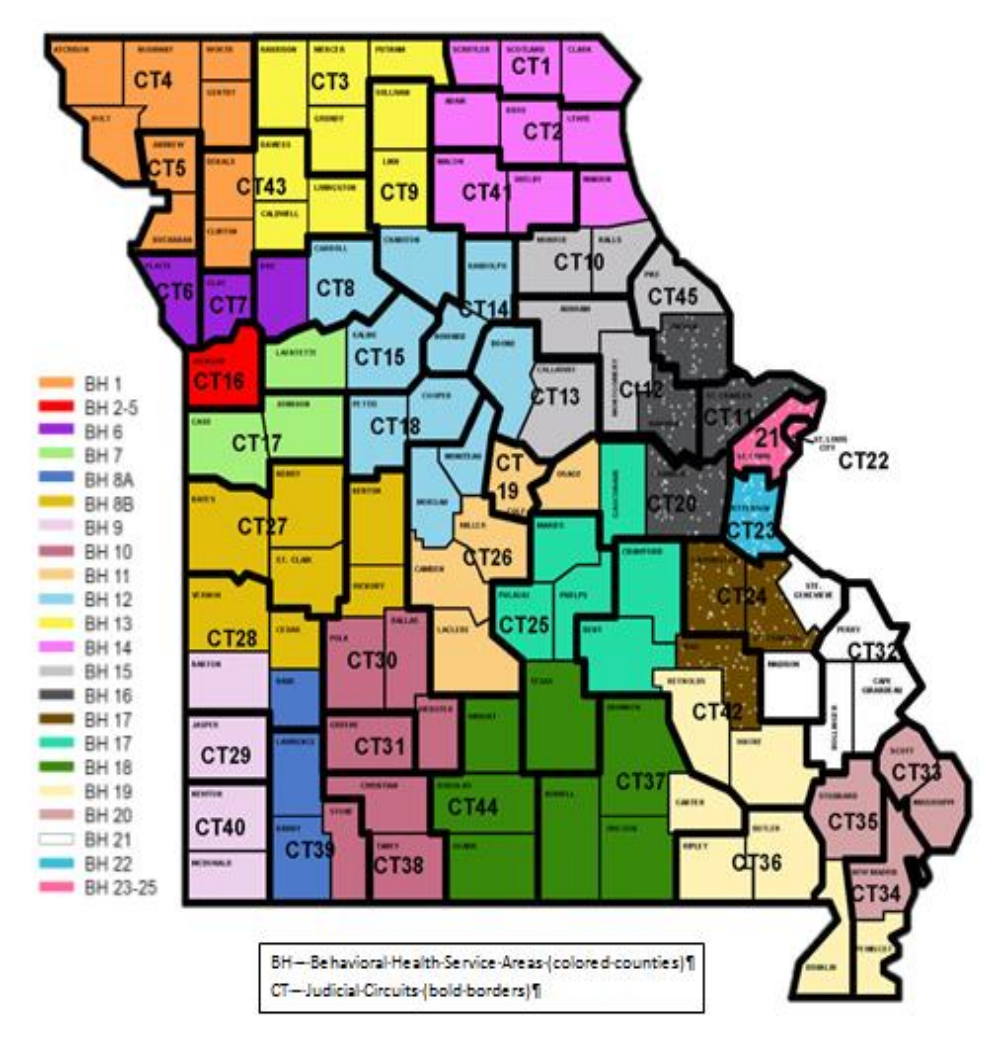
CMHL

Community Mental Health Liaisons

MAP OF CMHLs

- 31 CMHLs are employed by the Community Mental Health Centers.
- The CMHLs provide **coverage state-wide.**



GOAL OF THE INITIATIVE

1. To form better community partnerships with crisis systems, law enforcement agencies, and the courts in order to save valuable state and local resources that might otherwise be expended on unnecessary jail, prison, and hospital stays.
2. Improve outcomes for individuals with behavioral health disorders who come into contact with the legal system.

ROLE OF THE CMHL

- Answer **general questions** about mental health issues, diagnoses and treatments.
- **Connect people** with needed treatments and supports.
- Assist law enforcement and courts in **locating inpatient psychiatric beds** for involuntary commitments.
- **Facilitate access** to behavioral health services.
- Identify and address **structural barriers, miscommunications** and **consistent patterns** that reduce access to behavioral health services.

ROLE OF THE CMHL CONTINUED

- Provide **trainings** on mental health issues, substance use disorders, civil commitment, Mental Health First Aid, and suicide prevention.
- **Collaborate** with Mental Health, Treatment and Veterans courts, as well as other **specialty courts**.
- Participate or assist in development of **Crisis Intervention Teams (CIT)** or other initiatives that assist law enforcement in helping individuals with behavioral health needs.

ACTIVITIES

- Consultation on specific cases, with an emphasis on those who frequently come into contact with law enforcement as the result of behavioral health issues.
- Follow-up on cases at the request of law enforcement.
- Coordination with existing systems of care for those who come into contact with law enforcement and courts for 30 days.
- CMHLs have done ride-alongs, residency checks with law enforcement, and hold "office hours" in local police/sheriff departments.

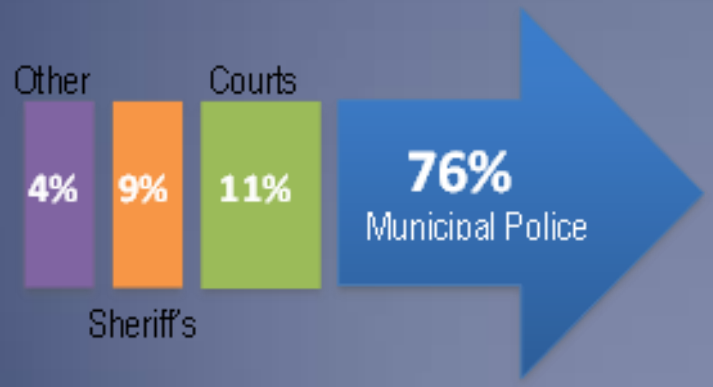
CMHL DATA

32,000 CONTACTS

with law enforcement & courts

19,500 REFERRALS

from law enforcement & courts



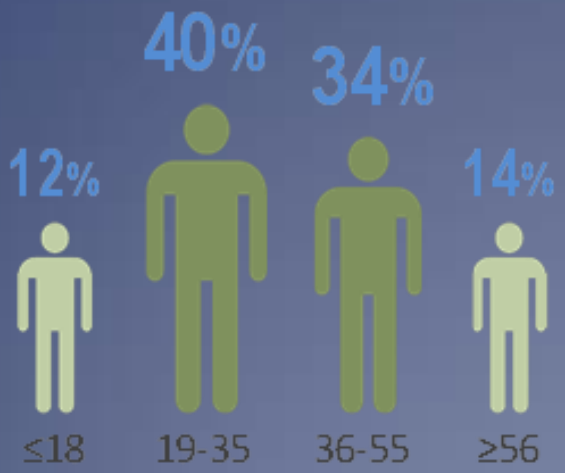
69% of the referrals to CMHLs were **not** known to be receiving behavioral health services at the time of the referral.

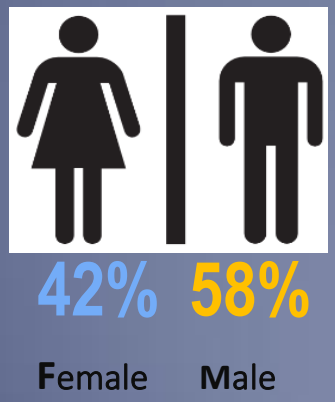
67% of the referrals to CMHLs were ***referred to community based services***.

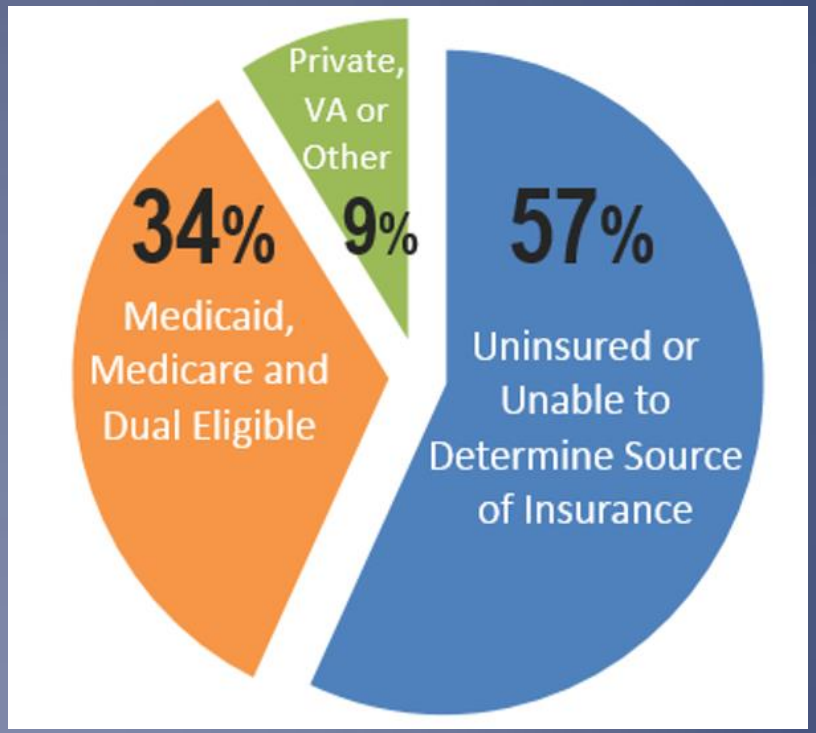
85% of those referrals were ***made to behavioral health treatment***.

CMHL DATA

Age of REFERRALS







CMHL DATA

60% **of the referrals have a behavioral health history or diagnosis of one or more of the following:**

1. **Depression**
2. **Bipolar**
3. **Schizophrenia/ Schizoaffective**
4. **Substance Use Disorder**

Primary Presenting Need at Time of Referral

Currently Suicidal **25%**

Psychosis/Delusional **20%**

Harm or Threat of Harm to Self OR Others **16%**

POST CERTIFIED TRAININGS

425 Trainings; 5,000 Officers

1. Understanding Mental Health
2. Understanding Co-Occurring Conditions
3. Recognizing Warning Signs of Suicide and Self Harm
4. Understanding Civil Involuntary Detention
5. De-Escalation
6. Resiliency and Battlemind

FUTURE OF THE CMHL PROGRAM

- Pilot of the YBHL
- Development of 4 more POST approved trainings
- Further cooperation with CIT to expand CIT across the state
- Initial screening and referral to the Missouri Crisis Prevention Project
- Assistance to MSHP in their CISD program

A DAY IN A LIFE OF A CMHL…

- Melissa Daugherty
- Burrell Behavioral Health
- Counties: Polk, Dallas, Greene, & Webster

- Michelle Horvath
- Compass Health-Crider
- Counties: Franklin & Warren

QUESTIONS

- Christine Patterson, Ph.D.
- Missouri Coalition for Community Behavioral Healthcare
- 573-864-6330
- cpatterson@mocoalition.org