



Co-Responder Program

The co-responders are licensed mental health clinicians who work in close partnership with the Denver Police Department, responding to calls involving people who suffer from mental illness and/or co-occurring substance use issues.

What is the Co-Responder Program?

The Co-Responder program consists of a partnership between Denver Human Services' Office of Behavioral Health Strategies (OBHS), the Denver Police Department (DPD) and the Mental Health Center of Denver (MHCD).

The Co-Responder program is housed within Denver's Crisis Intervention and Response Unit (CIRU), which supports an overall effort to expand law enforcement and behavioral health strategies to meet the needs of people with behavioral/mental health concerns in Denver.

The CIRU, including the Co-Responder program, strives to:

- reduce the number of people with mental health issues in the jail system
- improve information sharing and coordination across systems and service providers
- reduce overall costs relating to people with mental or behavioral health concerns,



including the use of emergency services



Our Co-Responder program has response teams with RTD, the Denver Sherriff Department, Denver Police Department, Auraria Campus and the Denver airport.

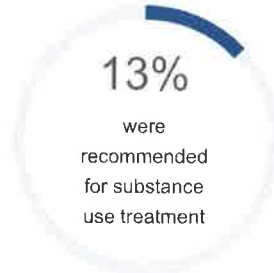
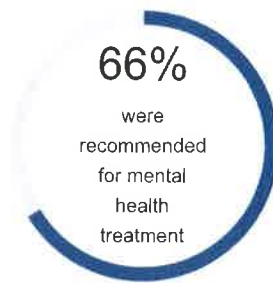
Statistics

The clinicians are trained to assist people in crisis and provide the most effective services for resolution. **Crisis can take many forms and is defined uniquely by the individual.** Clinicians and officers collaborate to provide treatment in a format that best decreases current stressors and replaces them with long term community-based supports.

Sometimes, meeting an individual or family's needs related to behavioral health concerns does not require a formal treatment referral but rather the identification of resources, alternative treatment options and long-term community supports.

Of encounters made...





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