

Dane County Sheriff's Office Mental Health Team



Joint Committees Meeting
June 30, 2025

Mental Health Team Deputies

- ▶ Dane County Sheriff's Office:
- ▶ Mental health deputies since October 2022: 4 Deputies,



Mental Health Team: Crisis Workers

- Law Enforcement Crisis Workers since 2019



Day to Day

- ▶ Respond to mental health calls for service when available.
- ▶ Reviewing reports
- ▶ Identify ongoing issues and coordinate follow-up efforts with partner agencies/embedded crisis worker as needed.
- ▶ Conduct outreach to residents with mental illness: home visits, phone calls

Day to Day Cont...

- ▶ Create individualized mental health safety plans/CAD alerts
- ▶ Communicate with patrol regarding individuals with specific mental health needs.
- ▶ Front-end support to patrol for Emergency Detentions/Return Orders.

Team Response

- ▶ Co-respond to active calls for service with law enforcement.
- ▶ Complete mental health assessments/safety plans on scene.
- ▶ Consultations via phone.
- ▶ Review routed reports and identify individuals in need of outreach.

Team Response Cont...

- ▶ Follow-up with consumers to ensure connection to resources.
- ▶ Light case management until services in place.
- ▶ Reduce repeat calls for service by problem solving underlying issues the individual is experiencing.
- ▶ Calls include: Mental health, dementia, intellectual/developmental disabilities

DCSO Data

- ▶ Mental Health Related Calls/Activities
- ▶ 2022: 1443 Approx. 120 calls per month, 4 per day
- ▶ 2023: 1772 Approx. 147 calls per month, 5 per day
- ▶ 2024: 1641 Approx. 136 calls per month, 4.5 per day
- ▶ 2025 (in progress): 786...ahead of last year at this time.

Public Compliment

- ▶ Individual submitted a public compliment-2 check person calls with suicidal ideation. Initial distrust in LE. Described MH team members as “calm, kind, and personable.” Provided resources. Individual grateful and would like to see more utilize this model and it’s run very efficiently.

Successes

- ▶ Male: mid-thirties, new to Dane County. Multiple MH diagnoses and no connection to services. Many police calls for various reasons. MH team engaged him frequently to develop rapport/encourage resources. Successfully got him to intake appt. for services/medications.
- ▶ 6yoa child. SI/HI. Mom afraid to call 911 or crisis, fear of incarceration/involuntary hospitalization. Co-responders met with mom and case manager. Working together developed safety plan, script for calling 911, etc.

Questions

