



# FRANKLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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## **Franklin Police Department Co-Response Program**

### **2025 Annual Report**

The Franklin Police Department Co-Response Program was initially launched by a third-party behavioral health agency contracted through the Department of Mental Health in November 2018. The program began as a regional Jail Diversion Program, partnering the Franklin Police Department with the Medway Police Department. The objective of the program was to provide on-scene crisis de-escalation, immediate support to those in need, and mental health and substance use assessments. The intended outcome of this initiative was to keep people in the community with appropriate resources and supports in place, diverting them from unnecessary arrest or hospitalization.

The regional program experienced great success for five years, however, the needs of the Franklin Police Department and the Town of Franklin grew exponentially during that time. In July of 2023, Chief Lynch and the Franklin Police Department pursued continued grant funding through the Department of Mental Health and launched their own Co-Response Program independent of a third-party agency. The program continues to pair mental health clinicians with police to best meet the community's needs. The FPD Co-Response Program currently operates with a Co-Response Program Manager who oversees the program and co-responds to calls for mental health, substance use, and crisis. Additionally, with funds granted through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), the Co-Response Program is funded for two additional full-time clinicians to provide coverage seven days a week. The program experienced a vacancy in September of 2025, and have been working to find an appropriate replacement that will fit in with the upstanding culture of the Franklin Police Department.

The goal remains the same for 2026: to keep people in the community with appropriate support. The renewed Co-Response program collaborates with other town providers as part of a crisis action team to provide a comprehensive, holistic approach to addressing mental health, substance use, and crisis needs in the Town of Franklin.

### **Co-Response Interventions**

Co-response interventions include on-scene responses by clinicians and police officers to calls for service involving individuals in crisis. In addition to on-scene interventions, clinicians also



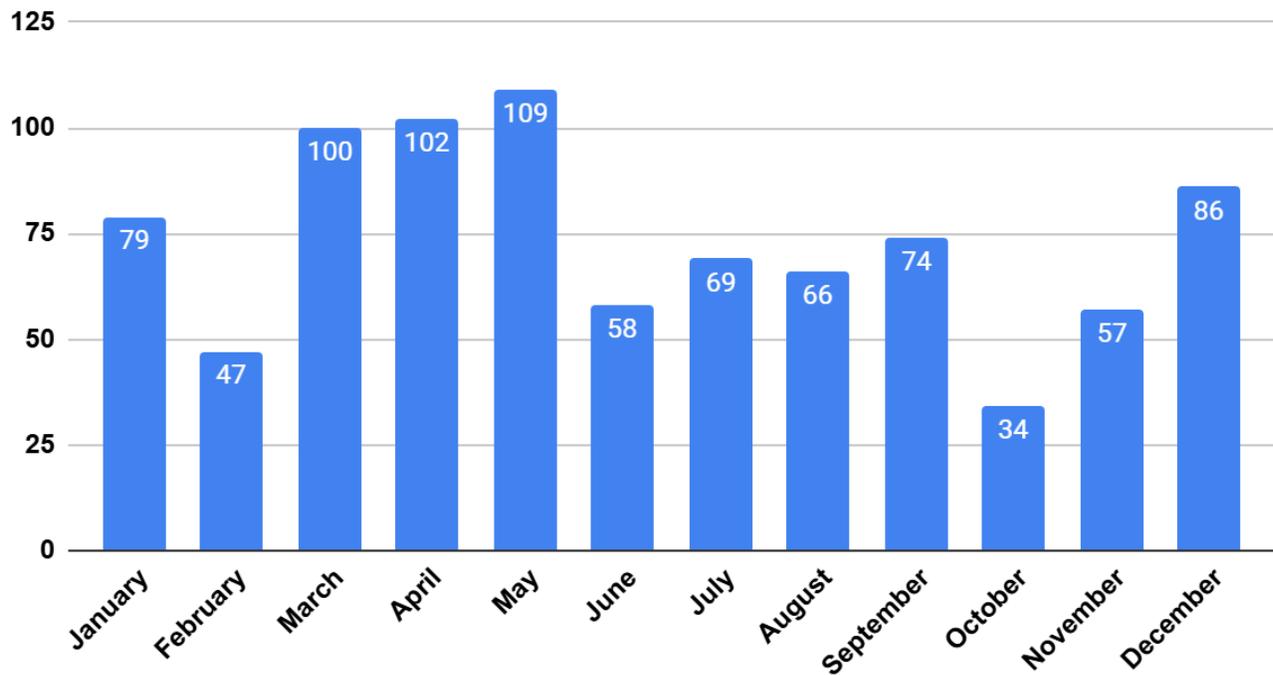
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complete non-traditionals or follow-ups. In 2025, **881** cases were referred to the Franklin Police Co-Response Program clinicians.

## 2025 Co-Response Interventions



### Diversions from Arrest

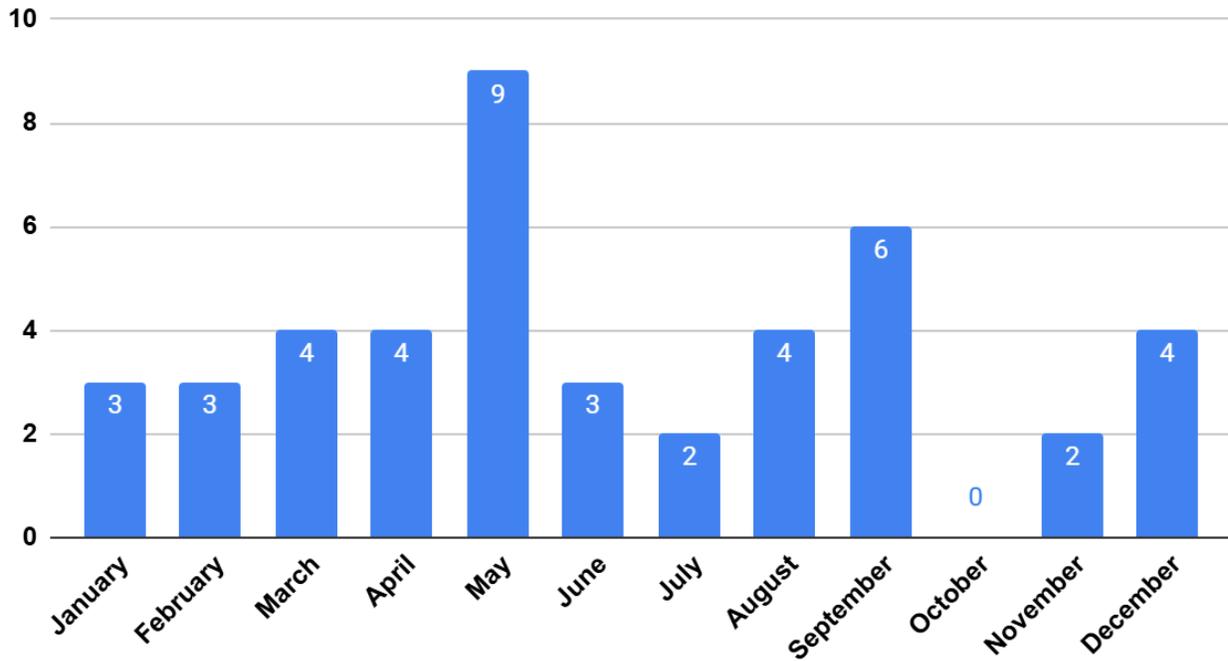
One of the objectives of the Franklin Police Co-Response Program is to divert individuals involved in low-level crimes away from the criminal justice system and into more appropriate mental health or substance use treatment. During the year 2025, a total of **44** individuals with mental health, behavioral health, or substance use challenges that were encountered by the Co-Response clinicians and Franklin Police Officers were diverted from arrest and referred to treatment. There was a **83%** diversion rate for individuals who were eligible for arrest diversion.



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## 2025 Arrest Diversions



Each arrest is associated with cost savings. The cost savings are an additional benefit of diverting individuals from arrest. This quarter's arrest diversions amount to an estimated cost savings to the criminal justice system of, **\$315,436\*** (\$7,169 per arrest diversion).

### Diversions from the Emergency Department

An additional objective of the Franklin Police Co-Response Program is to divert individuals with mental health, behavioral health, or substance use challenges away from unnecessary hospital emergency department (ED) presentations, and into community-based treatment. Throughout 2025, a total of **142** individuals were diverted from unnecessary ED visits.

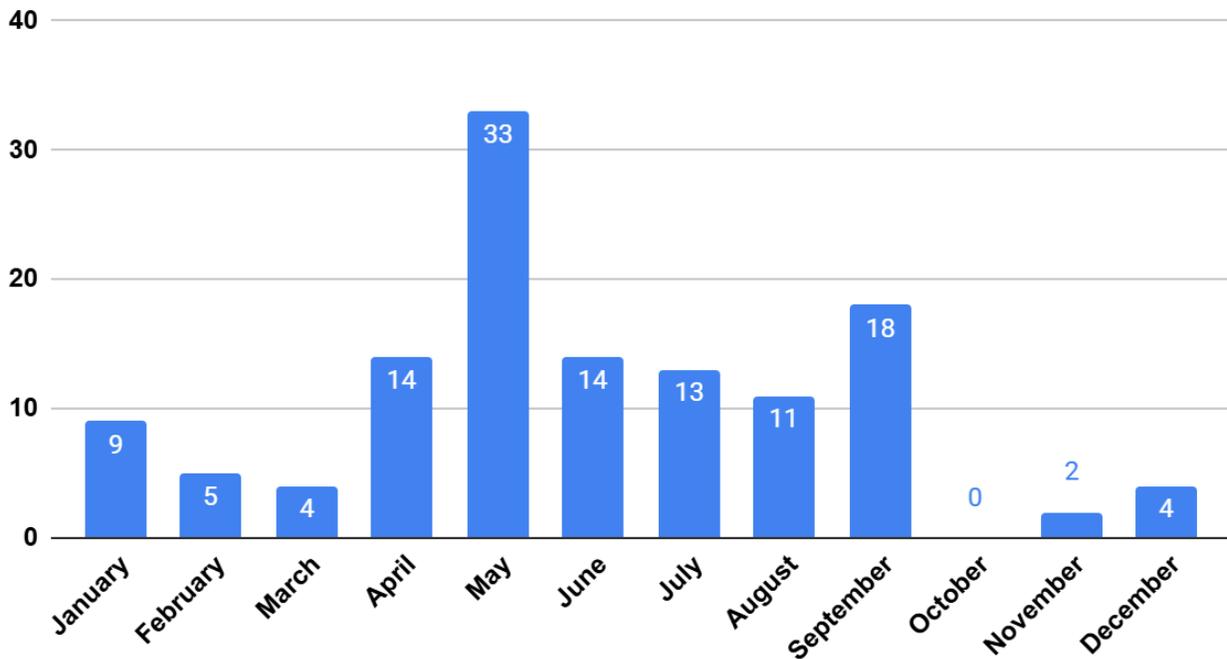


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## 2025 ED Diversions



Each ED diversion is also associated with cost savings. The cost savings are an additional benefit of diverting individuals from the hospital. This year's ED diversions amount to an estimated cost savings to the healthcare system of **\$310,696\*** (\$2,188 per ED diversion).

In sum, the estimated cost savings due to arrest and emergency department diversions for 2025 is **\$626,132\***

Report submitted by: Kallie Montagano | Co-Response Program Manager | Franklin Police Department

\**Jail and arrest diversion grant program - mass.gov.* mass.gov. (2024, February).

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/fy-2023-jdp-annual-report/download>