

U-MATTER

A UNIFIED MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT TARGETED
ENGAGEMENT RESPONSE to the opioid epidemic in Pima County

Impacts at 18 Months

Feb 18th 2021, Tucson AZ



Presenter

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COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

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- **Acknowledgement**: This presentation is funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) and is supported by Grant Number H79TI081559.
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Opioid Epidemic

- The most fatal drug crisis in U.S. history (National Safety Council, 2018)
- In 2018, 10.3 million people misused an opioid pain reliever in the past year (SAMHSA NSDUH)
- 2.1 million people have opioid use disorder (SAMHSA NSDUH)
- Arizona is among the states with the highest and fastest increasing rates of primary treatment admissions for heroin and opioids per capita (TEDS)
- In November 2020, Pima County Health Department projected **456** drug overdose deaths in 2020, up from **337** in 2019 and **286** in 2018 (Pima County Health Department, Nov 2020)
- Of the 376 drug overdose deaths Jan-Nov 2020, **297 (79%)** involved opiate compounds (Pima County Health Department, Nov 2020)

U-MATTER Overview:

Goal 1:

Enhance and Expand Access to MAT



TPD Deflection Program:

Deflection

Outreach

"Angel" Program



Pretrial Services of
the AZ Superior
Court, Pima County

MAT Treatment and
Recovery Support Services
(CODAC & other providers)



Goal 2:

Improve well-being, decrease opioid
misuse and related risk behavior

↑ Well-being
↓ Opioid misuse &
recidivism
↓ Related Risk
Behaviors



Pima County Administrator's Criminal
Justice Reform Unit: Project management
& Infrastructure development



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Project Monitoring
and Evaluation

Goal 1: Enhancing and Expanding Access to MAT

Tucson Police Department (TPD) Deflection Program

TPD Deflection Program – 1st 18 months (Nov 1 2018 - Apr 30, 2020)

	Unique Individuals	Total Incidents
Deflections	921	1044
Outreach	280	317
"Angel" Program	24	24
Total	1225	1385

In total, there were **1385** times that TPD officers and the law enforcement or behavioral health peer support co-responder teams identified individuals with substance use problems and encouraged them to get treatment through the Deflection Program.

Goal 1: Enhancing and Expanding Access to MAT

Results of Deflection Incidents

TPD Deflection Program – 1st 18 months (Nov 1 2018 - Apr 30, 2020)

	Unique Individuals	Total Incidents
Deflections	921	1044
Outreach	280	317
"Angel" Program	24	24
Total	1225	1385

50% Officer transported (or called for transport of) individual immediately to treatment provider

14% Officer gave individual treatment provider information encouraging treatment

3% Deflection accepted, but individual arrested or not eligible for deflection

2% Deflection accepted, but result unknown

1% Officer transported individual to hospital

31% Individual did not agree to deflection to treatment

Goal 1: Enhancing and Expanding Access to MAT

Diagnosis at CODAC

468 deflected individuals transported to CODAC.

299 (64%) of these 468 individuals completed a clinical assessment:

- **7 in 10** of the deflected individuals assessed by CODAC had an opioid use disorder.
- **6 in 10** of the deflected individuals assessed by CODAC had a substance use disorder, other than opioids, cannabis, and tobacco.
- **99%** of the deflected individuals assessed by CODAC were diagnosed as having a substance abuse issue or as having a substance use disorder.
- **56%** were diagnosed with a co-occurring mental health issue.

Goal 1: Enhancing and Expanding Access to MAT

Treatment at CODAC

As of April 30, 2020, of the **468** deflected individuals who were transported to CODAC:

- **87** (18.6%) were currently engaged in CODAC's medication-assisted treatment (MAT) program for people with opioid use disorder.
- **126** (26.9%) of the deflected individuals transported to CODAC were currently in longer term substance use treatment at CODAC.
- **274** (58.5%) received services from CODAC with **215** receiving more than one type of service, such as case management, medical management or service; lab, radiology, and medical imaging; health promotion; and family support.

Goal 1: Enhancing and Expanding Access to MAT

Recovery Support Services

In coordination with TPD SURT officers, the co-responding Outreach & Engagement Specialists provide recovery support services, such as peer support, re-engagement encouragement/support, and case management.

- **717** recorded attempts to provide recovery support services as of April 30th 2020.
- **435** (61%) of these attempts resulted in the provision of at least one recovery support service.
- **1027** recovery support services have been provided.

U-MATTER Overview:



Goal 1:

Enhance and Expand Access to MAT

Goal 2:

Improve well-being, decrease opioid misuse and related risk behavior



TPD Deflection Program:

Deflection

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↑ Well-being
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Project Monitoring
and Evaluation

Goal 2: Improving Well-Being, Reducing Opioid Misuse

Program Evaluation

In this section we review the impacts of U-MATTER on various outcomes of interest. The information used to assess these impacts is gathered from program participants of U-MATTER—individuals who were clinically determined to be eligible for MAT for opioid use disorder.

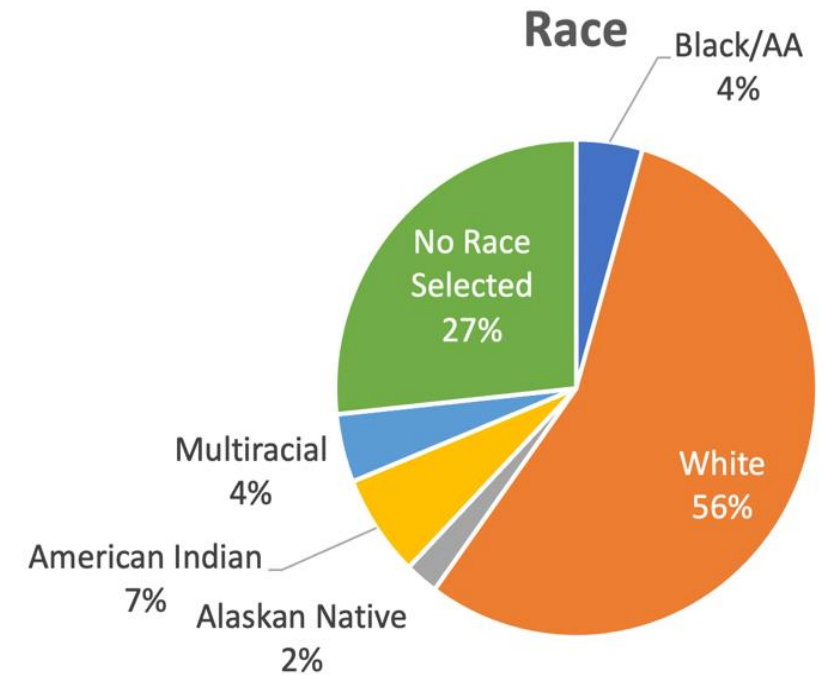
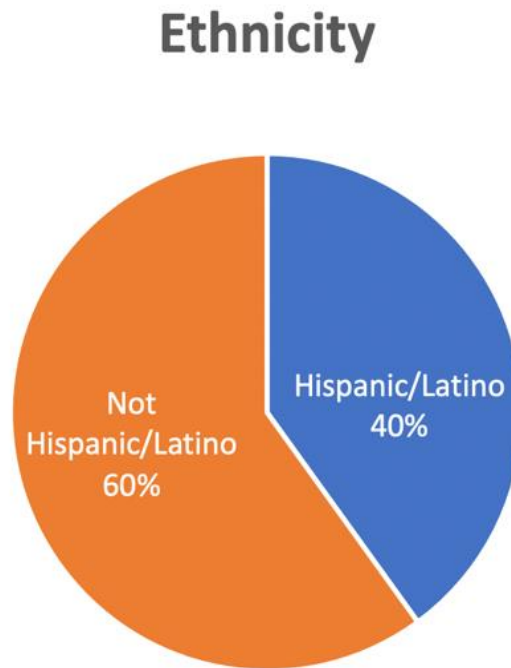
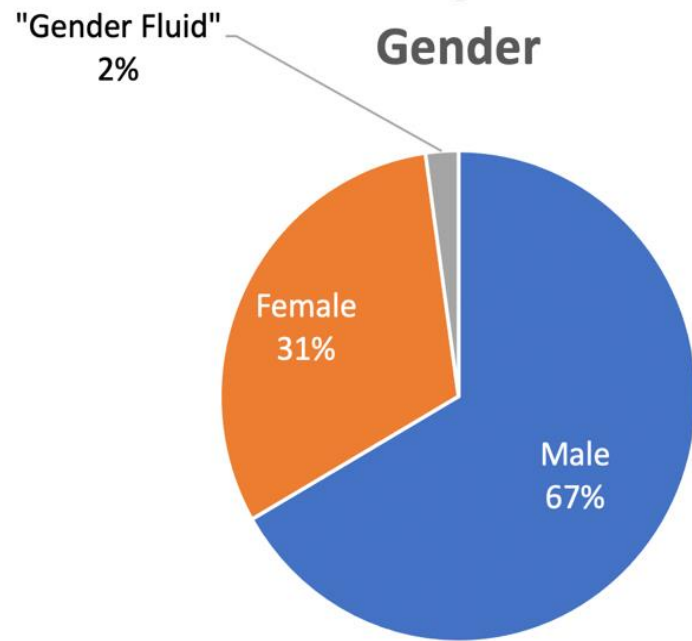
Survey Completion - November 1, 2018 - April 30, 2020

Referral Source:	Program intake	3-months post-intake
Deflection Program	33	21
Self-referred to CODAC	1	-
Referred from Pretrial Services	11	8
Total	45	29

Goal 2: Improving Well-Being, Reducing Opioid Misuse

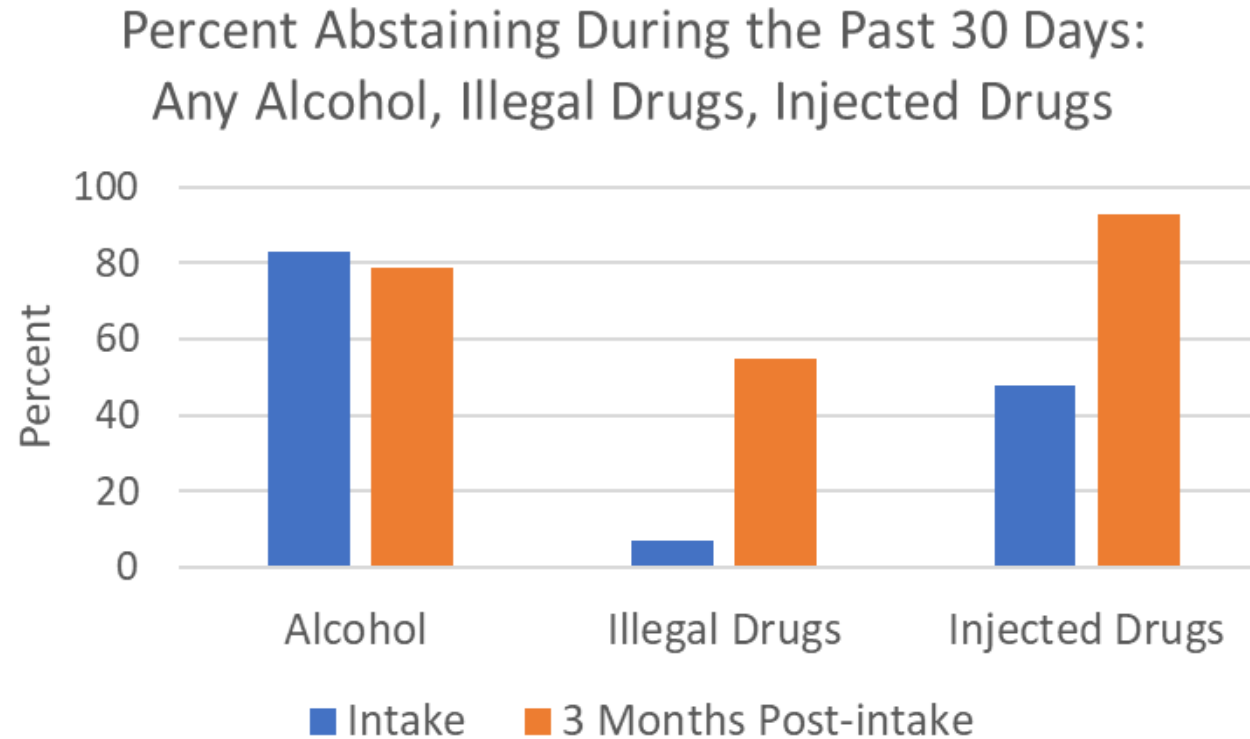
Program Participants

Demographics at Baseline – N = 45



Goal 2: Improving Well-Being, Reducing Opioid Misuse

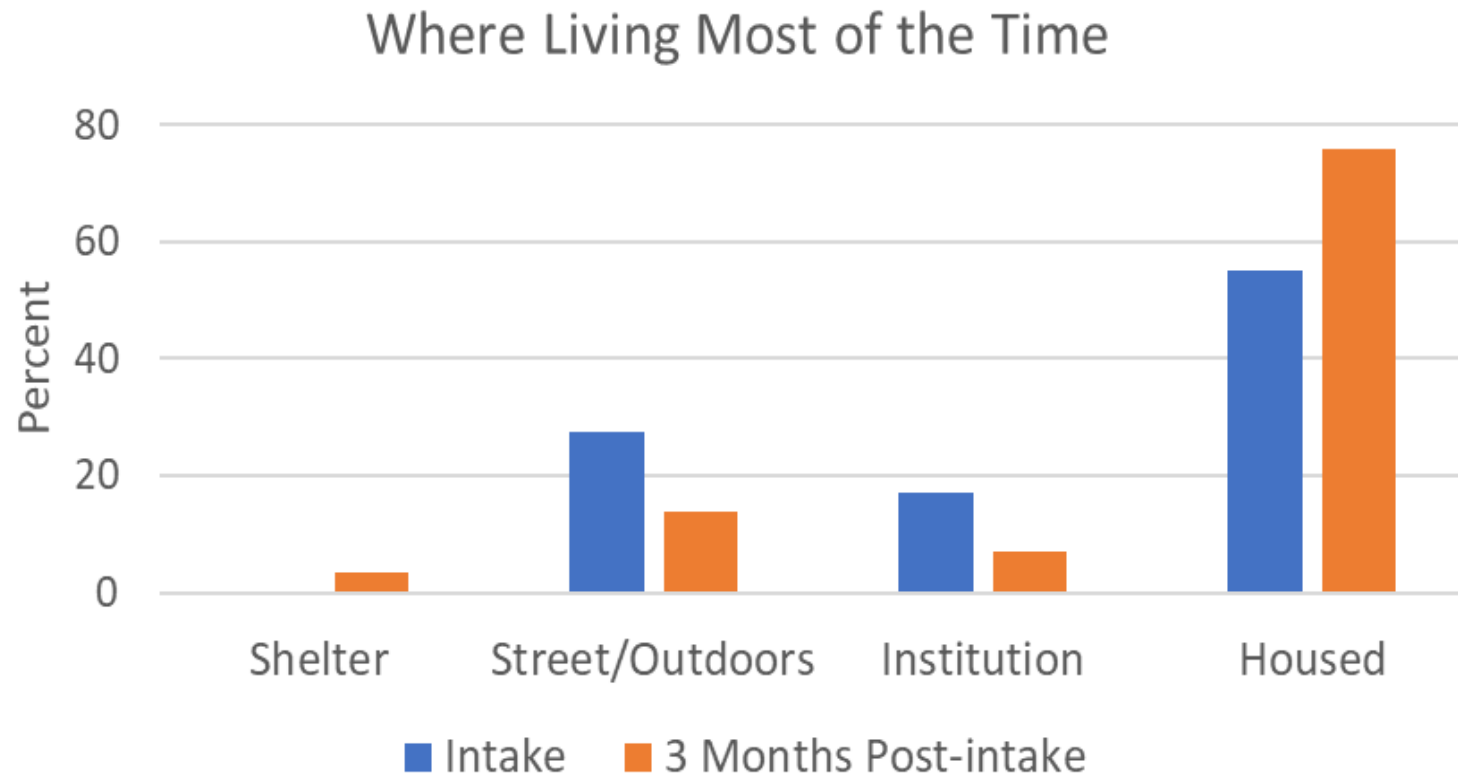
Abstinence (N = 29)



- Proportion of participants who abstained from recent alcohol use did not change from intake to 3 months post-intake (83% to 79%).
- Proportions of participants who abstained from recent use of illegal drugs and from recent use of injection drugs increased from intake to 3 months post-intake, 7% to 55% and 48% to 93%, respectively.

Goal 2: Improving Well-Being, Reducing Opioid Misuse

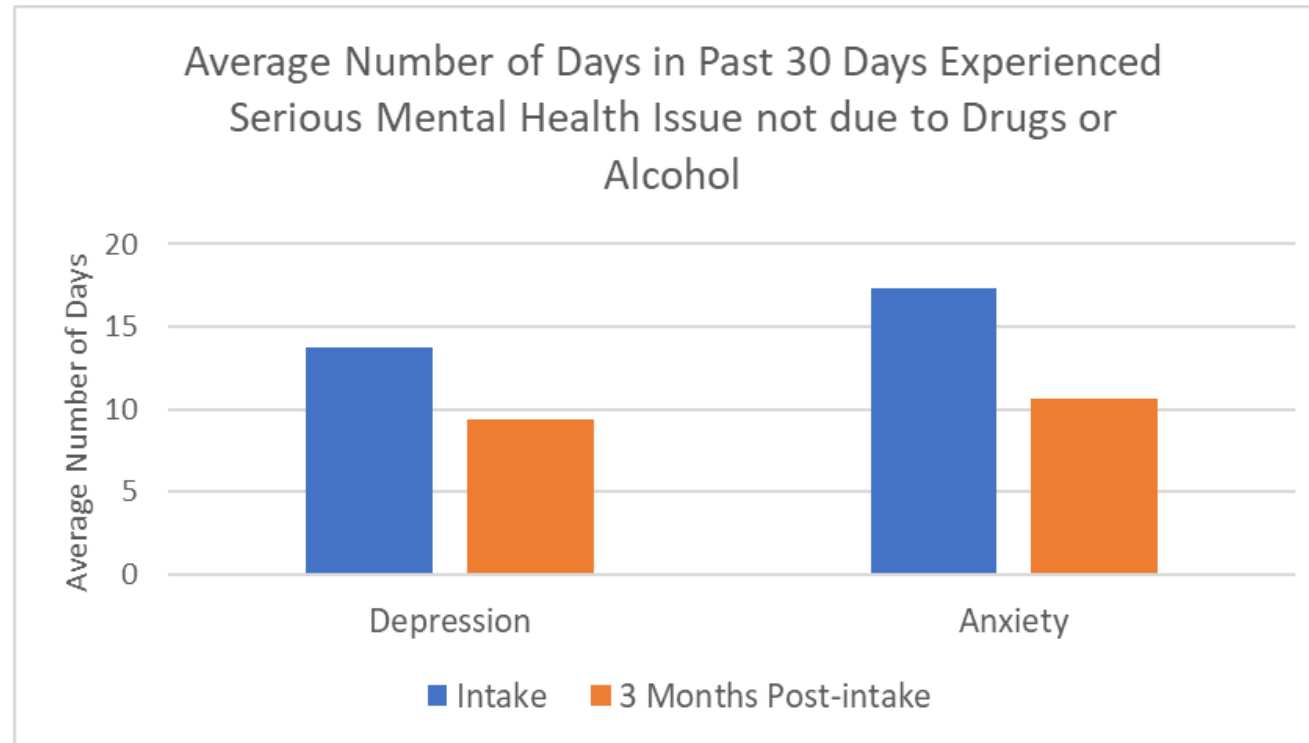
Housing (N = 29)



- The proportion of participants reporting that they were housed most of the time increased from 55% at intake to 76% at 3 months post-intake.

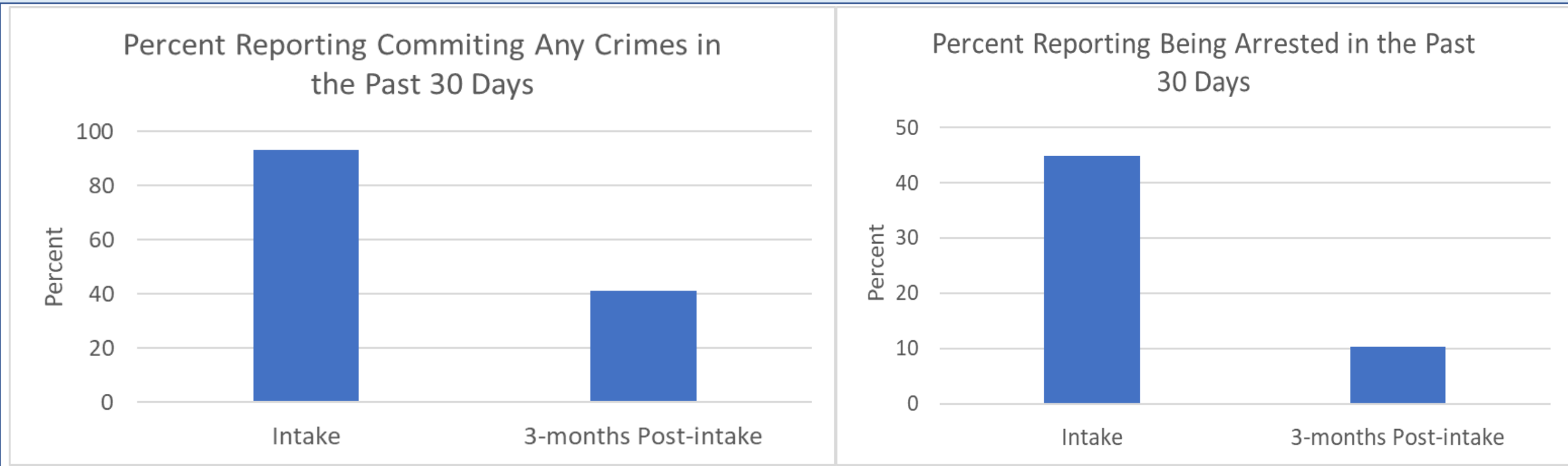
Goal 2: Improving Well-Being, Reducing Opioid Misuse

Mental Health (N = 29)



- The average number of recent days that participants experienced serious depression, not due to the use of drugs or alcohol, decreased on average from 14 days at intake to 9 days at 3 months post-intake.
- The average number of recent days that participants experienced serious anxiety, not due to alcohol or drugs, decreased on average from 17 days at intake to 11 days at 3 months post-intake.

Goal 2: Improving Well-Being, Reducing Opioid Misuse Recidivism & Justice System Involvement (N = 29)



- The proportion of participants who reported committing any crimes during the past 30 days decreased from 93% at intake to 41% at 3 months post-intake.
- The proportion of participants who reported having been arrested during the past 30 days decreased from 45% at intake to 10% at 3 months post-intake.

Conclusions – Goal 1

In regards to the 1st goal of enhancing and expanding MAT access, in the first 18 months of U-MATTER:

- There were **1385** times that law enforcement or behavioral health co-responders identified individuals with substance use problems and encouraged them to get treatment through the Deflection Program.
- **524** deflected individuals were transported to a treatment provider.
- The majority (**7 in 10**) of deflected individuals assessed by CODAC had an opioid use disorder

Conclusions – Goal 1 (cont.)

- As of April 30th 2020, **87** (18.6%) of the 468 deflected individuals who were transported to CODAC were currently engaged in CODAC's medication-assisted treatment (MAT) program for people with opioid use disorder.

Overall U-MATTER has been successful in providing individuals with substance use issues enhanced opportunities to engage in treatment.

Conclusions – Goal 2

In regards to the 2nd goal of improving well-being and reducing opioid misuse and related risk behaviors, in the first 18 months of U-MATTER:

- Initial findings indicate that U-MATTER appears to have been substantially impactful in terms of reducing drug use and criminal activity among program participants. It appears to have been particularly successful in reducing opioid use, a central goal of the program.
- Participants in U-MATTER have also registered improvements on other outcomes of interest—housing stability and mental health.

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