

TASC Deflection

**Presented by: Stephanie Nevilles, Administrator of Deflection Operations,
Southern Region**

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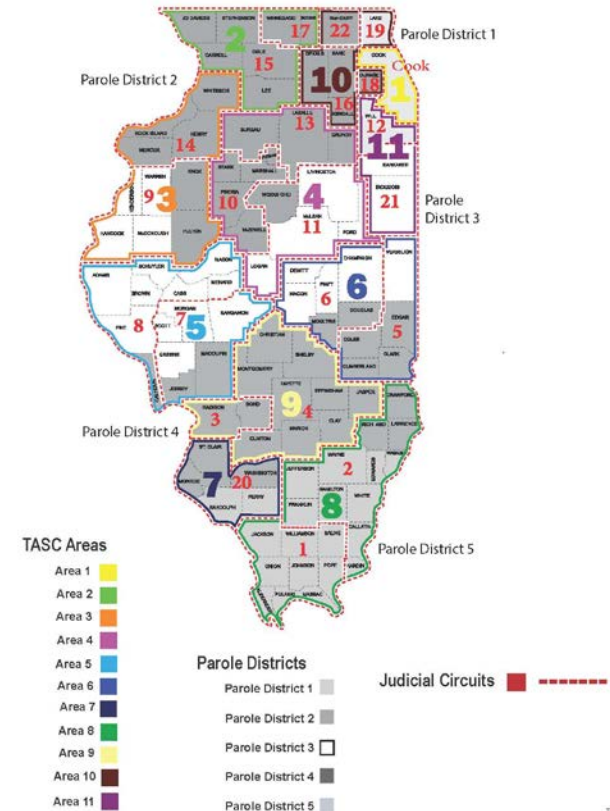
Agenda

- Introductions
- TASC and Deflection / Operations Overview
- Southern Illinois Deflection Operations
- Q and A

About TASC

- Independent, non-governmental 501(c)(3) established in 1976
- Mission: Building a healthier, safer, more just society
- Core Service: Internationally recognized Specialized Case Management screens, assesses, and connects adults and youth from large urban cities and small rural communities to community-based substance use and mental health treatment and other support services – housing, healthcare, job training, etc.
- 4 Divisions: ACJS, CTP, Y&FS, and Deflection
- Geographic Footprint: Statewide; 102 Counties, 24 Judicial Circuits, and 5 Parole Districts; approx. 10K individuals served annually
- Impact: Reduced incarceration of people with behavioral health conditions, reduced recidivism, increased safety and satisfaction for victims, and increased health and recovery.
- TASC's Center for Health & Justice: Provides consulting & training in USA and internationally.

IL TASC AREAS, PAROLE DISTRICTS & JUDICIAL CIRCUITS



Deflection Defined

Deflection is a collaborative intervention connecting public safety (e.g., police, fire/EMS) and public health systems to create community-based pathways to treatment for people who have substance use disorders (SUDs), mental health disorders, or both, and who often have other service needs, without their entry into the justice system.



A collaborative intervention



Connects public safety and
public health systems



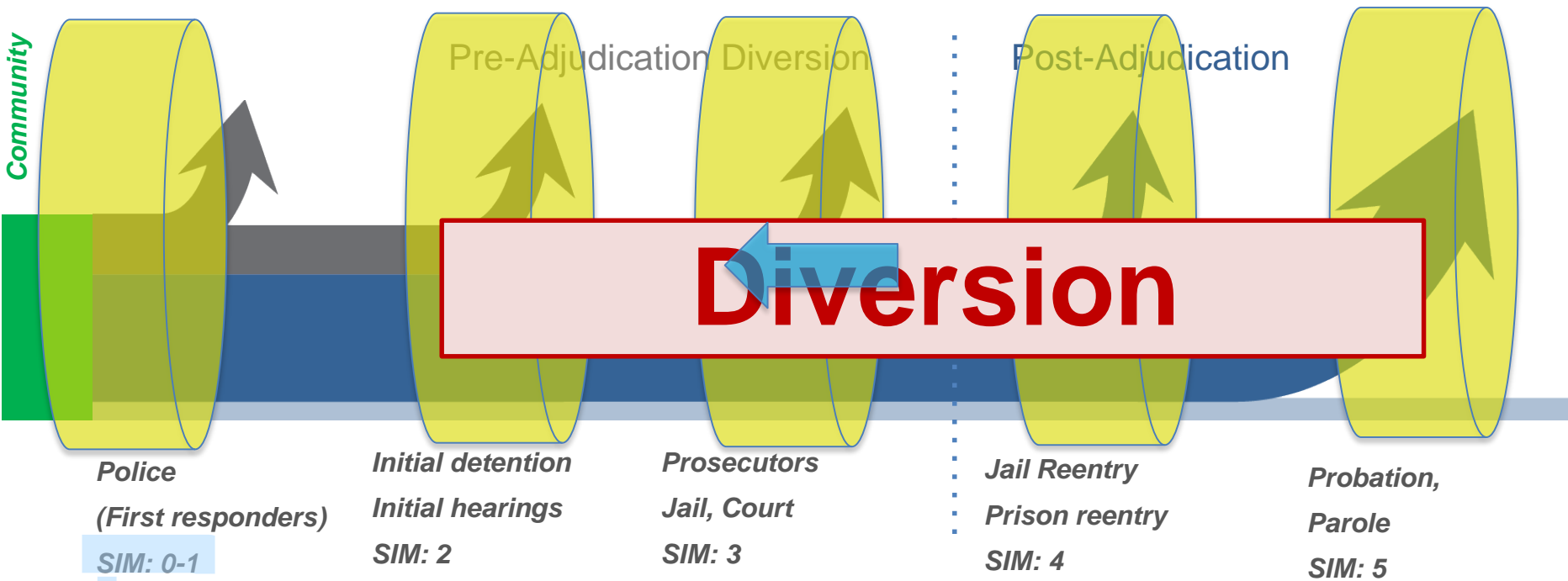
To create community-based
pathways to recovery support
services



WITHOUT ENTRY INTO THE
LEGAL SYSTEM!!!

Community-based services, housing, and recovery support

Many people can be safely deflected in the community
Instead of 1) entering the justice system or 2) taking no action



How Deflection Differs from Other Types of Justice Diversion

Deflection/Pre-Arrest Diversion

- Moving *away* from justice system *without having entered it*
- *Behavioral health guided* with criminal justice partnerships
- *Public health* solution to better public safety – crime reduction!

Other Criminal Justice Diversion

- Moving *out* of justice system *after having entered it*
- *Criminal justice guided* with behavioral health partnerships
- A *wide variety* of approaches for a variety of reasons

Deflection: Part of the Solution

- Opens access to treatment, housing, and services for many people
 - *Lives saved, lives restored*
- Avoidance of escalation in police-resident encounters
 - *Improved public safety (real and perceived)*
- Building police-community relations
 - *Reduced crime*
- Reduction in the “social burden” placed on law enforcement
 - *Building (more) public health / public safety collaborations*
- Movement away from use of the justice system for behavioral health issues
 - *Cost savings*
- Keeping families intact – children and parents
 - *“Net-narrowing”*
- Addressing racial disparity and inequity
 - *Reduced trauma/exposure by reduced entry into the justice system*

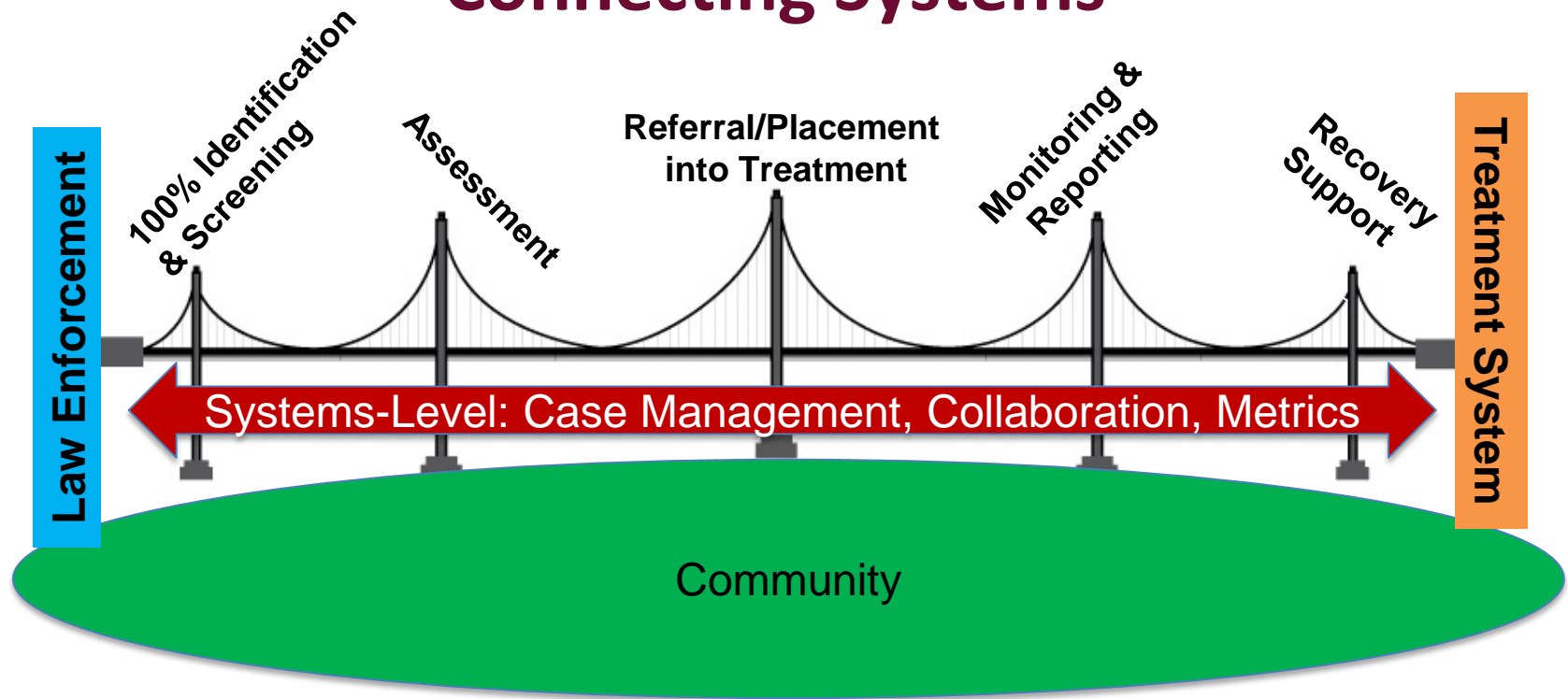
DEFLECTION: PATHWAYS TO COMMUNITY POLICE, TREATMENT, AND COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE



Six Pathways to Treatment

- **Self-Referral:** An individual initiates contact with a first responder agency for a referral to treatment and services, without fear of arrest.
- **Active Outreach:** A first responder intentionally identifies or seeks out an individual to refer to or engage in treatment and services.
- **Naloxone Plus:** A first responder and program partner conduct outreach *specifically* to individuals who have experienced a recent overdose to engage and provide a link to treatment and services.
- **First Responder/Officer Prevention Referral:** As a preventative approach, during routine activities such as patrol or response to a service call, a first responder conducts engagement and provides treatment and service referrals.
- **Officer Intervention Referral:**(Law Enforcement Only) In lieu of arrest, law enforcement engages/refers to treatment and services; charges held in abeyance or citations issued – completion of treatment required.
- **Community Referral:** In response to service call, a community-based behavioral health team (crisis workers, clinicians, peer specialists, etc.) engages individuals to help de-escalate crises, mediate low-level conflicts, or provide to treatment, services, or to a case manager.

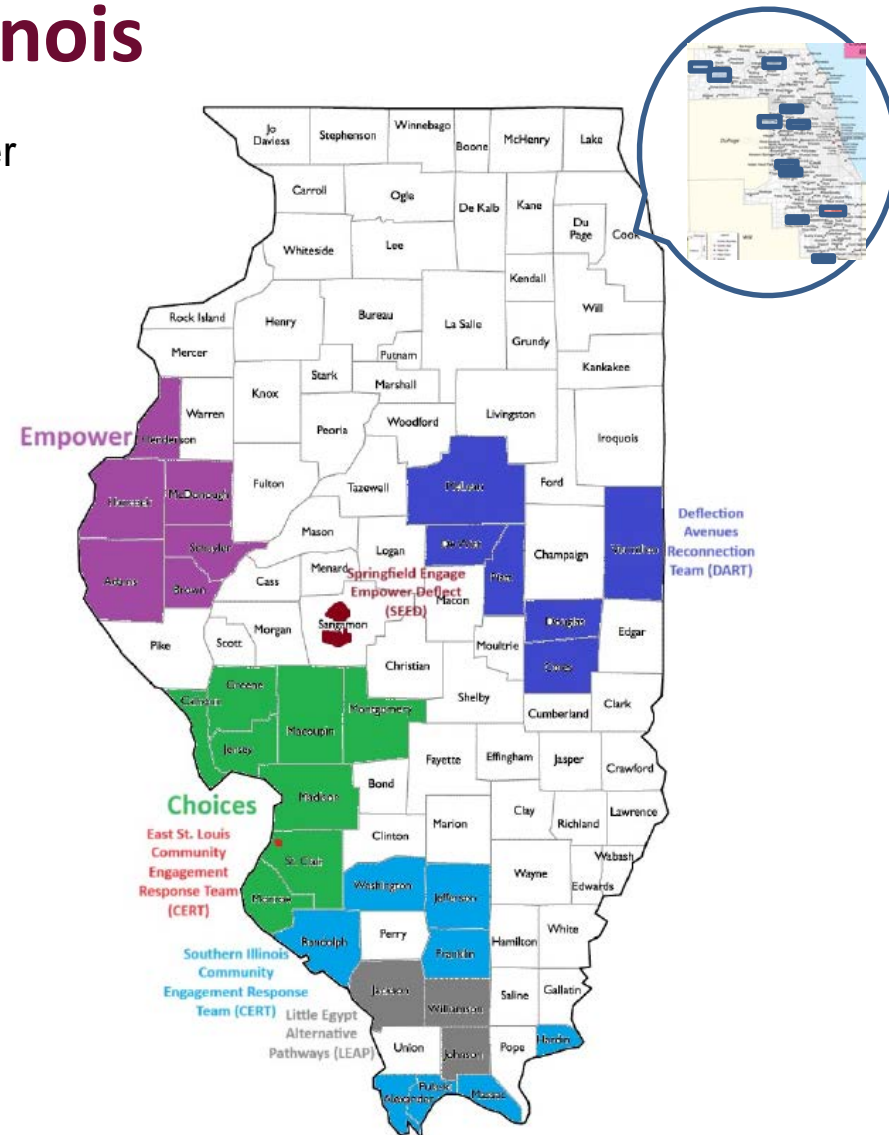
Connecting Systems



Everybody Doing Their Best Work

Deflection Operations in Illinois

- Providing police/law enforcement a 3rd option other than arrest or take no action.
- 3rd option = TASC Deflection teams. Low barrier, rapid connection to services.
- **7 “sites”** currently in operation – Growing throughout the state.
- Deflection Teams made up of a Supervisor and team of Deflection Specialists within each site.
- **Goals:** reduce officer time and burden of non-violent / repeat calls, connect participants to professionals trained to handle SUD and MH disorders, prevent justice system involvement for individuals who would be better served through treatment, prevent opioid overdose deaths, harm reduction activities, training / promotion on deflection.



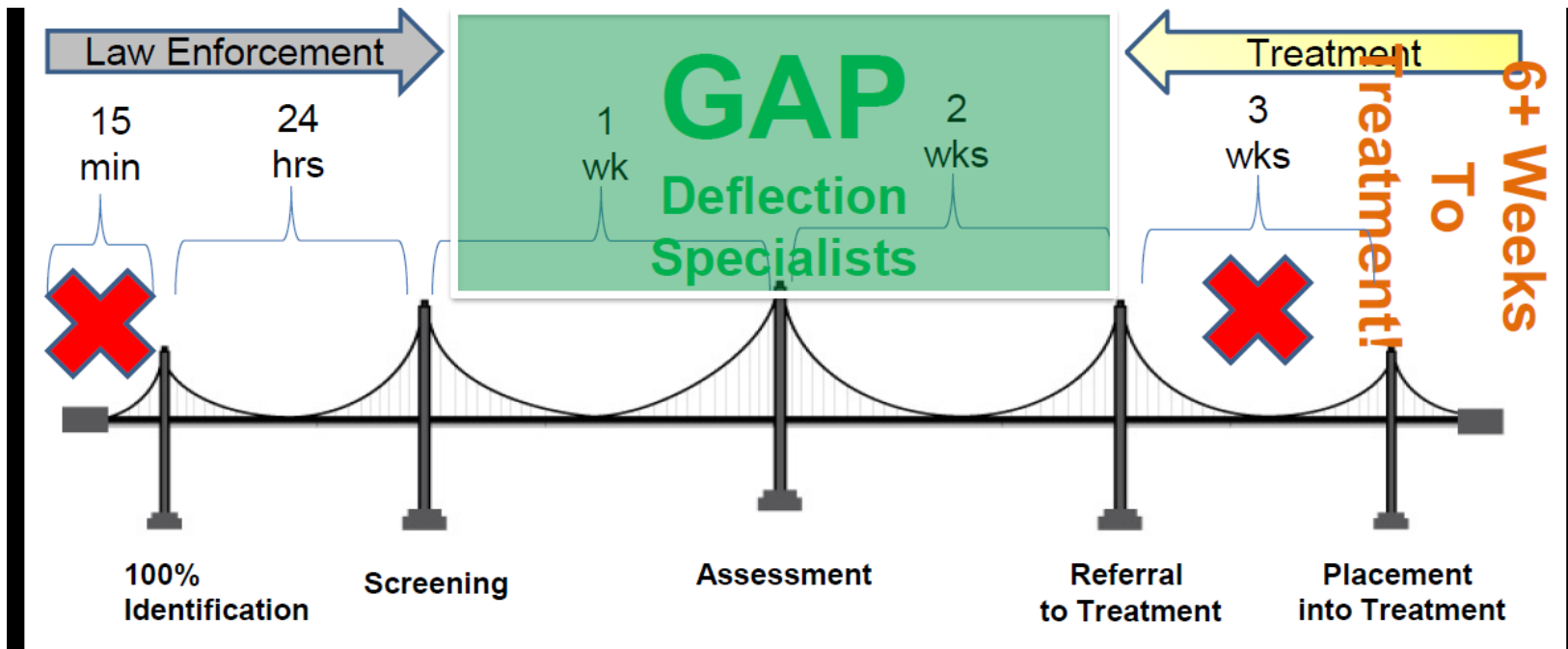
Deflection Operations in Southern Illinois

- **Southern IL Community Engagement Response Team (SI CERT)**
 - Covers: Washington, Jefferson, Massac, Randolph, Franklin, Alexander, Hardin, Pulaski
- **Little Egypt Alternative Pathways (LEAP)**
 - Jackson, Williamson, Johnson

The Warm Handoff

Deflection “Warm Handoff”

The critical time and place connection to close (mind) the...



The Importance of a Warm Handoff

- Deflection deals with people “in the moment” – actively using drugs, in the middle of a mental health episode, facing real challenges
- Reduced officer processing time – deflection takes less time on scene than an arrest allowing officers to return to duty quicker
- Reduces recidivism – deflection takes less work to process than an arrest and reduces repeat calls / encounter





Contact Us

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