

Andrews Center  
Chief SIM Officer 3rd Annual  
Report  
February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Smith County Commissioners Court  
Keisha Morris

# Executive Summary



COORDINATED SYSTEM  
IMPROVING PUBLIC  
SAFETY AND OUTCOMES



REDUCED JUSTICE  
INVOLVEMENT THROUGH  
DIVERSION STRATEGIES



STRENGTHENED  
PARTNERSHIPS ACROSS  
ALL INTERCEPTS



PREPARING FOR 23-HOUR  
DIVERSION CENTER  
LAUNCH

# Why This Matters

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Behavioral health demand continues to increase

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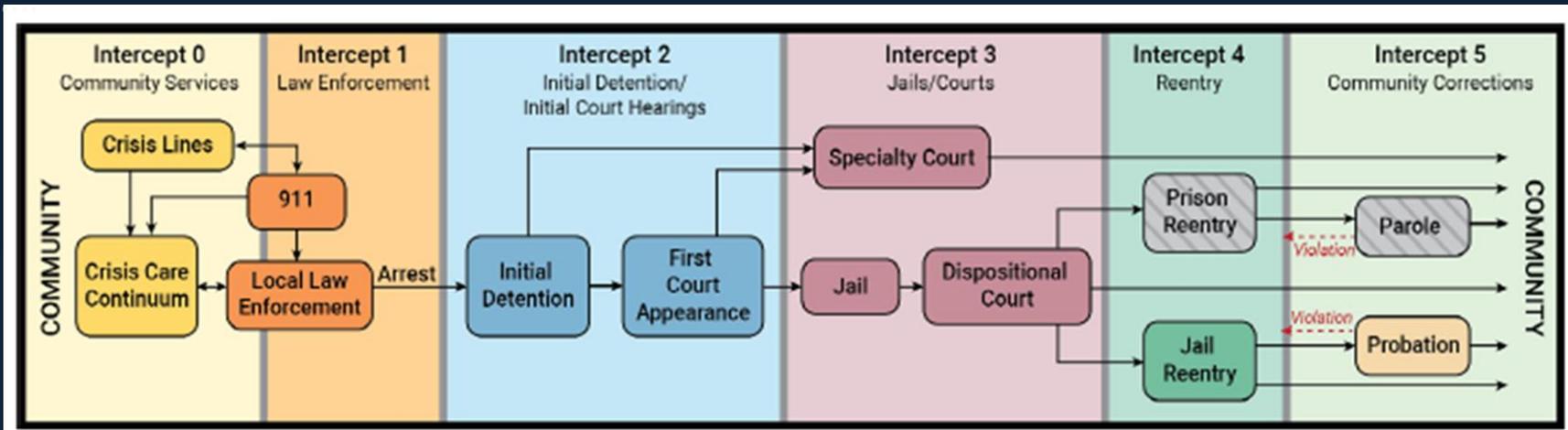
Law enforcement and ER systems remain overutilized

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Unmanaged crises lead to higher system costs

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Diversion improves outcomes and reduces burden



# Sequential Intercept Model (SIM)

- Framework to coordinate behavioral health and justice systems
- Identifies gaps and opportunities across intercepts
- Focus: Divert individuals before jail involvement

# SIM Intercepts

0: MCOT / Co-Response / Crisis Respite

1: Law Enforcement & Emergency Services

2: Initial Detention & First Appearance

3: Jails & Courts

4: Re-entry & Community Support

On September 22-23, 2022, 75 stakeholders, in the Smith County community, gathered to invest time and passion into identifying barriers between mental health and the legal system. Participants included hospital staff, law enforcement, commissioners, judges, attorneys, justice of the peace, as well as peer, mental health and recovery supports. Over a day and a half, the four topics of most concern arose to become the priorities of our county.

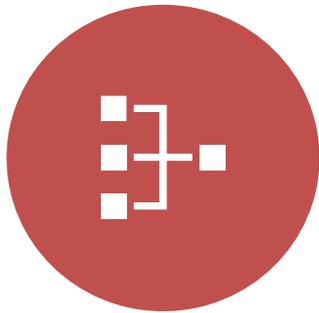
Jail Diversion  
(Deflection) Center

16.22 Process-  
Mental Illness  
Identification at  
Earliest Stage of  
Criminal Proceeding

Collaboration  
between Mental  
Health and Law  
Enforcement

Secure funding for  
Children/Youth/Adult  
inpatient beds

# Chief SIM Officer Role



LEADS CROSS-SYSTEM  
COORDINATION



ALIGNS AGENCIES ACROSS ALL  
INTERCEPTS



DRIVES DIVERSION AND  
SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT  
STRATEGIES

# Crisis Response (MCOT/Respite)

24/7 crisis  
response and  
field-based  
intervention

Assist w/ de-  
escalation & safety  
planning

Rapid assessment  
and diversion to  
appropriate care

# Crisis System Impact



TOTAL CRISIS  
SERVICES:  
7,643



HOTLINE  
CALLS: 3,235

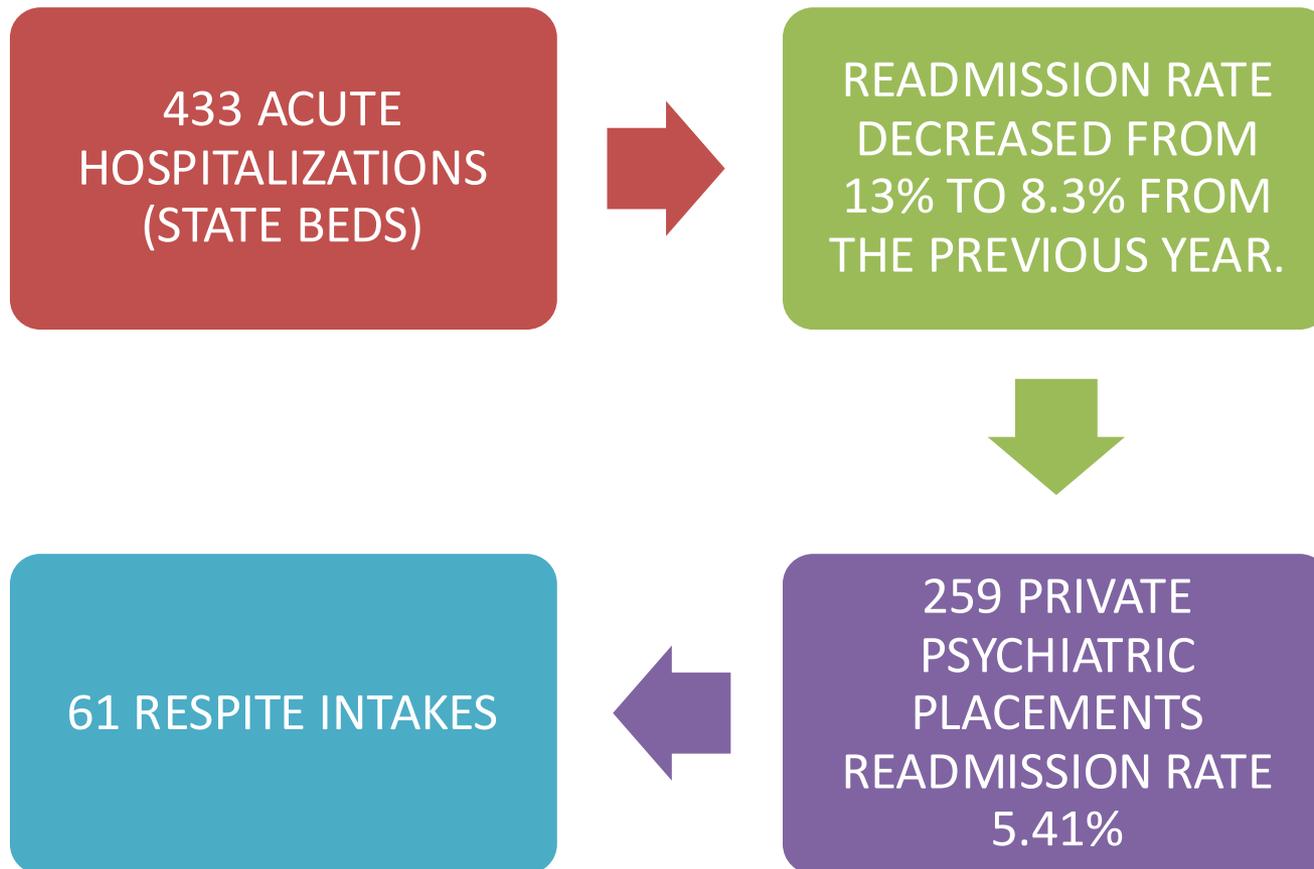


FOLLOW-UPS:  
2,923



WALK-IN:  
1,485

# Crisis Outcomes



# Forensics

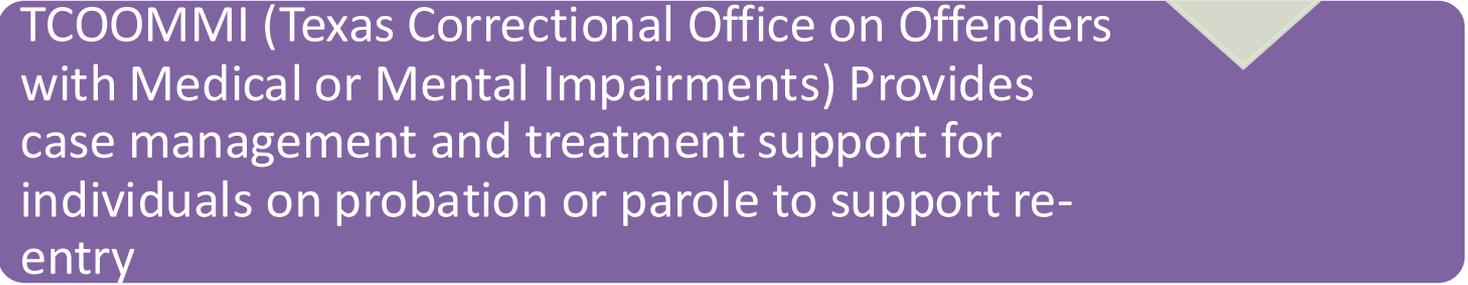
OCR community-based treatment that restores a person's ability to participate in their legal case while remaining in a less restrictive setting.



JBCR - Provides timely competency restoration services in jail, reducing waitlists and improving access to appropriate care.



TCOOMMI (Texas Correctional Office on Offenders with Medical or Mental Impairments) Provides case management and treatment support for individuals on probation or parole to support re-entry



# Competency Restoration



**326 competency screenings  
completed by 2 staff**



**State hospital waitlists  
reduced**

**Clearinghouse: 38 → 24  
MSU: 17 → 6**

# State Hospital Waitlist Direct Comparison

**State Hospital Waitlist-**  
540 days  
**JBCR Restoration: 21–35**  
days

Individuals waiting for a state hospital bed may wait **up to 18 months (~540 days)**, while those served through JBCR are typically restored in **21–35 days**, reducing restoration time by **over 500 days**.



## Jail Continuity of Care (Pilot)

Jail Navigators serve as the critical bridge between the jail and the community, ensuring individuals with behavioral health needs do not fall through the cracks during reentry.

# Jail Continuity of Care Core Responsibilities

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Early identification and engagement of individuals with behavioral health needs

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Discharge and reentry planning prior to release

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Care coordination across jails, courts, and community providers

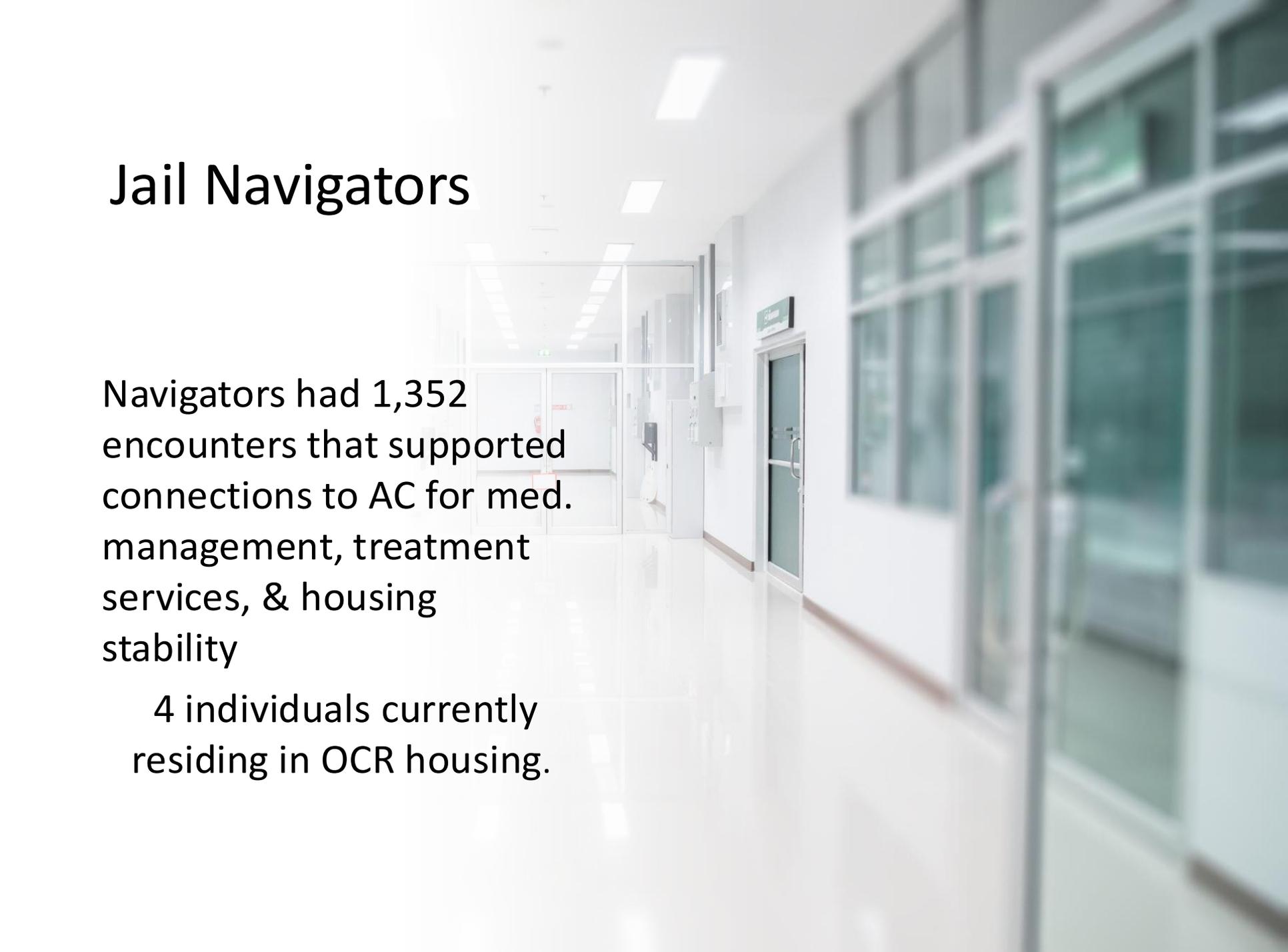
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Warm handoffs to treatment and support services

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Post-release follow-up and re-engagement Crisis prevention and system navigation

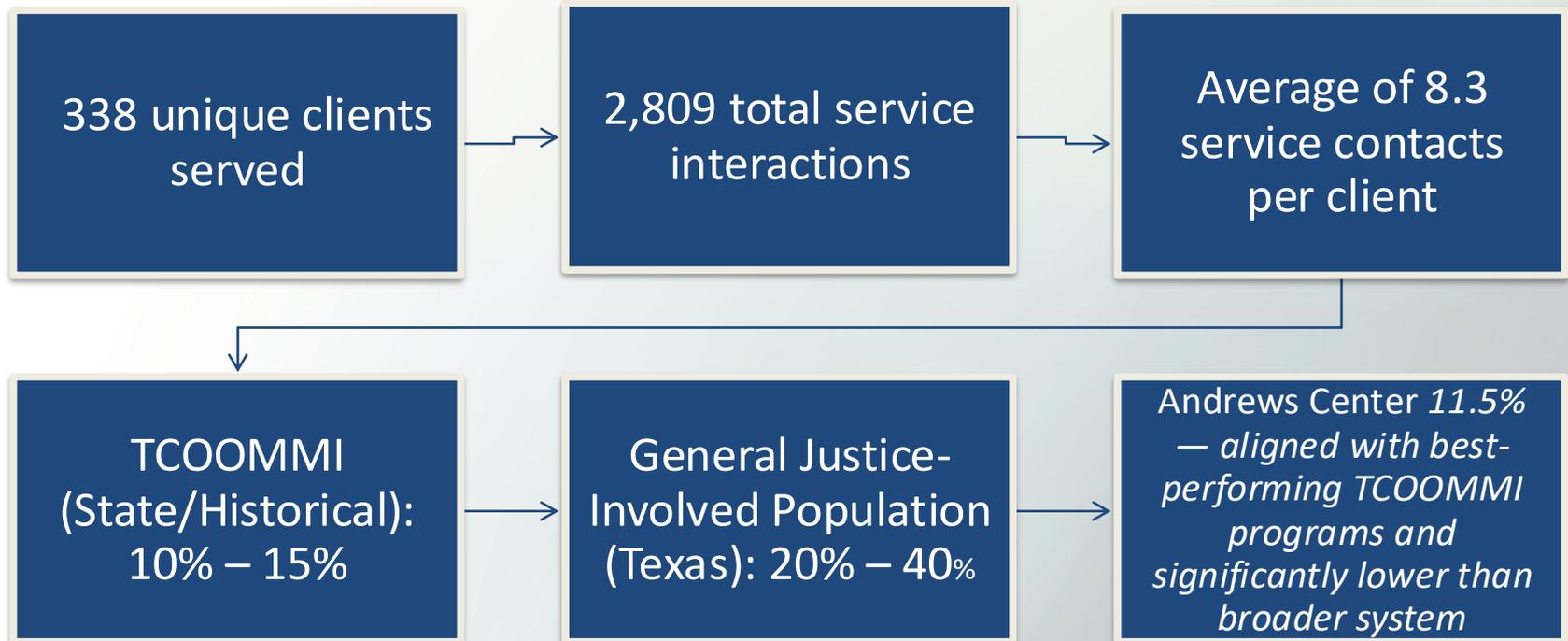
# Jail Navigators



Navigators had 1,352 encounters that supported connections to AC for med. management, treatment services, & housing stability

4 individuals currently residing in OCR housing.

# TCOOMMI Outcomes

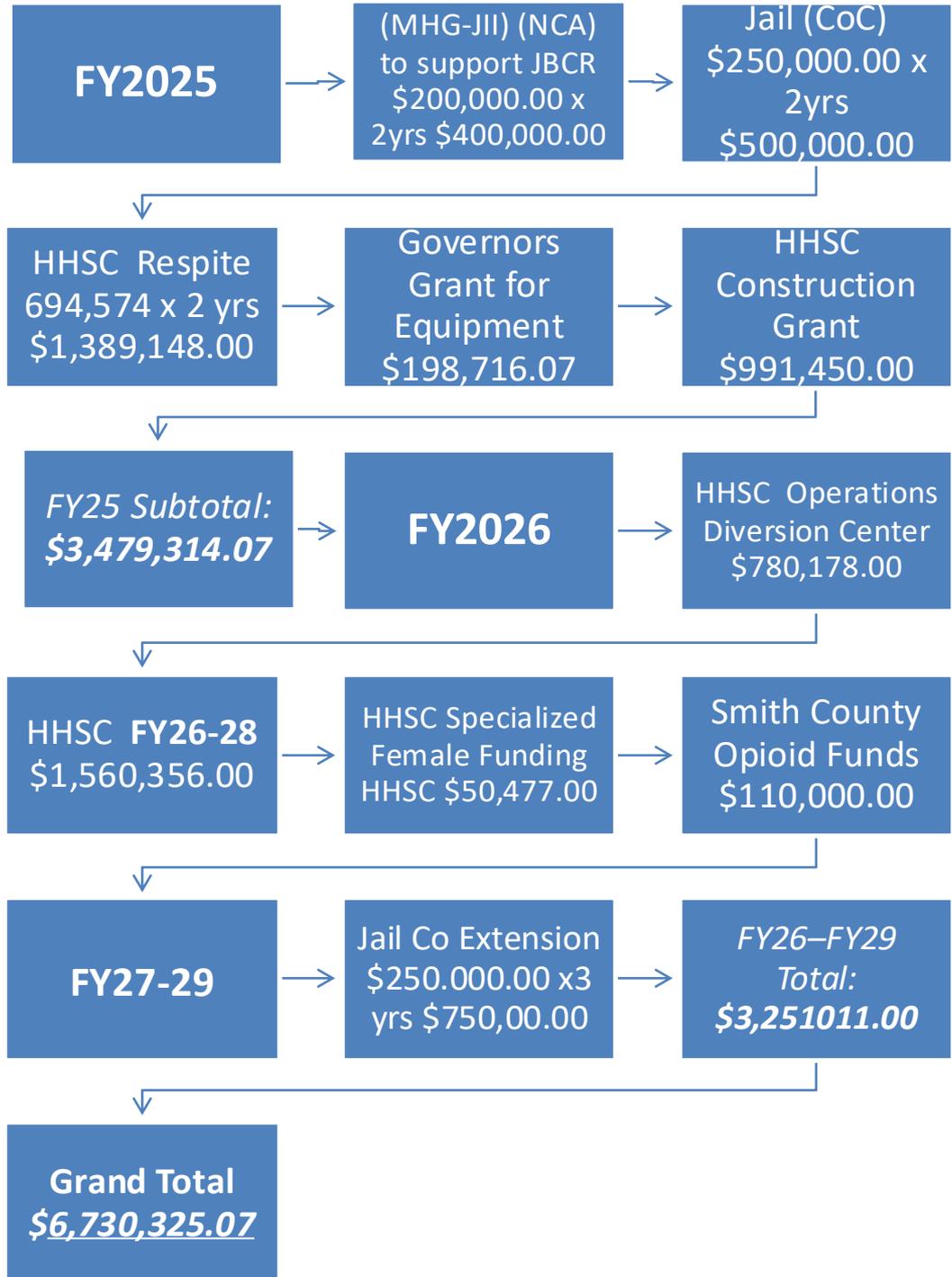


# Substance Abuse Services

## Program Reach & Capacity

- 61 average active clients (ongoing census)
- 163 Adults
- 15 Youth
- 178 total clients served (FY25)
- FY26 YTD: 86 Adults

# Established Funding



# Funding

The SIM Initiative has leveraged **\$6.7 million** to advance diversion, reentry support, and community-based behavioral health solutions.

# Andrews Community Impact

Individuals Served: 11,401



Total Services: 172,785



Goods and Services Jail \$301,157.80



Total Impact Smith Co. \$878,292.54

# What's Next: The Diversion Center



X X 0200P



**NOW UNDER RENOVATION:  
TYLER DIVERSION CENTER**

# Andrews Center



PROMOTING HOPE,  
GROWTH, AND POSITIVE  
CHANGE



STRENGTHENING SYSTEMS  
THAT SUPPORT OUR  
COMMUNITY



IMPROVING OUTCOMES  
ACROSS SMITH COUNTY