ORANGE COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESOURCE DEPARTMENT
DEFLECTION/DIVERSION PROGRAMS:

GETTING STARTED
OUR DEFLECTION/DIVERSION PROGRAMS

• **OC-Pre-Arrest Diversion Program (OC-PAD):** Pre-arrest diversion for individuals who are 18 and over for non-violent offenses and have no prior criminal charges

• **Youth Deflection Program (YDP):** Law Enforcement deflection from juvenile justice for youth who are 17 and under who commit a non-violent offense and have no prior juvenile justice involvement

• **Street Outreach, Harm Reduction and Deflection Program (SOHRAD):** Deflection from criminal legal system for individuals experiencing homelessness

• **The Lantern Project:** Behavioral Health and Harm Reduction pre-charge, post-charge and jail diversion for those 18 and over with prior record and substance use disorder

• **Police and Mental Health Diversion Collaboration (CCDR Team):** CJRD Collaboration with 4 law enforcement agencies, LE embedded social workers and Freedom House to divert and ensure warm hand-off, case management, treatment and service linkages and peer support
#1 KEY TIP FOR GETTING STARTED

Get Your Stakeholders Together to Meet: Law Enforcement, DA, PD, Judges, Providers, People with Lived Experience, Community Members, County or Town Elected Officials, Magistrate, Diversion Champions or Experts
OTHER KEY RECOMMENDATIONS BEFORE STARTING

- Presentation on Diversion to Stakeholders and Interested Community Groups
- Consider Data and Benefits to the Community (Wellness, Efficiencies, Cost Benefits)
- What is Most Needed in Your Community
- Dedicated Coordinator Position
- Look at Funding Sources (Grants, County, Town, Opioid Settlement Funds)
- Programming Partners
- Buy-In is Critical – Requires ongoing outreach
- Discuss Discretion and Importance of Equity
MORE TO CONSIDER

- Incentivize it for Stakeholders – Chiefs and DA Champion Diversion
- Identify a LE Liaison at agencies
- MOU’s/Agreements with Partners and Providers (DA, LE, Programs)
- Adopt Policies and Workflow
- Keep Referral Process and Forms Simple
- Borrow from Other Programs
- Start Small and Expand
- Share Successes – with partners, stakeholders and the community
QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

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