



Washington County Deflection Program *Planning & Implementation*



| <date>

→ Oregon Drug Intervention Plan

- Recriminalizes use and possession of “hard drugs”
- Prioritizes diversion, treatment and recovery over prosecution and jail
- Maintains cannabis taxes for expanded prevention, treatment and recovery services
- Expands penalties for drug dealers
- **Creates four pathways to treatment**
 - ✓ Pre-court diversion (“deflection”)
 - ✓ Court diversion (“conditional discharge”)
 - ✓ Court-required formal supervision
 - ✓ Revocation of probation w/early release to treatment





Background & Program Goals

Ballot Measure 110

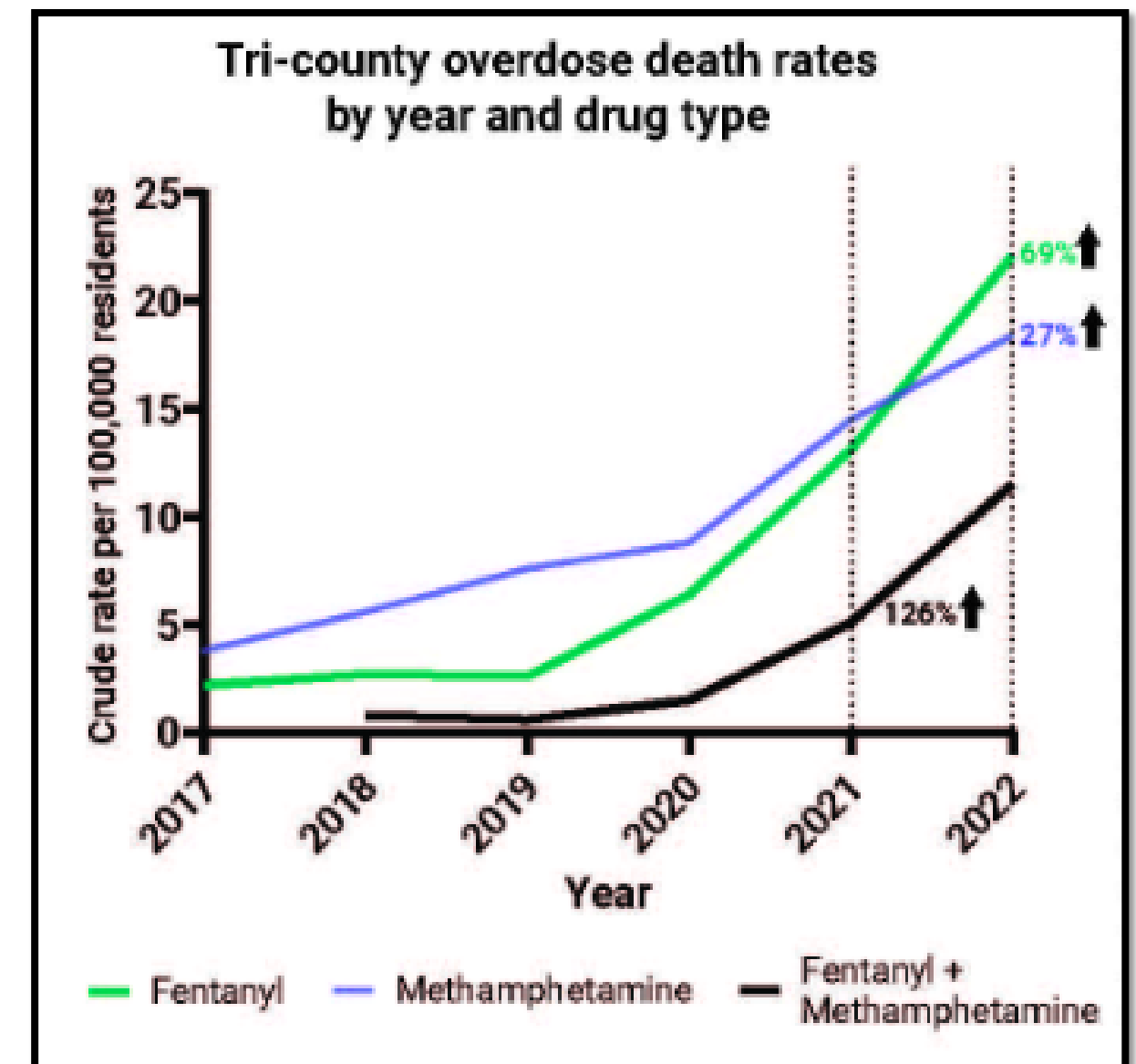
- Enacted in 2020
- Decriminalized user amounts of certain drugs (meth, fentanyl, heroin, etc.)
- Provided funding for treatment and recovery services

2020 to present

- Drug overdose rates dramatically increased; disparate impact on racially and ethnically diverse communities
- Communities struggling with related issues (homelessness, behavioral health, crime, livability, etc.)
- HB 4002 was passed to address gaps in M110

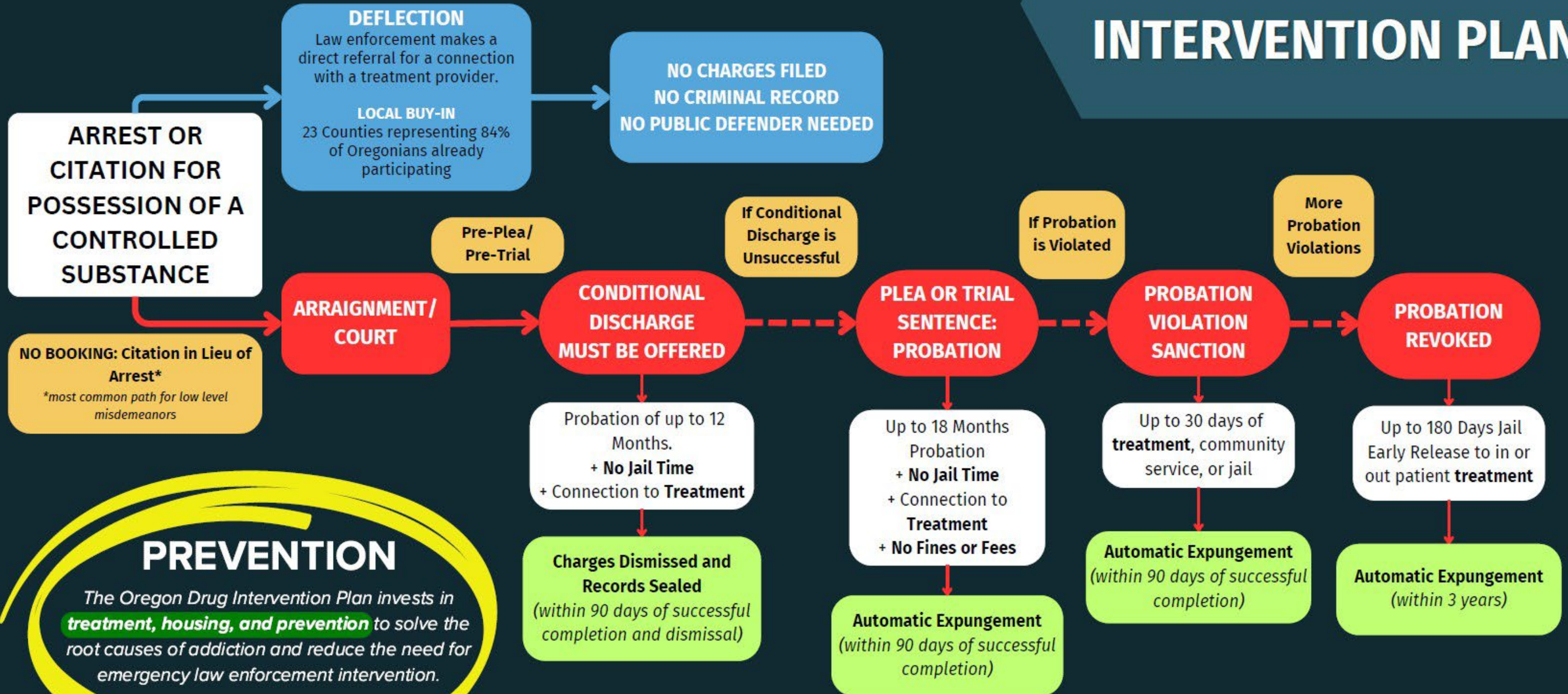
Deflection Program Goals

- Deflect individuals with substance use disorders away from the criminal justice system and into treatment
- Save lives through culturally-specific interventions and peer support that build trust and support recovery



Tri-County Overdose Data Brief—Spring 2024

OREGON DRUG INTERVENTION PLAN



PREVENTION

The Oregon Drug Intervention Plan invests in **treatment, housing, and prevention** to solve the root causes of addiction and reduce the need for emergency law enforcement intervention.



Program Partners Required by Statute

PARTNERS

- **Required:**
 - ✓ Behavioral Health Resource Network (BHRN) Provider
 - ✓ District Attorney
 - ✓ Law Enforcement Agency
 - ✓ Community Mental Health Program (CMHP)
- **Permitted Partners**
 - ✓ Treatment provider
 - ✓ Local mental health authority
 - ✓ Peer support organization
 - ✓ Tribal government
 - ✓ Court
 - ✓ Local government body
- **Other Stakeholders**

WC BHRN Providers
4 th Dimension Recovery Center
Bridges to Change
CODA, Inc.
Forest Grove Foundation
HIV Alliance
Ideal Option
LifeWorks NW
Lutheran Community Services
Mental Health & Addiction Association of Oregon
MetroPlus Association
Morrison Child & Family Services
NW Instituto Latino
Phoenix Rising Transitions
Sequoia Mental Health
The Miracles Club
The Recovery Gym (Alano Club)
Virginia Garcia Memorial Health
Washington County Behavioral Health Division
Washington County Public Health

→ Washington County Deflection Implementation

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEMBERS

- **Community Corrections:** Director and Assistant Director
- **District Attorney's Office:** District Attorney
- **Health and Human Services:** Director and Behavioral Health Division Manager
- **WCSO:** Sheriff, Undersheriff, Chief Deputy
- **County Administrative Office:** Assistant County Administrators, Government Relations Manager, Assistant Communications Officer
- **BHRN providers:** Mental Health & Addiction Association of OR and LifeWorks NW
- **County Counsel's Office**
- **Program Manager**





Deflection in Washington County



What is deflection?

Persons who are contacted by the police and found in possession of drugs have an opportunity to avoid prosecution through successful engagement in drug treatment.

Who oversees deflection?

A team of professionals representing Washington County Behavioral Health, Sheriff's Office, DA's Office and Community Corrections, in collaboration with treatment/recovery providers.



Deflection in Washington County

How does someone enter deflection?

- Law enforcement officer cites or arrests a person for drug possession.
- Peer Support Specialists and Deflection Program staff contact person.
- If eligible, person must choose to enter program before court process starts.

Who is not eligible?

- Persons with other pending criminal charges
- Persons currently on formal supervision
- Persons who previously participated in a deflection program in the last year
- Persons with prior convictions for crimes considered “violent felonies”
- Any other exceptional disqualifying circumstance identified by the Deflection Operations Team



Deflection in Washington County

What counts as “success?”

- Person successfully engages in treatment while in deflection
and
- Person demonstrates they will continue to successfully engage in treatment once deflection ends

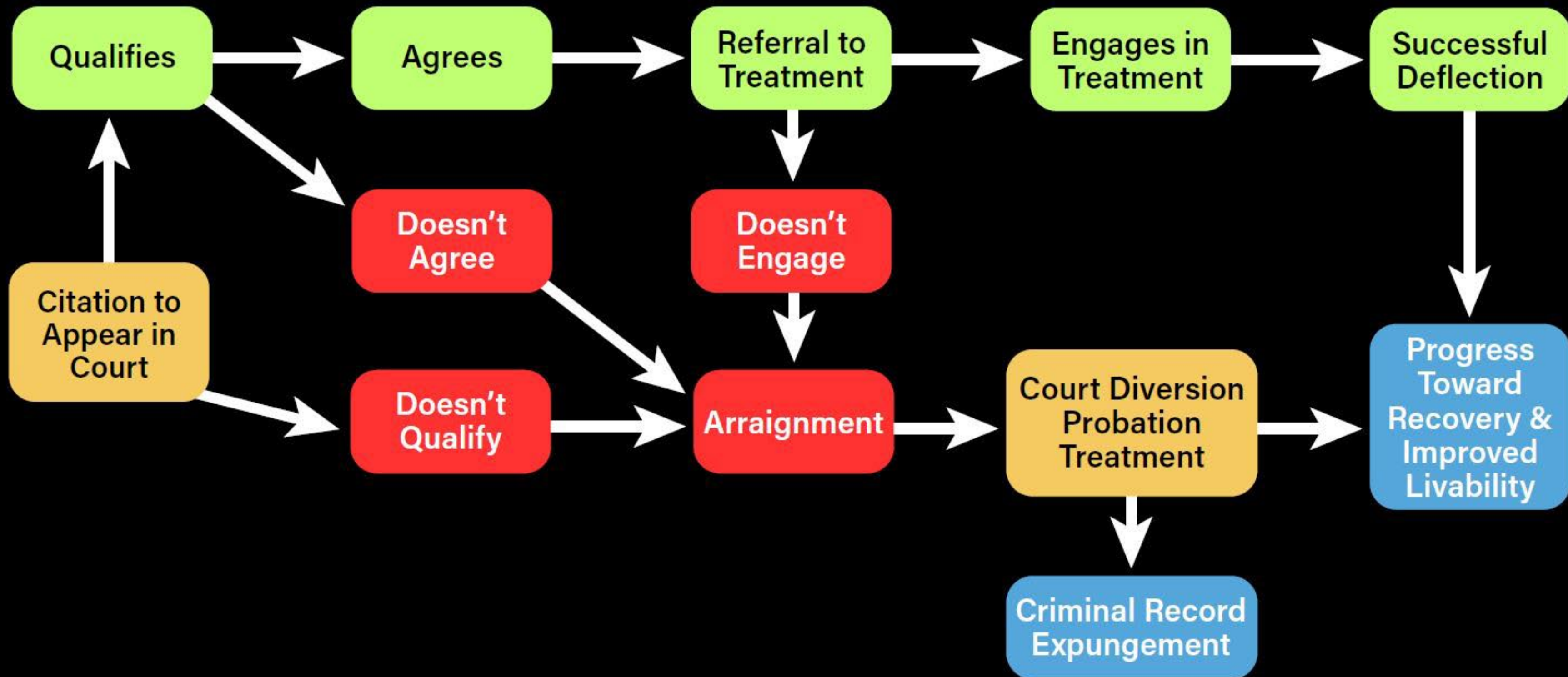
What counts as “failure?”

- New criminal charges (exception is new drug possession charges)
- Person fails to appear to court
- Person not sufficiently engaged in deflection

What if they fail?

- They move on to the court process
- Additional court-related opportunities for treatment and expungement

WASHINGTON COUNTY DEFLECTION PROGRAM



→ Embedding Equity, Fairness & Justice

Washington County is committed to policies, practices and procedures that are equitable to all community members.

- We strive to provide culturally and linguistically responsive outreach and treatment services that are:
 - Accessible
 - Trauma-informed
 - Evidence-based
- We will continue our efforts to identify and address disparities in our government systems that adversely impact racially and ethnically diverse and/or historically underserved communities.



→ Culturally Responsive Services

BHRN providers deliver an array of specific treatment and recovery support services to address diverse community need.

- Bilingual and bicultural providers for Spanish speakers seeking substance use disorder and mental health treatment
- Addiction and mental health recovery support for African American population
- Opioid treatment serving Native American population
- Inpatient, intensive outpatient and medication-assisted treatment for racially and ethnically diverse and/or historically underserved communities
- Mental health services for those with hearing impairments
- Refugee and immigrant counselling services
- Peer support for African American, Latinx and LGBTQIA+ populations

→ Current Areas of Focus

- Finalize deflection operations for countywide implementation
- Formalize enhanced deflection pilot programs within certain city locations
- MOUs with program providers
- Law Enforcement Officer training
- Community and stakeholder communication and outreach



Questions and Discussion

