



THE MEADOWS MENTAL HEALTH POLICY INSTITUTE

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**Joint Hearing: House Committees on Corrections and Criminal Jurisprudence  
Rapid Integrated Group Healthcare Team (RIGHT Care)**

B.J. Wagner, MS | August 29, 2018

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# Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute

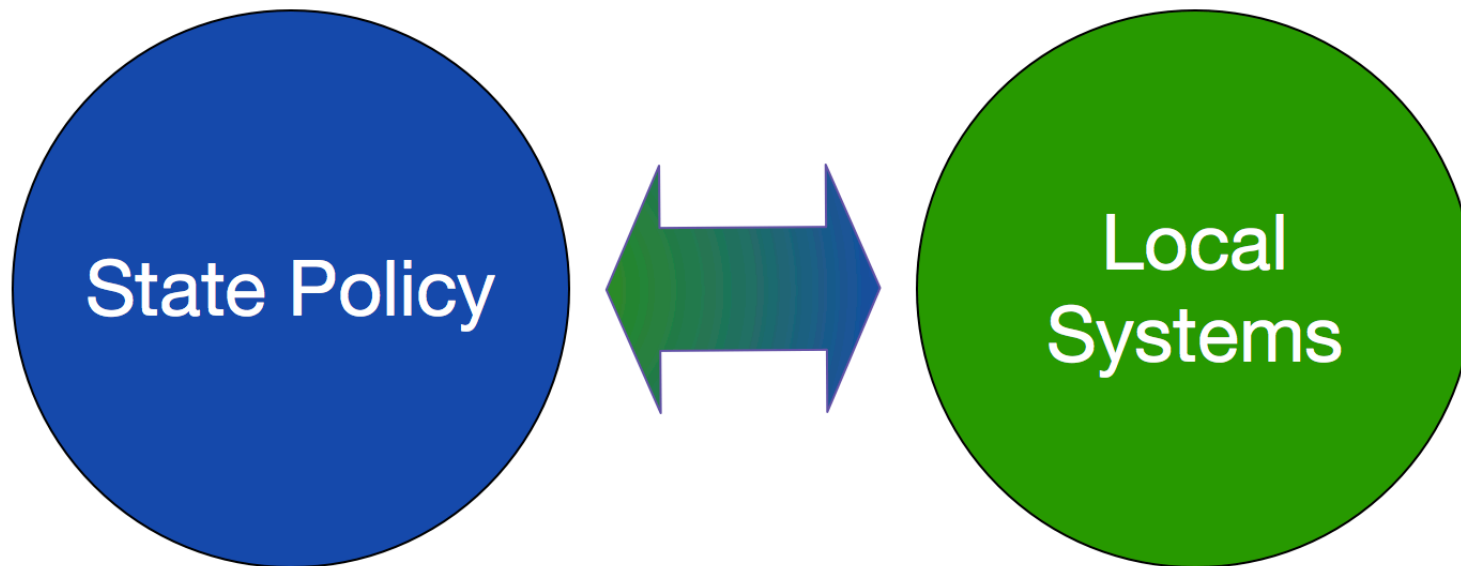
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## Vision

We envision Texas to be the national leader in treating people with mental health needs.

## Mission Statement

To provide independent, non-partisan, and trusted policy and program guidance that creates systemic changes so all Texans can obtain effective, efficient behavioral health care when and where they need it.



# W.W. Caruth, Jr. Foundation at the Communities Foundation of Texas Funding

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The five-year plan will leverage a total of more than \$120 million in state, local, federal, and private system resources.

The grant was funded at \$7 million over three years, plus matching funds from the Parkland Foundation, Dallas County, City of Dallas, and state funds under SB 292.

In year one, funding was \$3.5 million. In years two and three, funding is \$1.75 million for each year.

# Priority Outcomes



## ***Free-Up Law Enforcement***

Focus more on public safety rather than mental health service delivery by diverting people in need to treatment at the outset.



## ***Diversion and Continuity of Care from Jail to Community***

Improve jail screening and court supervision options.



## ***Reduce Dallas County's High Recidivism Rates Through Community-Based and Forensic Services***

For people with mental illness released from jail.



# Rapid Integrated Group Healthcare Team (RIGHT Care)

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A multidisciplinary  
team capable of  
immediate  
response

Available 16 hours a  
day, 7 days per  
week

# RIGHT Care Team Objectives

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Comprehensive on-site services



Continuity of care



Prevention and intervention



Reduce law enforcement involvement in BH calls



Allow law enforcement to focus on public safety

# RIGHT Care Team



**Dallas  
Fire-Rescue  
Department:  
Paramedic**



**Dallas Police  
Department:  
Law Enforcement  
Officer**

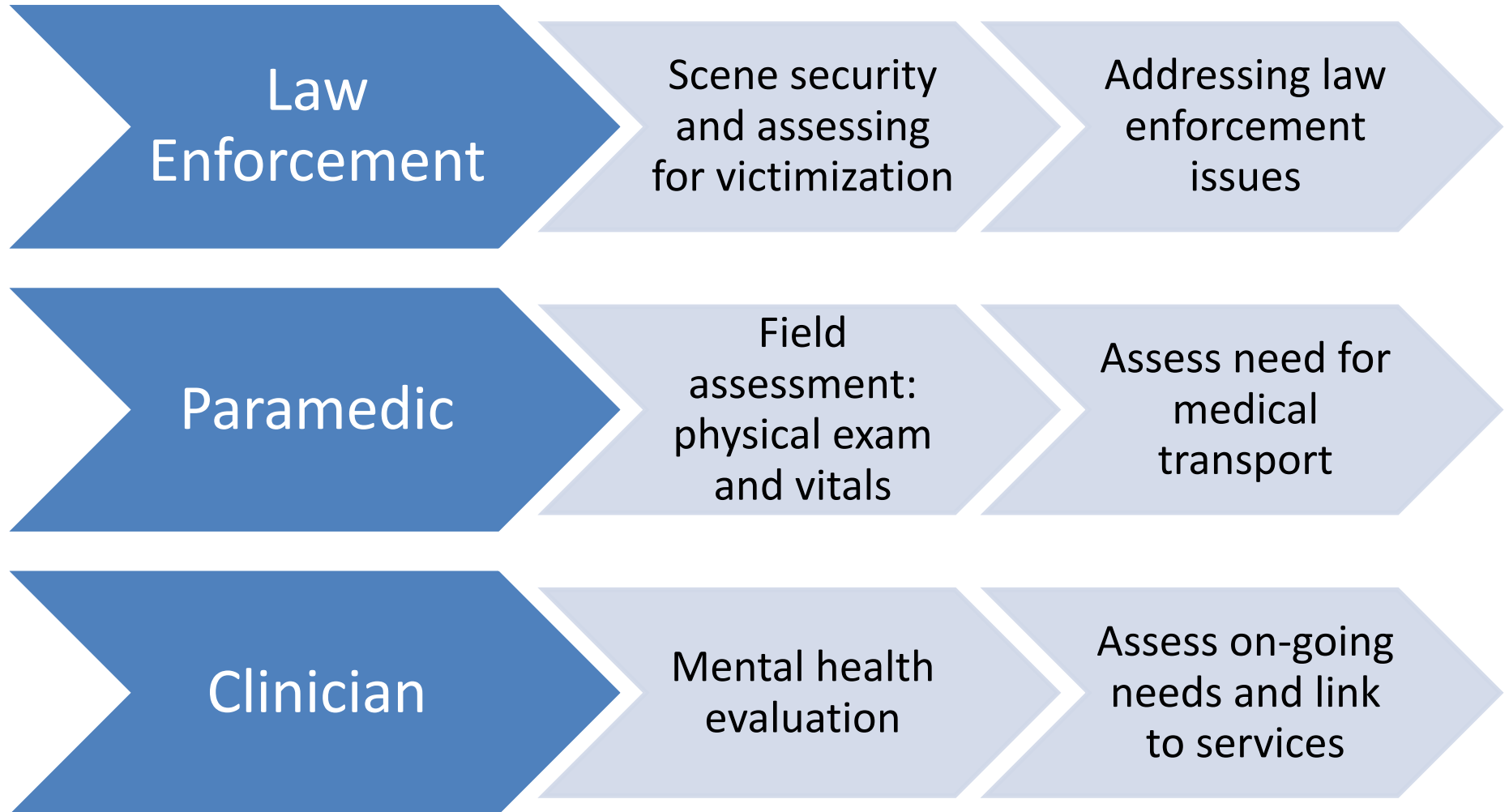


**Parkland**

**Parkland  
Hospital:  
Mental Health  
Clinicians**

# RIGHT Care Team Roles

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# 911 Dispatch Clinician

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Works directly  
with 911 Call  
Center staff

Identifies  
appropriate  
resources

Assists  
officers in  
the field

# Implementation

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**RIGHT Care Team:  
Law Enforcement  
Paramedic  
Clinician**

**January 2018: The RIGHT Care Team fully deployed in the South Central patrol division**

**Mental Health Clinician  
within 911 Call Center**

**April 2018: The 911 Dispatch Clinician rolls out and begins assisting with mental health calls for all patrol divisions**

# Goals: Moving Forward

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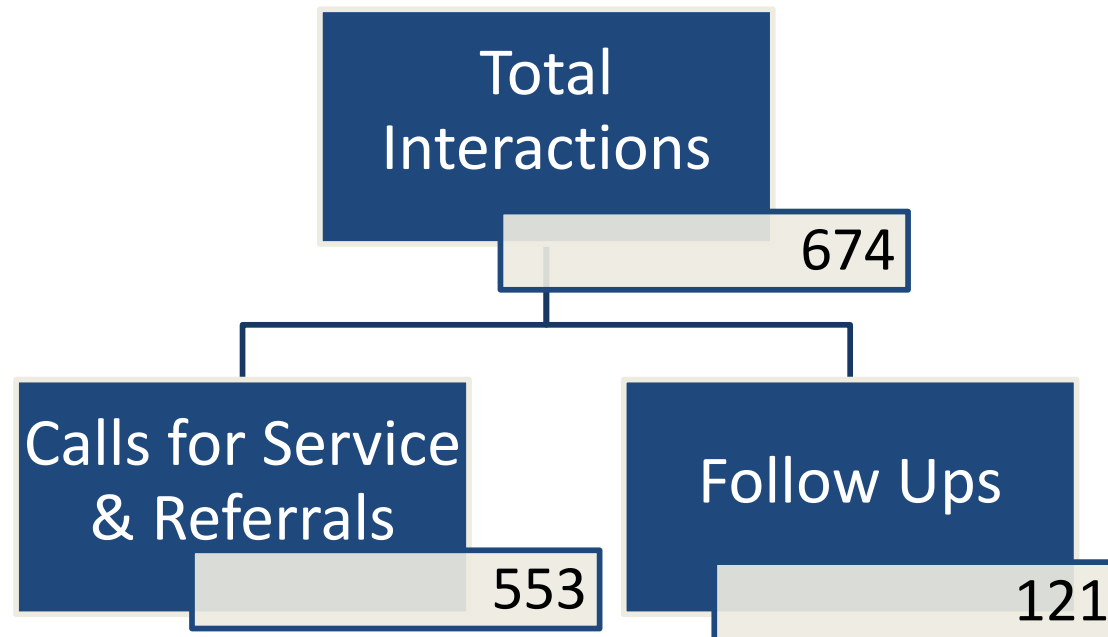
Divert more than half of 911 MH calls to the RIGHT Care Team



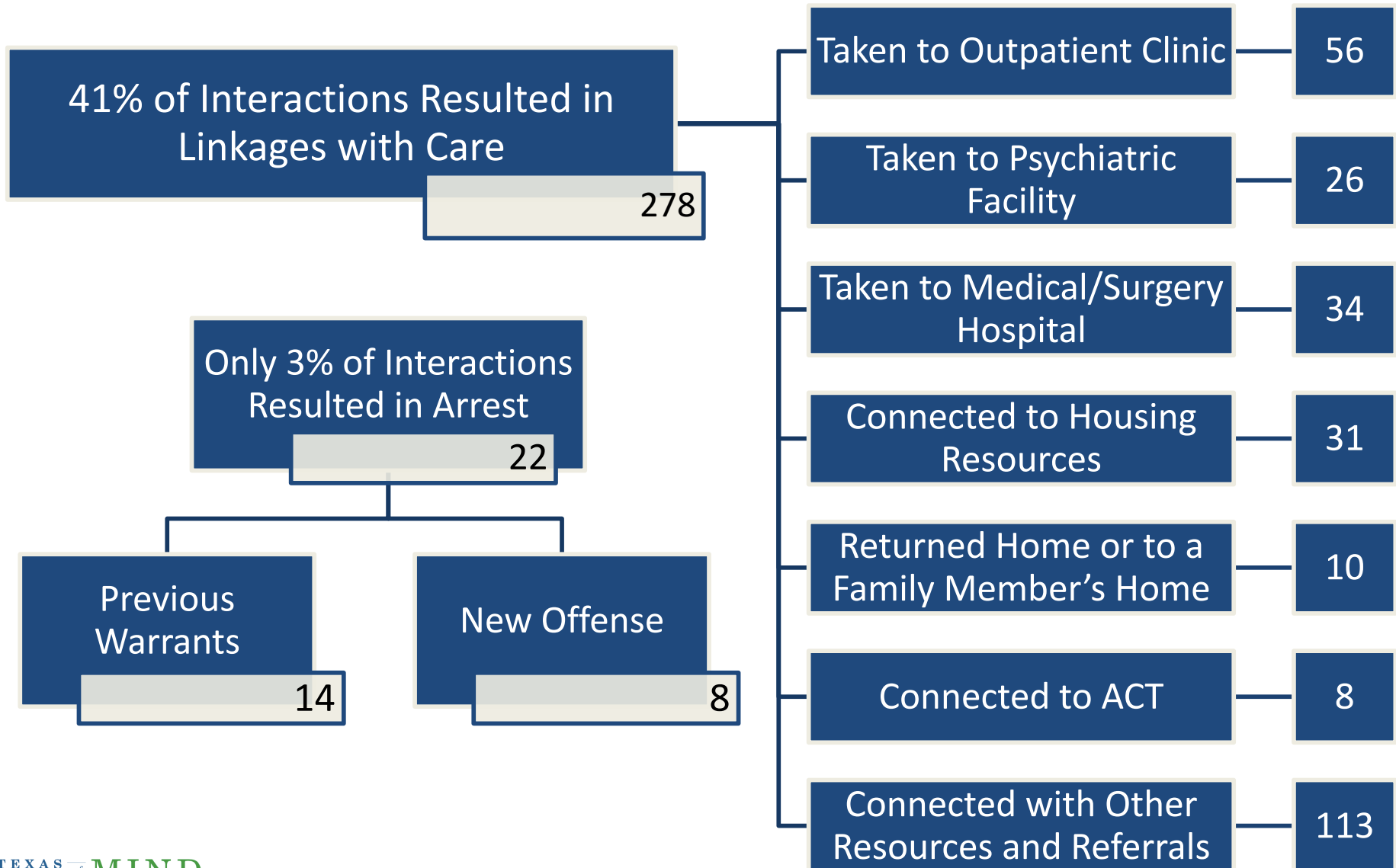
Reduce at least 1,000 first-time misdemeanor bookings for persons with mental illness

# RIGHT Care Call Data

MMHPI conducted a preliminary analysis on call data provided by the Dallas Police Department, Parkland Hospital, and Dallas Fire-Rescue of the first 120 days of deployment. This analysis provides a snapshot of the team's productivity, which has yielded favorable outcomes.



# RIGHT Care Call Data



# Time Returned To Patrol

	Total	46 Calls	46A Calls
*D751 and D752 Time Spent Per Call	74 Minutes 1H 14M	79 Minutes 1H 19M	54 Minutes
	X	X	X
**Total Number of Calls Released	61	56	5
	=	=	=
Redeployed to Field (Saved Officer Time)	75 Hours 23 Minutes Redeployed Time	73 Hours 20 Minutes Redeployed Time	4 Hours 29 Minutes Redeployed Time

- \* D751/752 are DPD RIGHT Care Unit Identifiers
- \*\* Regular patrol unit releases call to RIGHT Care

**2 Weeks**  
Amount of FTE time following 61 calls that  
DPD has effectively regained

# Funding Opportunities

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- **85(R) SB 292** created a **\$37.5 million grant program** (\$12.5 million in FY 2018, \$25 million in FY 2019) to *reduce recidivism, arrest, and incarceration among individuals with mental illness.*
- **85(R) HB 13** created a **\$30 million grant program** (\$10 million in FY 2018, \$2 million in FY 2019) to *support community mental health programs that provide services and treatment to individuals experiencing mental illness.*

TEXAS STATE  
— of —  
MIND

THE MEADOWS MENTAL HEALTH POLICY INSTITUTE

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okay  
to say

*The truth is: mental illness affects more people than you may think, and we need to talk about it. It's Okay to say..."* [okaytosay.org](http://okaytosay.org)

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