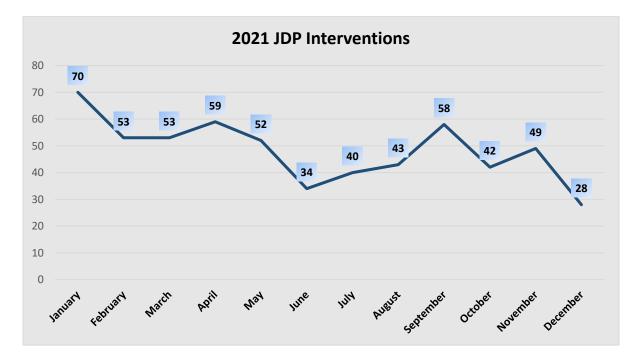


# Franklin/Medway Diversion Program 2021 Annual Report

The Franklin/Medway Jail Diversion Program (JDP) was launched in 2018 and pairs specially trained crisis clinicians from Advocates Inc, with police officers at the Franklin/Medway Police Departments. These embedded clinicians respond to calls for service and 911 calls with patrol officers; providing immediate on-scene de-escalation, assessment, and referrals for individuals in crisis. The primary goal of the Franklin/Medway JDP is to re-direct individuals committing non-violent offences out of the criminal justice system and into more appropriate community based behavioral health services.

#### **JDP Interventions**

On-scene crisis interventions are facilitated through the dual response of police and clinician to calls for service involving individuals in crisis. Chart 1 represents the **581** individuals referred to the Franklin/Medway Jail Diversion Program clinician(s) by Franklin/Medway police officers in 2021.

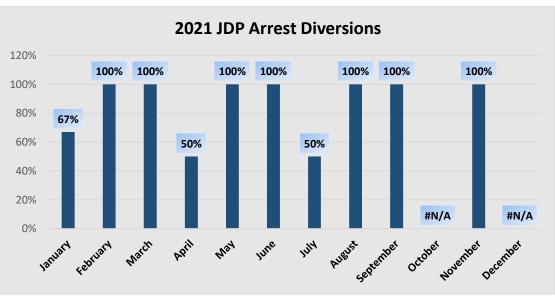


## Chart 1: Franklin/Medway Co-Response Interventions



#### **Diversions from Arrest**

The primary goal of the Franklin/Medway Jail Diversion Program is to divert low-level offenders away from the criminal justice system and into more appropriate, community-based behavioral health treatment. In 2021, a total of **22** individuals with behavioral health conditions were diverted from arrest by Franklin/Medway police officers and into treatment facilitated by JDP clinicians. The average percentage of those eligible for arrest diversion who were diverted is **87%.** Chart 2 represents the percentage of diversions from arrest by month.



#### Chart 2: Franklin/Medway JDP Arrest Diversions

In addition to the benefit of diverting individuals in crisis from arrest, these diversions represent an *estimated* cost savings of **\$55,440**\* to the criminal justice system (\$2,520 per arrest event).

### **Diversions from the Emergency Department**

A secondary goal of the Franklin/Medway Jail Diversion Program is to decrease the frequency of individuals with behavioral health conditions being referred to the hospital emergency department (ED) for psychiatric assessment by Franklin/Medway police officers. In 2021, **55** individuals were diverted from unnecessary hospital admissions due to the presence of a JDP

<sup>#</sup>N/A=no arrestable offenses encountered



clinician on scene; to facilitate assessment treatment recommendations. Chart 3 represents the monthly hospital ED diversions facilitated by the Franklin/Medway JDP team.

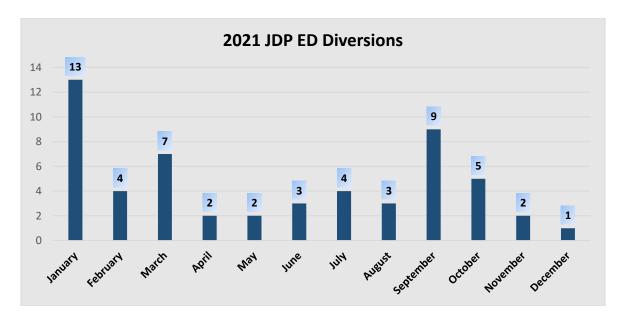


Chart 3: Franklin/Medway Emergency Department Diversions

In addition to the benefits of receiving care outside of the hospital, these emergency department diversions represent *estimated* health care cost savings of **\$220,000**\* (\$4,000 per ED diversion).

Combined, estimated cost savings due to arrest and emergency department diversion activity equals **<u>\$275,440.</u>**\*.

Thank you for a year of partnership!

Report Respectfully Submitted By: Adriana Davis-Tarantino | Training & Research Coordinator | Advocates Training and Technical Assistance Center | <u>ataranitno@advocates.org</u>

\*Formula cited in "Massachusetts Department of Mental Health Report on Pre-Arrest Jail Diversion Programs", presented by Dr. Deborah Pinals, Assistant Commissioner for Forensic Services, Massachusetts State House, October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009.