

### **Hudson/Sudbury Diversion Program**

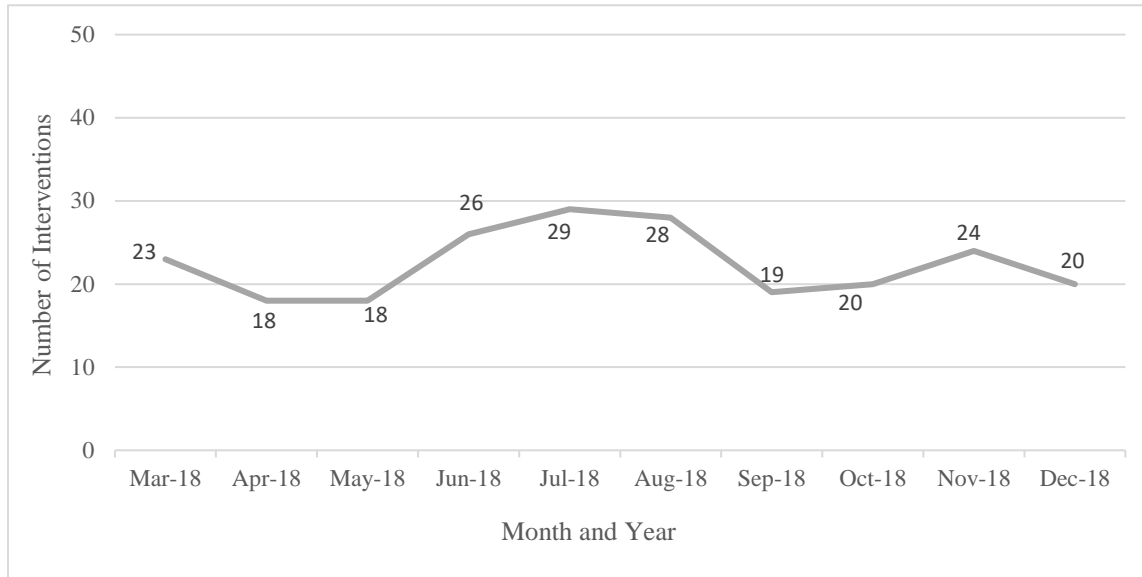
March 2018 – December 2018

The Hudson/Sudbury Jail Diversion Program (JDP) was launched in March 2018 and pairs a specially trained crisis clinician from Advocates Inc, with police officers in the Hudson and Sudbury Police Departments. This embedded clinician responds 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 Hudson/Sudbury-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. When the JDP clinician is not on duty, the Advocates Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES) team supports the JDP clinician to ensure timely access for the participating police agencies 24/7.

### **Hudson/Sudbury JDP Interventions 2018**

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 two hundred and twenty-five (225) individuals, by month, referred to the Hudson/Sudbury Jail Diversion Program clinician by Hudson and Sudbury police officers during 2018.

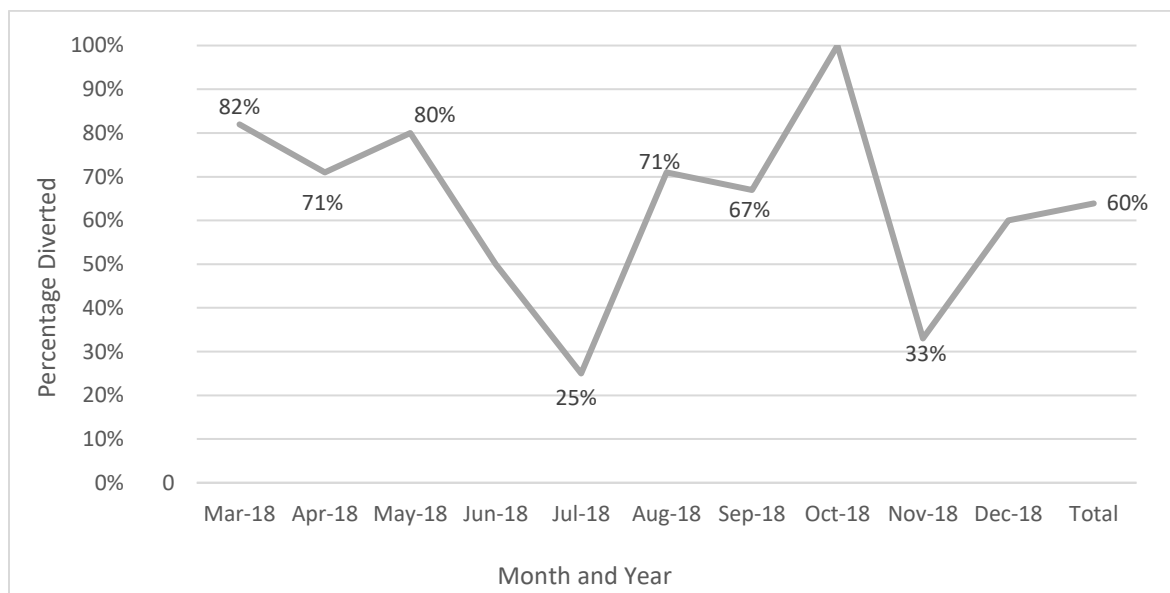
Chart 1: Hudson/Sudbury Co-Response Interventions 2018



### **Diversions from Arrest 2018**

The primary goal of the Hudson/Sudbury Jail Diversion Program is to divert low-level offenders away from the criminal justice system and into more appropriate, community-based behavioral health treatment. During 2018, a total of thirty-six (36) individuals with behavioral health conditions were diverted from arrest by police and into treatment facilitated by the JDP clinician. The average percentage of those eligible for arrest diversion who were diverted is 64%. Chart 2 represents the percentage of diversions from arrest by month.

Chart 2: Hudson/Sudbury JDP Arrest Diversions 2018

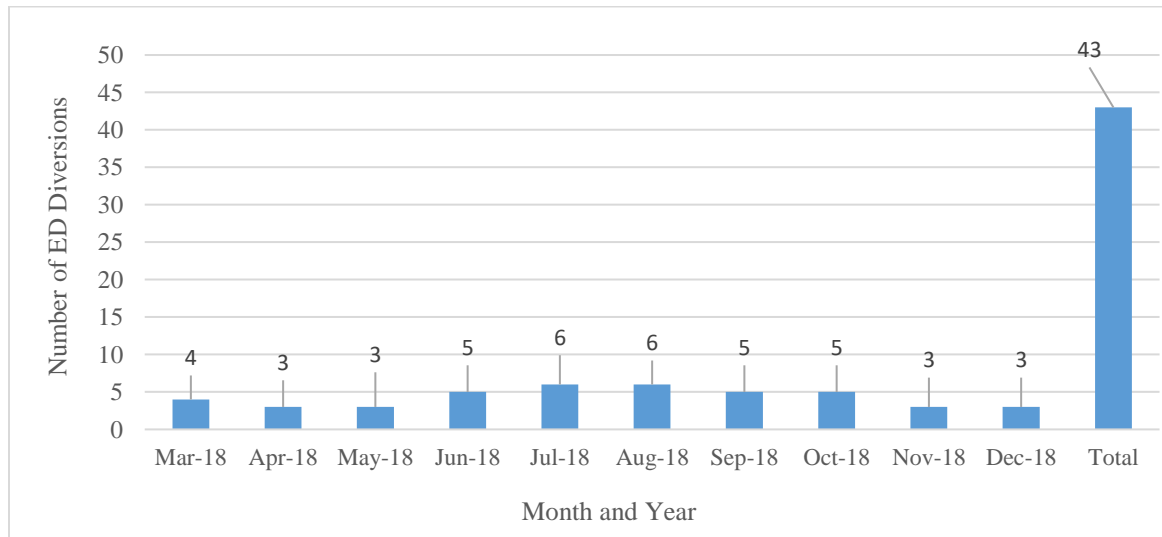


In addition to the benefit of diverting individuals in crisis from arrest, these diversions represent an *estimated* cost savings of \$90,720\* to the criminal justice system (\$2,520 per arrest event).

### **Diversion from the Emergency Department 2018**

A secondary goal of the Hudson/Sudbury 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 Hudson and Sudbury police officers. During 2018, forty-three (43) individuals were diverted from unnecessary hospital admissions due the presence of a JDP clinician on scene; to facilitate assessment treatment recommendations. Chart 3 represents the monthly hospital ED diversions facilitated by the Hudson/Sudbury JDP team.

Chart 3: Hudson/Sudbury Emergency Department Diversions 2018



In addition to the benefits of receiving care outside of the hospital, these emergency department diversions represent *estimated* health care cost savings of \$172,000\* (\$4,000 per ED diversion). Combined, estimated cost savings due to arrest and emergency department diversion activity for the Hudson/Sudbury JDP equals **\$262,720**. Thank you for your partnership this year!

Report respectfully submitted by,

Danielle Larsen, LMHC  
Assistant Director, Jail Diversion Program

\*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