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Connections Health Solutions

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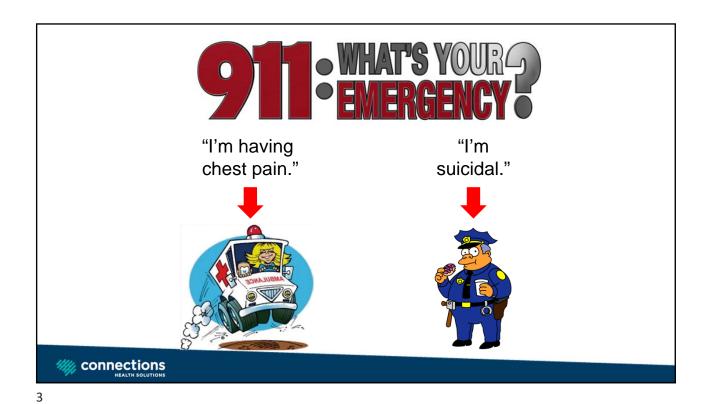
# A behavioral health crisis is an emergency.

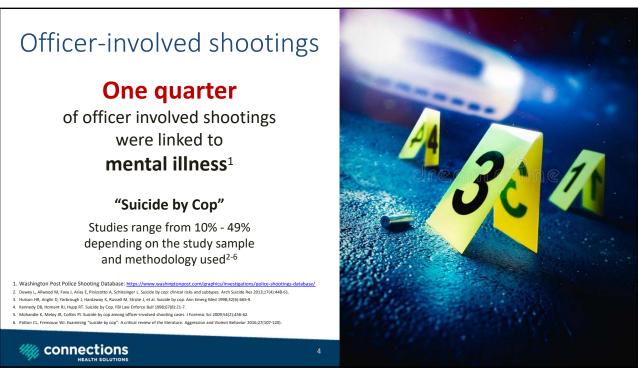
It requires a **systemic** response with the

## same quality and consistency

as the response to heart attack, stroke, fire, and other emergencies.

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#### **Prevalence of Mental Illness** US Jail Adults<sup>5</sup> There are over $SMI^3$ -Men 2 million jail bookings 17.1% 4% -Women 34.3% of people with serious Any mental disorder<sup>4</sup> 76% 18% mental illness each year.1 + Co-occurring SUD4 49% $3.3\%^{6}$ What about kids? The National Center for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice found that 70.4% of youth in the juvenile justice system have been diagnosed Nearly half of people with with at least one mental health disorder. High-risk youth are estimated to cost society \$1.2 to 2 million each in SMI have been arrested at rehabilitation, incarceration, and costs to victims. least once.2 and Their Families. Includes PTSD. Excluding PTSD rates are 14.5% for men and 31.0% for women. Steadman HJ, Osher FC, Robbins PC, Case B, Samuels S, (2009). Psychiatric Services. 60(6):761-5. Glazue E, James DJ, (2009) Mental Health Problems Of Prison And Jail Inmates. Bureau of Justice Statistics. NIMH Statistics. <a href="https://www.nimh.nih.gov/nealth/statistics/index.shtml">https://www.nimh.nih.gov/nealth/statistics/index.shtml</a> SAMHSA (2015). Behavioral Health Trends in the United States: Results from the 2014 National Survey on Drug Use and Health. connections

Impact of incarceration + CLINIC + Offenders with mental illness are Incarcerated twice as long Three times more likely to be sexually Jails and prisons lack the assaulted while incarcerated More likely to be in solitary confinement policies and trained staff to which exacerbates psychiatric symptoms Adverse effects post-release include meet the needs of this Interruption in Medicaid and other population. benefits Difficulty finding employment More likely to become homeless **MYTH** More likely to be rearrested "They'll get the treatment they need in jail." At twice the cost to taxpayers. Only one quarter of men and 14% of women receive formal Treatment Advocacy Center & National Sheriffs Association (2014). The Treatment of Pe Illness in Prisons and Jails: A State Survey Dumont DM et al. (2012). Annu Rev Public Health. 2012 Apr 21; 33: 325–339. Office of National Drug Control Policy substance abuse treatment while incarcerated.

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## If they do make it to an ED...

- 84% of EDs report boarding of psychiatric patients for hours
- Increased risk
  - Assaults, injuries, self-harm
- Increased cost
  - Sitters, lost revenue (\$2300/day)
  - Unnecessary inpatient admits
- Poor patient experience
  - Nontherapeutic environment with untrained staff



Psychiatric boarding = long waits for inpatient psychiatric beds with little/no treatment, for hours or sometimes even days.

Nicks BA and Manthey DM. (2012) The impact of psychiatric patient boarding in emergency departments. Emerg Med Int. 2012 American College of Emergency Physicians (2014) <a href="http://newsroom.acep.org/download/ACEP+Polling+Survey+Report.pdf">http://newsroom.acep.org/download/ACEP+Polling+Survey+Report.pdf</a> Zeller et al (2014) <a href="https://dx.doi.org/10.58113/82Pwestlem.2013.6.175482">https://dx.doi.org/10.58113/82Pwestlem.2013.6.175482</a>



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## What we need:

- A SYSTEMIC response to behavioral health crisis
- that delivers EVIDENCE-BASED care to people who need it
- with MEASURABLE OUTCOMES
- in the LEAST-RESTRICTIVE setting that can safely meet the person's needs
- (and by the way, the least-restrictive settings also tend to be the LEAST-COSTLY)





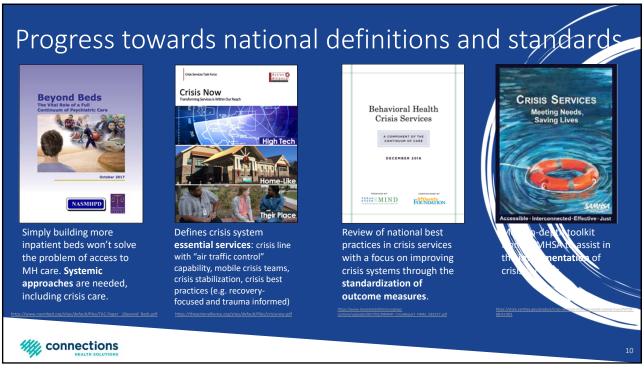
# Why isn't there a national standard for crisis services?

- No standard nomenclature
  - For example: a "crisis stabilization unit" can be many things
- Crisis services fly under the federal radar
  - Primarily financed by Medicaid, which is regulated at the state level
- Stigma?

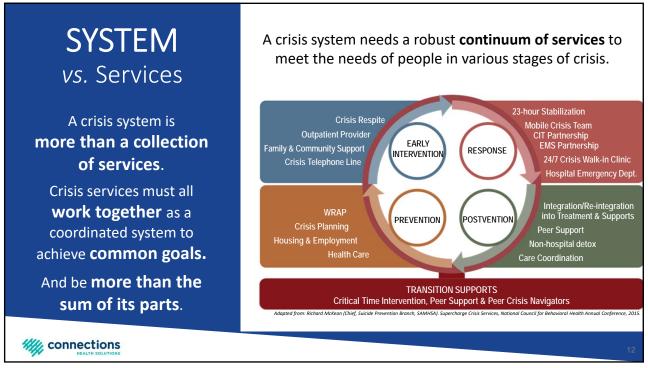




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## 3 Key Ingredients for a SYSTEM

## Accountability



- Who is responsible for the system?
- · Governance and financing structure
- System values and outcomes
- Holding providers accountable

#### Collaboration



- Broad inclusion of potential customers, partners, & stakeholders
- Alignment of operational processes & training towards common goals
- Culture of communication & problem solving

#### **Data**

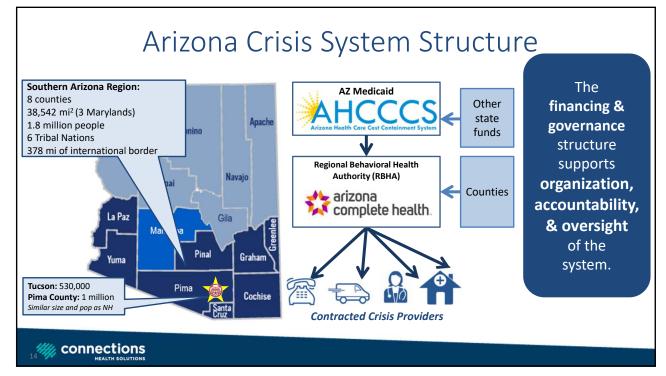


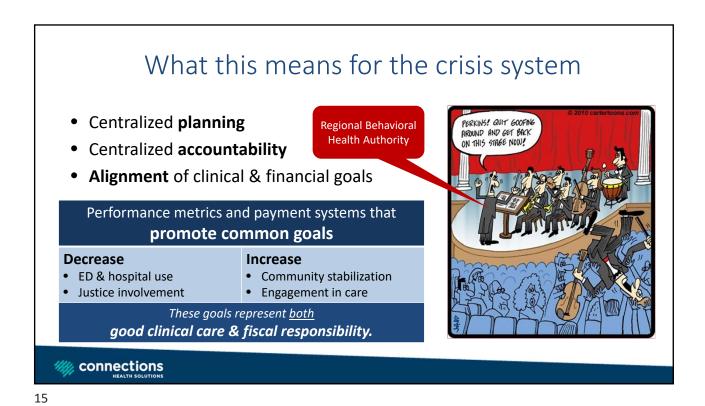
- Are we achieving desired outcomes?
- Performance targets & financial incentives
- Continuous quality improvement
- · Data driven decision making

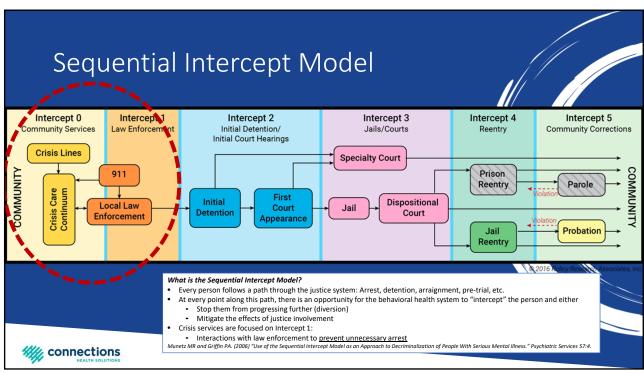


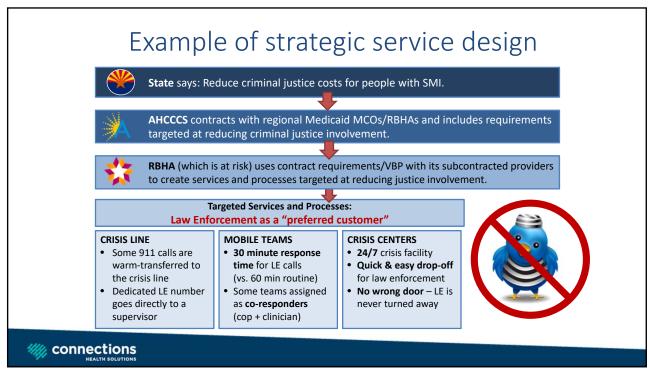
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The Crisis Continuum 68% discharged 71% resolved 85% remain stable 80% resolved in the field on the phone to the community in community-based care **Decreased Use** of jail, ED, inpatient **Crisis Line Mobile Crisis Teams Crisis Facility Post-Crisis** Person in Crisis Wraparound Easy Access for Law Enforcement = Pre-Arrest Diversion LEAST Restrictive = LEAST Costly Balfour ME, Hahn Stephenson A, Winsky J, & Goldman ML (2020). Cops, Clinicians, or Both? Collaborative Approaches to Responding to Behavioral Health Emergencies. Alexandria, VA: National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors. <a href="https://www.nasmhpd.org/sites/default/files/2020paper11.pdf">https://www.nasmhpd.org/sites/default/files/2020paper11.pdf</a>

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## The Crisis Response Center

- · Built with Pima County bond funds in 2011
  - Alternative to jail, ED, hospitals
  - Serving 12,000 adults + 2,400 youth per year
  - Managed by Connections since 2014
- Law enforcement receiving center with NO WRONG DOOR (no exclusions for acuity, agitation, intoxication, payer, etc.)
- Services include
  - 24/7 urgent care clinic (adult length of stay 2 hours, youth 3 hours)
  - 23-hour observation (adult capacity 34, youth 10),
  - Short-term subacute inpatient (adults only, 15 beds, 3-5 days)
- Space for co-located community programs
  - peer-run post-crisis wraparound program, pet therapy, etc.
- Adjacent to
  - Crisis Call Center
  - Banner University Medical Center Emergency Department
  - 66-bed Inpatient psych hospital
  - Mental health court





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#### **Connections Model**

"We address any behavioral health need at any time."

- "No wrong door"
- We take everyone:
  - No such thing as "too agitated" or "too violent"
  - Can be highly intoxicated
  - Can be involuntary or voluntary
- Fewer medical exclusionary criteria than many inpatient psych hospitals
- Law enforcement is never ever turned away
- Studies show this model:

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- Critical for pre-arrest diversion<sup>2</sup>
- Reduces ED boarding<sup>3,4</sup>
- Reduces hospitalization<sup>3,4</sup>

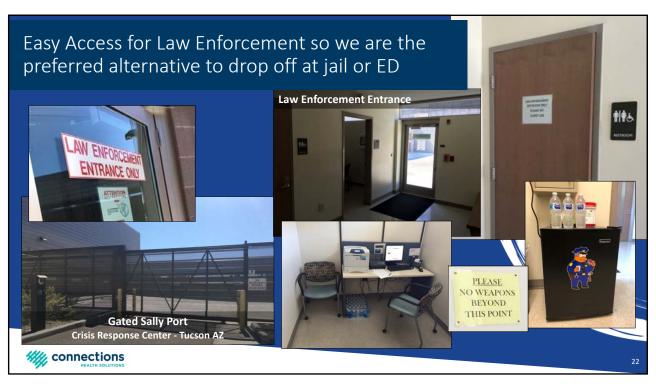
Dupont R et al. (2007). A specialized crisis retepronte are a core element of Doulous-based diversion programs. Psychiatr Serv 52:219-22

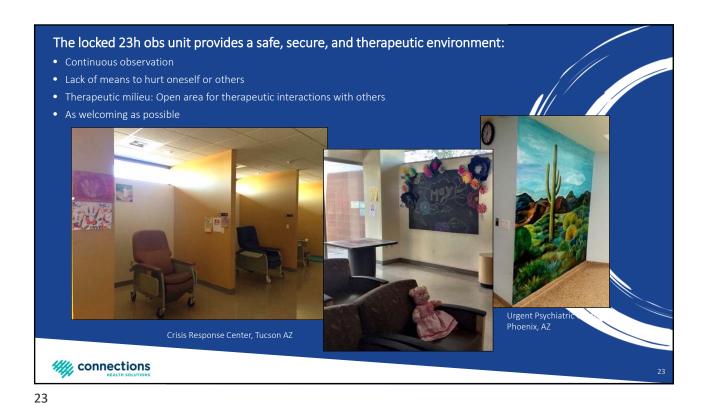
These 2 are the hardest

CIT Recommendations for Mental Health Receiving Facilities<sup>1</sup>

- 1. Single Source of Entry
- 2. On Demand Access 24/7
- 3. No Clinical Barriers to Care
- 4. Minimal Law Enforcement Turnaround Time
- 5. Access to Wide Range of Disposition Options
- 6. Community Interface: Feedback and Problem Solving Capacity

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## 23-Hour Observation

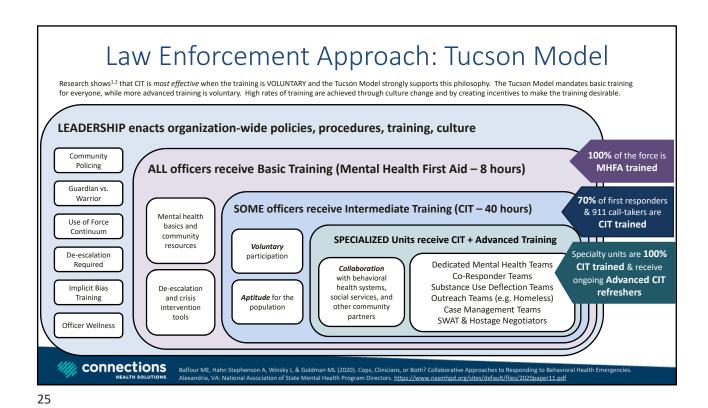
- Culture shift: Assumption that the crisis <u>can be</u> resolved
- Interdisciplinary Teamwork
  - 24/7 psychiatric provider coverage (MD, NP, PAs)
  - Peers with lived experience, nurses, techs, case managers, therapists, unit coordinators
- Early Intervention
  - Median door to doc time is ~90 min
  - Interventions include medication, detox/MAT, groups, peer support, safety planning, crisis counseling, mindfulness
- Proactive discharge planning
  - Collaboration and coordination with community & family partners



Avoiding preventable inpatient admission, even though they met medical

necessity criteria when they first presented

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## Tucson MHST Model: A Preventative Approach Dedicated Mental Health Support Team MHST officers focus on service & transport.

- Locate over 95% of patients with civil commitment pickup orders
- Hundreds of patients transported to treatment without uses of force
- Develop relationships and recognize patterns
- Helps with CIT calls when needed

MHST officers wear plainclothes because it decreases the anxiety of the person receiving services and also has an effect on the officer's attitude.



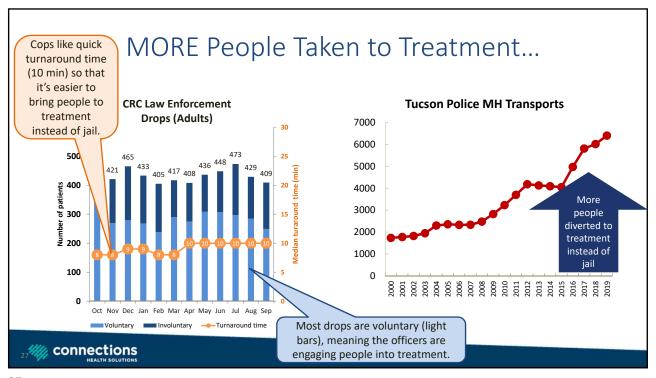
#### MHST detectives focus on prevention & safety.

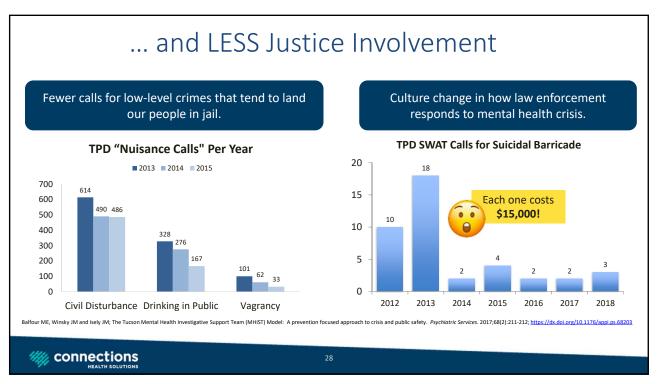
- Investigate calls that otherwise wouldn't be looked at (e.g. "I'm concerned about my neighbor")
- Prevent people from falling through the cracks
- Connect people treatment instead
- Focus on public safety but avoid criminal justice involvement whenever possible

The "weird stuff" detectives



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## More LE-MH Collaborations = better community stabilization



#### **Co-Responder Teams**

- Mobile crisis clinician assigned to MHST detectives
- Investigations & follow-up for high-risk individuals

Percent of calls resulting in involuntary hospitalization decreased from 60% to 20%



#### **Deflection Program**

- Peer co-responders focused on SUD and overdoses
- Option not to arrest for possession of small amounts
   In the first 18 months,

## **1,500** people

were connected to treatment instead of arrest.



#### **Homeless Outreach**

- Identify and engage people needing services instead of arresting them
- Lots of collaboration with community stakeholders

#### 200 people

housed in the first year of the program



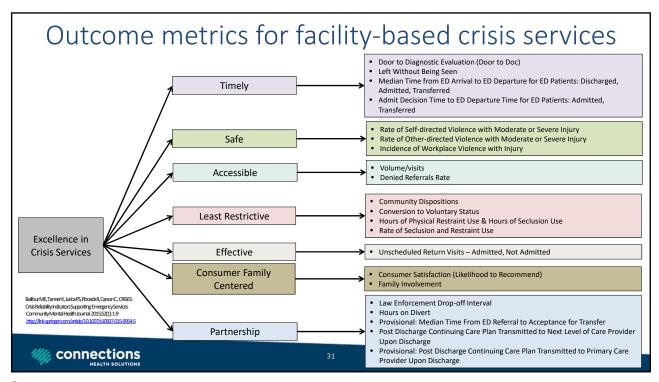
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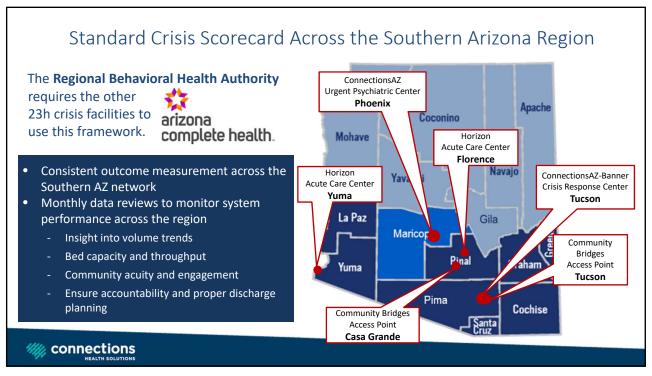


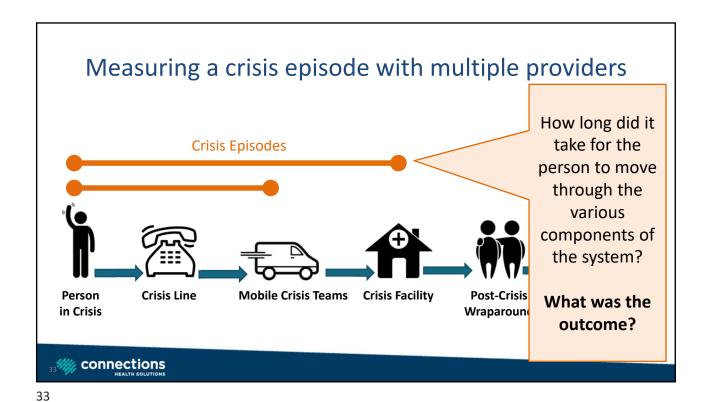
Next...
Using Data to Improve Care

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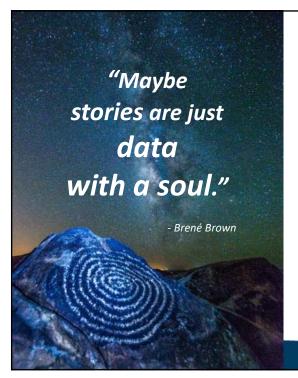
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The Arizona Crisis Line: Linking the System Together across multiple health plans **Crisis Line Linkages** Reporting tools that provide data Trigger Triage for coordination of care Communicating directly with Automated PDF summaries of crisis insurance plans, system partners contact and outpatient providers Housed on an SFTP site Updated in real time Accessible by each individual health plan Report Automated Excel overview of crisis contact in the Updated every morning via SFTP or secure email · Sorted by health plan to ensure no crossover Courtesy Johnnie Gaspar, AZ Complete Health 34 connections



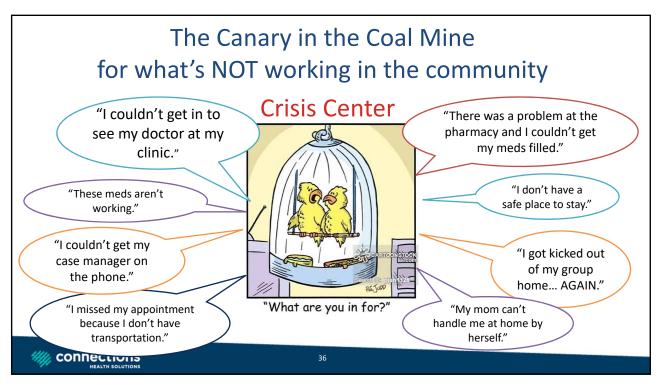
Systems Approach: How can crisis data help improve the whole behavioral health system?

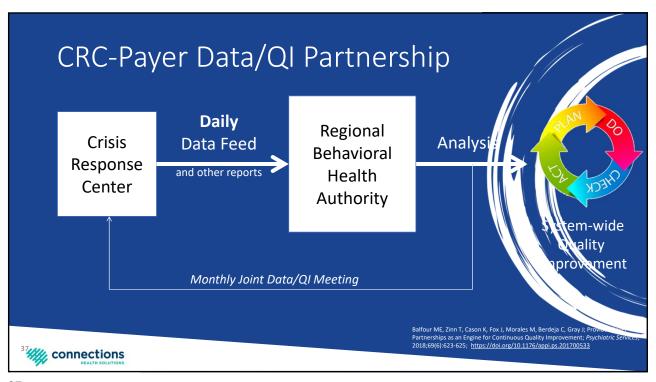
Every crisis visit is a **story** about how someone **couldn't get their needs met** in the community.

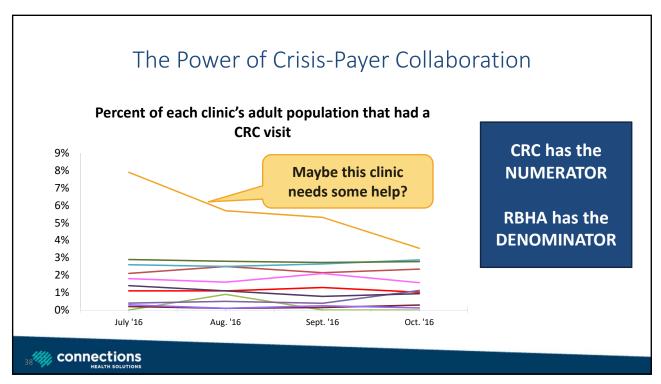
If we **turn the stories into data**, it can **reveal trends** about things that need improving in the overall behavioral health system.

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## "Familiar Faces" QI Plan

DATA REPORTING: The CRC sends a monthly rolling frequent utilizer report to the RBHA.

Last name	First name	dob	ICC	T19 status	rbha	payer	Clinic Only	Obs	Total	Visit this month?
			LA FRONTERA	SMI T19	Cenpatico	AHCCCS only	9	10	19	Υ
			LA FRONTERA	SMI T19	Cenpatico	AHCCCS only	0	4	4	Y
			COPE	SMI T19	Cenpatico	AHCCCS & Medicare	0	4	4	Υ
			LA FRONTERA	SMI T19	Cenpatico	AHCCCS only	0	6	6	Υ
			COPE	SMI T19	Cenpatico	AHCCCS only	1	4	5	Υ

2 MULTI-AGENCY TEAM MEETINGS with CRC, RBHA, clinic staff to discuss the patient's needs and develop improved crisis and service plans. The goal is at least 3 staffings per patient regardless of whether they are at the CRC that day.

3 CHARTS FLAGGED at the CRC with information about the new crisis plan and who to contact so that the new plan can be implemented.



Warnings

Event Date: 1/9/2017

DO NOT DISCHARGE before ART with HOPE DRC, Jerry D

, 990, per consultation with Cenpatico ► more

Balfour ME, Zinn T, Cason K, Fox J, Morales M, Berdeja C, Gray J; Provider-Payer Partnerships as an Engine for Continuous Quality Improvement; Psychiatric Services; 2018;69(6):623-625; https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.ps.201700533



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#### Results: Fewer "Familiar Faces" Case Example: Ms. X becomes lonely during the weekend, which is a trigger for There were 64 feeling overwhelmed and suicidal and coming to the CRC. She has a partner who "Familiar Faces" on is also enrolled in services. the original high utilizer list. **Individualized Plan:** One year later, only 7 of The outpatient provider will proactively do welfare checks on nights and the original 64 remained weekends to help plan for triggers that historically result in CRC visits. high utilizers. The team will explore working with her partner's team (with consent) in order to assist both in recovery together. 64 70 The CRC will call her clinic Peer Support Specialist immediately upon arrival to And only 37 individuals 60 reinforce the relationship with her outpatient team and help connect her met high utilizer criteria more quickly with outpatient support. 50 37 40 30 Results: CRC visits decreased from 20 14 in Q1 2016 to 10 0 in Q1 2017. Year 1 Year 2 Balfour ME, Zinn T, Cason K, Fox J, Morales M, Berdeja C, Gray J; Provider-Payer Partnerships as an Engine for Continuous Quality Imp **connections**

## Clinical Approach: "Be a detective, not a bouncer."

- Don't end at "They don't need to be here"
- Figure out what they ACTUALLY need
- Explore reasons for using the crisis center to meet their needs
  - What do they need?
  - Why haven't they been able to get it?
  - What is reinforcing their repeat visits?
  - What do we want to reinforce instead? (Replacing the behavior)
- Partner with patient and "the system" to get their actual needs met





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## Familiar Faces: An Evolution

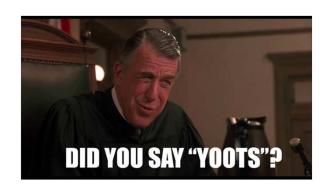
Date of	Funding	BH	Eligibility			Secondary Reason for		
Notificatic ✓ ACC Plan		Category <b></b> ✓	Group▼	Primary Reason for Call	٧	Call	Plan Disposition	Ţ,
11/1/2018 ACC - UnitedHealthcare Community Plan	TXIX	Child	ACUTE	Notification of Admission to 23 hour COU		Harm to Self	Notification of Admission to CRC Tucson COU	
11/1/2018 ACC - UnitedHealthcare Community Plan	TXIX	Child	ACUTE	Notification of Admission to 23 hour COU		Harm to Self	Notification of Admission to CRC Tucson COU	
11/1/2018 No AHCCCS Complete Care Plan	TXIX	GMH	NONE	Notification of Admission to 23 hour COU		Disturbance in Thought	Notification of Admission to CRC Tucson COU	
11/1/2018 ACC - Arizona Complete Health	TXIX	SMI	DISABL	Notification of Admission to 23 hour COU		Suicidal Thoughts	Notification of Admission to CRC Tucson COU	
11/1/2018 ACC - Arizona Complete Health	TXIX	SMI	DISABL	Notification of Admission to 23 hour COU		Suicidal Thoughts	Notification of Admission to CRC Tucson COU	
11/1/2018 ACC - UnitedHealthcare Community Plan	TXIX	GMH	ACUTE	Notification of Admission to 23 hour COU		Suicidal Thoughts	Notification of Admission to CRC Tucson COU	

- Prior to 10/1/2018 the RHBA met directly with the CRC and other 24/7 crisis centers with outpatient providers to staff and more effectively plan coordination of care
- 24hr Crisis facilities now alert the crisis line to create both a trigger triage, and daily notification of a member presentation
- This allows each ACC plan to coordinate on familiar faces on a weekly if not daily bases
- It allows the plan more insight into a members presentation and thus can help with care management assignment and admission

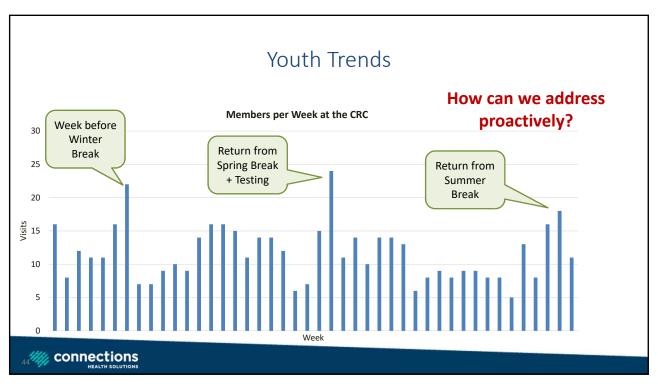
Courtesy Johnnie Gaspar, AZ Complete Health

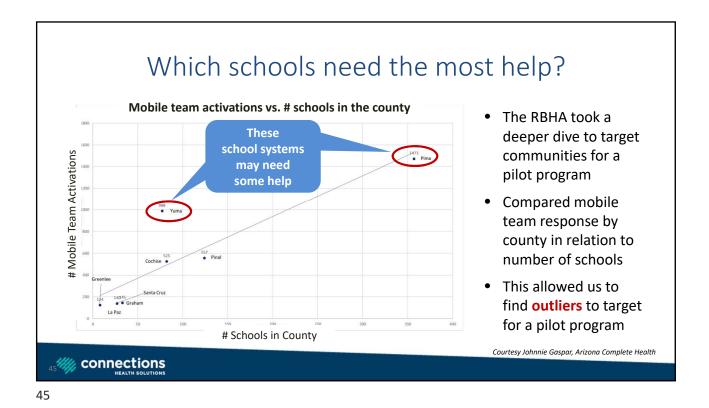








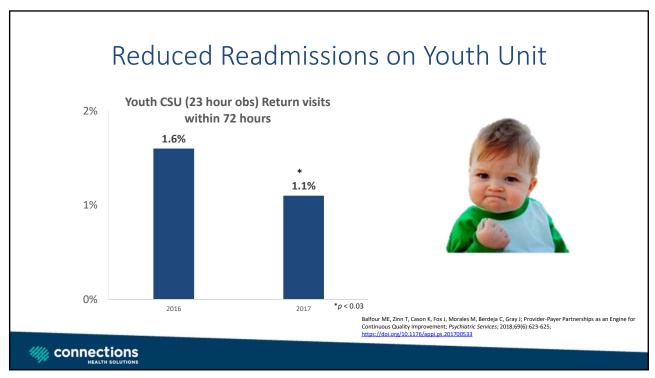


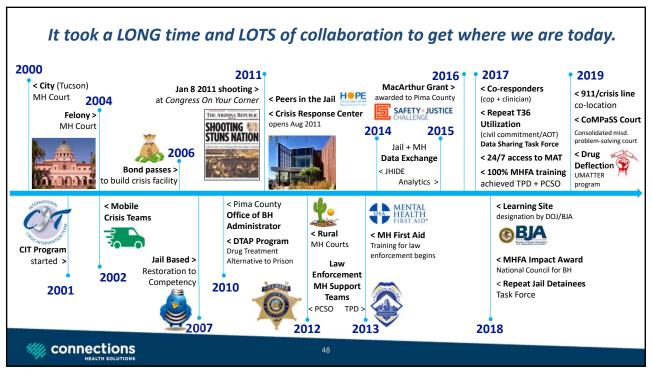


New School Based Programs

Goal is to identify & enroll members in need of ongoing support

Behavioral Health Co-Location	Medicaid Funding for School Service Provision	Youth Engagement Specialist Program Y.E.S.
<ul> <li>Outpatient Behavioral Health and School partnership</li> <li>Block Funded</li> <li>Responsibilities</li> <li>Rotates between five schools 1 day</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Direct funding for the school based provision of Behavioral Health Services</li> <li>Fee for Service</li> </ul> Responsibilities <ul> <li>Rotates between the same five</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>School Resource Officer and Counselor Partnership</li> <li>Block Funded</li> <li>Responsibilities</li> <li>On call 8-5 to respond as a Subject Matter Expert at the request of</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>per week</li> <li>Provides outreach and engagement</li> <li>Conducts eligibility screening</li> <li>Coordinates enrollment</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>schools 1 day per week (off day)</li> <li>Provide direct service provision</li> <li>Therapy, Case Management,</li> <li>School based behavioral support</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>school staff</li> <li>Attend Individual Education Plan meetings (IEP)</li> <li>Train on Mental Health First Aid</li> </ul>
		Courtesy Johnnie Gaspar, Arizona Complete He





## Lessons Learned & Key Ingredients

- The solution is not always more inpatient beds!
- Stabilize crisis in the **least-restrictive** setting possible (which also tends to be the **least-costly**)
- Governance and payment structures to incentivize these programs and services
- Data-driven and values-based decision-making and continuous quality improvement
- Stakeholder collaboration across silos
- Culture of:
  - NO WRONG DOOR
  - "Figure out how to say YES instead of looking for reasons to say no."





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## Questions?

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Tucson is one of the DOJ's Learning Sites for Mental Health Law Enforcement Collaboration. Funding for a visit may be available.

https://csgjusticecenter.org/law-enforcement/projects/mental-health-learning-sites/





## Models of Crisis Stabilization

Nomenclature varies by state, but as a general guide:

Model	Description	Level of Care	Acuity	Locked	Police drops	Use of peers
23 hr. obs	Short-term (< 24 hrs.) assessment and stabilization with hospital level staffing and safety protocols	LOCUS 6 "Medically Managed" with 24/7 nursing and medical coverage  Can take both low and high acuity/violent patients		Yes	Yes	Yes
Living Rooms	Short-term (< 24 hrs.) stabilization in a home-like environment with mostly peer staffing	LOCUS 5 "Medically		No	Sometimes	Yes
Sobering Centers & "Social Detox"			Lower acuity patients not at imminent risk of harm to self/other, not agitated or violent	No	Sometimes	Yes
Crisis Residential	Intermediate term (days to a couple weeks) crisis stabilization in a residential setting	site 24/7	agraces of violent	No	Usually not	Yes

Programs may also have niche specializations depending on other affiliated community services. For example: San Antonio's program is located on a housing campus and focuses heavily homelessness recovery. Tucson's center is attached to an emergency room and collaborates closely with the ED to reduce ED boarding.

