MH Challenges in the Dane Co. Jail and Throughout Dane Co.'s Criminal Justice System

Dane County Behavioral Health Needs Assessment

2015

2018

2019

Sequential Intercept Model Mapping Report for Dane County

A new kind of low-barrier, 24/7 crisis care facility could:

- Reduce emergency room visits for individuals in a behavioral health crisis
- Reduce the need for involuntary hospitalization
- Improve patient care
- Increase options for jail diversion
- Reduce time spent by LE on emergency detentions



What is a Crisis Triage Center?

Distinguishing features:

- “No wrong door”
 - Voluntary and involuntary
 - Can accept highest acuity individuals (including those who require seclusion or restraint)
 - Immediate access: no referral process (walk-ins and drop-offs)
- Medically managed
 - No medical clearance required
 - Intoxication or risk of withdrawal not a barrier
 - Can address basic medical needs so that these are not a barrier to individuals accessing BH specialty care

High-Intensity Behavioral
Health Emergency Center
and
Extended Stabilization Center



**Model Definitions
for Behavioral
Health Emergency,
Crisis, and Crisis-
Related Services**

January 15, 2025

SAMHSA
Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration



Feasibility is explored

Dane County Crisis Triage Center
Implementation Report

Crisis Triage Center Operator RFP

Crisis Triage Center Architectural
and Engineering Services RFP

2021

2022

2023

Budget initiative to fund the
development of a Triage Center

The Implementation Report outlined a proposed model, but uncertainty remained:

- Options and requirements for facility licensure
- Legal implications of accepting involuntary admissions under s. 51.15
- MA billing approach and strategy for covering operational costs



Despite allocations for capitol (\$10M) and operating costs (\$1.5M) in the 2022 County budget, continued uncertainty contributed to there being no responses to a 2023 RFP for a Crisis Triage Center Operator.



The landscape continues to change

2023 Wisconsin Act 249
CUCOF Advisory Committee

2024

2025

DHS 31 rulemaking process

Crisis Urgent Care and Observation Facilities (CUCOFs):

- 2023 Wisconsin Act 249 creates a framework for a new type of facility
- State Biennial budget includes \$10M in grant funding to support development of up to two regional CUCOFs
- New administrative rule (DHS 31) will create regulations for licensing and operations
- Advisory Committee convened between August and December 2024 to inform rule writing
- The proposed rule is currently open for [public comment](#) on economic impacts



Uncertainty remains

The future of this type of service in Dane County is still uncertain:

- Wisconsin DHS intends to initially certify 1 or 2 CUCOFs
 - No guarantee that one would be sited in Dane County
 - Prioritization for the western region of the state
 - Prioritization for locations at least 100 miles from WMHI
- CUCOFs to be independently certified (not county-based)
- State grant funding will support start-up of initial CUCOFs, but MA reimbursement model is not yet determined



What next?



Fill gaps with existing service types to the extent possible

- Reduce program barriers
- New program types



Engage expert thought partners to support planning / advocacy

- Consider future consulting engagement



Secure resources to support a local CUCOF if/when possible

- County GPR
- Hospital partnership



Reference Documents Specific to Dane County / Wisconsin:

- [Investigating Solutions to Racial Disparities and Mental Health Challenges in the Dane County Jail and Throughout Dane County's Criminal Justice System](#) (2015 report)
- [Sequential Intercept Model Mapping Report for Dane County](#) (2018 report)
- [Dane County Behavioral Health Needs Assessment](#) (2019 report)
- [Dane County Crisis Triage Center Implementation Report](#) (2021 report)
- [2023 Wisconsin Act 249](#) (2024 legislation)
- [DHS 31 Proposed Rule](#) (2025 DHS publication)

Information about No-Barrier/Low-Barrier Crisis Stabilization Settings:

- [Model Definitions for Behavioral Health Emergency, Crisis, and Crisis-Related Services](#) (2025 SAMHSA publication)
- [Ask the Expert: Crisis Stabilization Units](#) (2024 webinar)
- [Triage Centers and the Crisis Care Continuum](#) (2020 presentation to the CJC)

