

Data Points to Track

Intercept 1: Law Enforcement

The list below contains potential data points that a county might track in order to evaluate the impact of the law enforcement responses to mental health emergencies. This list may be expanded to include data related to the specific “priorities” of the locale (identified during the mapping session)

System-level

1. Percent of officers currently trained in crisis intervention
2. Dispatch
 - a. # of calls identified by dispatch as involving mental illness
 - b. # of calls referred to: trained crisis workers, police, MH worker, other

Example of a question that systems-level data might inform: Is there an increase in the proportion of calls involving persons with mental illness that are referred to trained crisis workers?

Incident-level

3. Background/training of respondent
 - a. Profession
 - b. Age
 - c. Training
4. Disposition from visit
 - a. Arrest
 - b. Arrest and transport to hospital for medical tx
 - c. Arrest and transport to psychiatric evaluation;
 - d. Involuntary transport to psychiatric evaluation
 - e. Transport for medical tx
 - f. Transport to mental health facility other than hospital
 - g. Referred to mental health/social services
 - h. Contact only/situation resolved on scene with no additional action
5. Characteristics of the actor
 - a. Age/DOB
 - b. Gender
 - c. Ethnicity
 - d. SSN (or any other information that may serve as a unique identifier across systems)
6. Description of the incident
 - a. Date of incident
 - b. Time of day

- c. Location (Specific address or categories e.g. private residence, public place)
- d. Weapon involved?
- e. Violence against a person?

Example of question that incident-level data might inform: Is the frequency of use of crisis services by a target population decreasing over a defined period of time?

In order to understand the long-term impact of the change in police responses at the system level (e.g. decrease arrests for the MH population by X percent) and at the individual level (e.g. increased amount of time between the current incident and next incident involving the crisis intervention team across individuals with mental health issues) it will be necessary to also understand if and when subsequent police contacts occurred. Thus, it's important to track information beyond the current incident and, if necessary, plan for collaborations with agencies holding other data resources.

- f. Identify unique identifiers that cross data systems for matching purposes
- g. Date of subsequent incidents
- h. Type of subsequent incidents