



## **Project EARLY DIVERSION, GET ENGAGED (EDGE)**

### **Overview:**

- Initially funded as three-year, \$966,666 federal grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA)
- Boulder County one of three sites nationwide to receive this early diversion grant award
- SAMHSA's goal/program design to divert individuals with mental health and/or substance use disorders from the criminal justice system before arrest
- Clinicians accompany law enforcement officers to respond to calls in the community which involve an individual with suspected or diagnosed behavioral health conditions

### **Collaborative Partners:**

- Mental Health Partners
- Boulder County Sheriff's Office
- City of Boulder Policy Department
- City of Longmont Police Department

### **EDGE Team Response:**

- 6 behavioral health clinicians and 2 part-time peer support specialists
- Provides coverage in the cities of Boulder and Longmont, as well as county-wide response with Sheriff's Office; hours 8am-10pm/7 days/week
- Assists client in accessing behavioral health services including psychotherapy/counseling, substance use & detoxification treatment, case management, housing & employment support
- Assists client and law enforcement in accessing other community-based services

### **Additional Project Goals:**

- Reduce ED visits and 72-hour holds
- Increase law enforcement capacity in crisis intervention

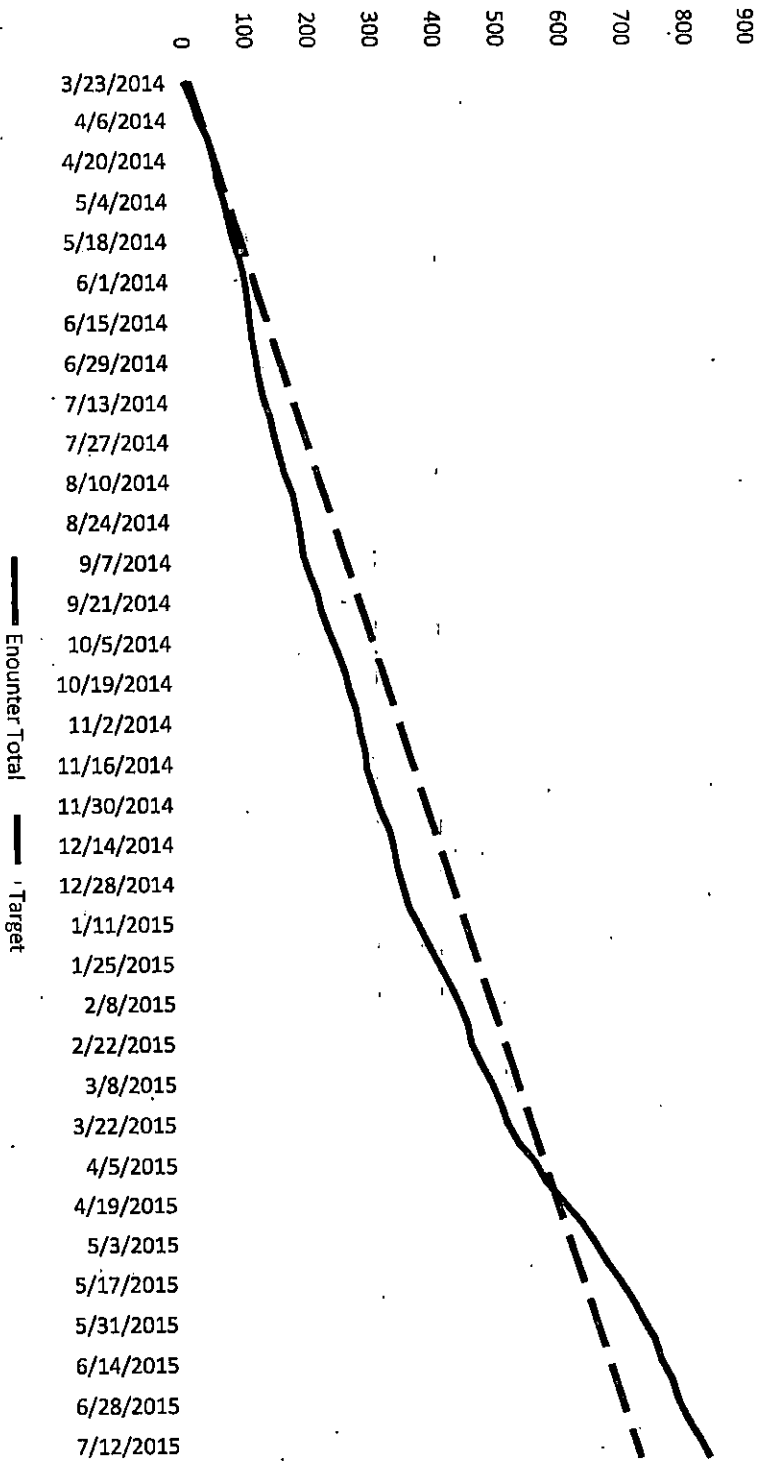
### **Demographic Experience to Date:**

- > 800 encounters from 3/2014 – 7/2015; avg. 70 encounters/month (40 Longmont, 30 Boulder)
- Approx. 23% are 18-29 years; range from 14 to 60+; genders roughly equal in total
- Nearly 44% of encounters complete at least one visit with behavioral health provider

### **For More Information Contact:**

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Encounters: Project to Date



Encounter by Day of the Week



Encounters by Age Group

