

Bridges Program

CONNECTING COLORADO'S CRIMINAL
JUSTICE & MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEMS

SENATE BILL 18-251

WHAT WE DO



PROMOTE POSITIVE OUTCOMES FOR PARTICIPANTS LIVING WITH MENTAL HEALTH OR CO-OCCURRING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONDITIONS.



INFORM JUDGES, DISTRICT ATTORNEYS, AND DEFENSE ATTORNEYS ABOUT COMMUNITY TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR PARTICIPANTS, INCLUDING THOSE IN NEED OF COMPETENCY SERVICES.



IDENTIFY NEEDS AND CONNECT PARTICIPANTS TO APPROPRIATE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND OTHER SUPPORT SERVICES.

HOW WE DO IT

LOCAL PROFESSIONALS SERVE AS BRIDGES PROGRAM **COURT LIAISONS** IN EACH COLORADO JUDICIAL DISTRICT AND FACILITATE COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEMS.

COURT LIAISONS ARE APPOINTED TO WORK WITH PARTICIPANTS THROUGH COURT ORDER FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH AN ACTIVE COLORADO CRIMINAL CASE, BOTH IN AND OUT OF CUSTODY.

ONCE ORDERED, LIAISONS WORK TOGETHER WITH PARTICIPANTS TO IDENTIFY AND PROVIDE A CONNECTION TO LOCAL AND MOST APPROPRIATE SERVICES.

QUESTIONS?

BRIDGES@JUDICIAL.STATE.CO.US

PROMOTING OUTCOMES

INFORMING COURTS

CONNECTING TO SERVICES



The Bridges program provided me a trusted partner that helped me get better before release.



STATE COURT
ADMINISTRATOR'S
OFFICE

Bridges Program

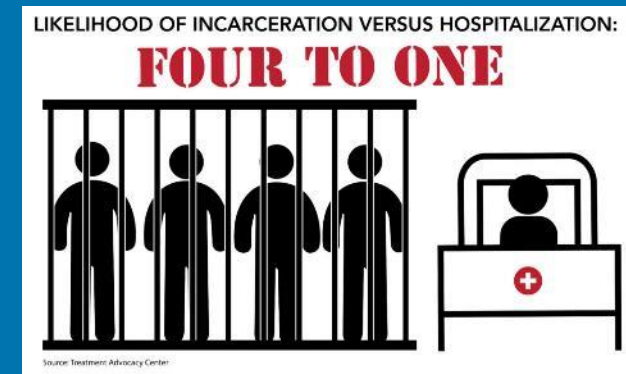


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**Connecting Colorado's
Criminal Justice and
Mental Health Systems**

Mental Health and Criminal Justice

The need

The majority of Coloradans with mental illness do not receive services, with many receiving services only through entering the justice system.



People with serious mental illness are twice as likely to be arrested again within a year of leaving prison.

Senate Bill 18-251

The vision

All individuals within the criminal justice system are treated fairly and humanely, regardless of their behavioral health history or mental state.

The mission

To promote positive outcomes for Coloradans living with mental health conditions who encounter criminal justice involvement by fostering collaboration between both systems.

Local professionals will serve as Bridges Program Court Liaisons in each Colorado Judicial District and will *facilitate communication and collaboration* between the criminal justice and mental health systems.

Promoting Outcomes

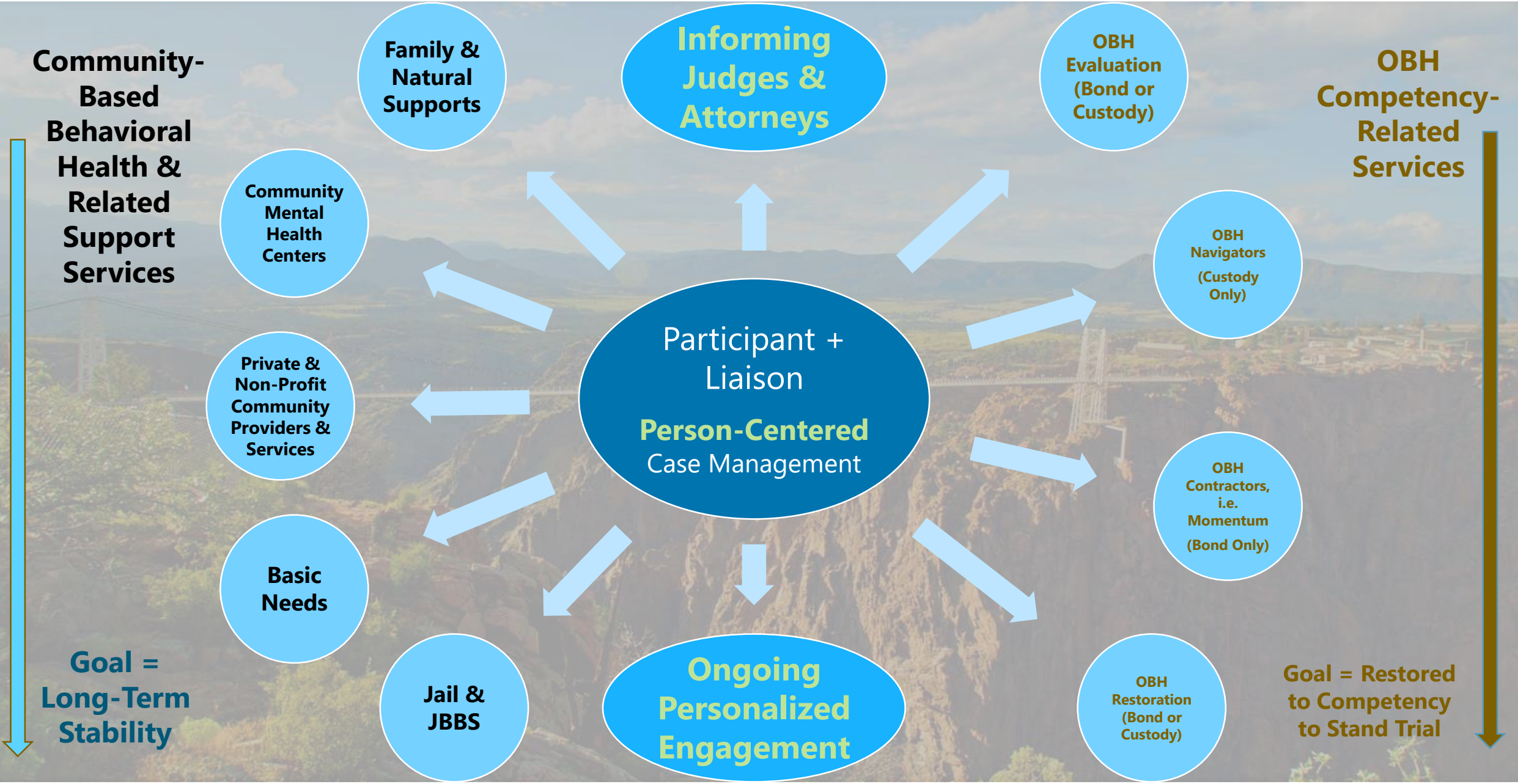
Twenty-nine liaisons across Colorado's 22 judicial districts work to promote positive outcomes for Coloradans living with mental health conditions who encounter the criminal justice system.

Sharing Information

Keep judges, district attorneys and defense attorneys informed about available community-based mental health services for defendants, including those in need of competency services.

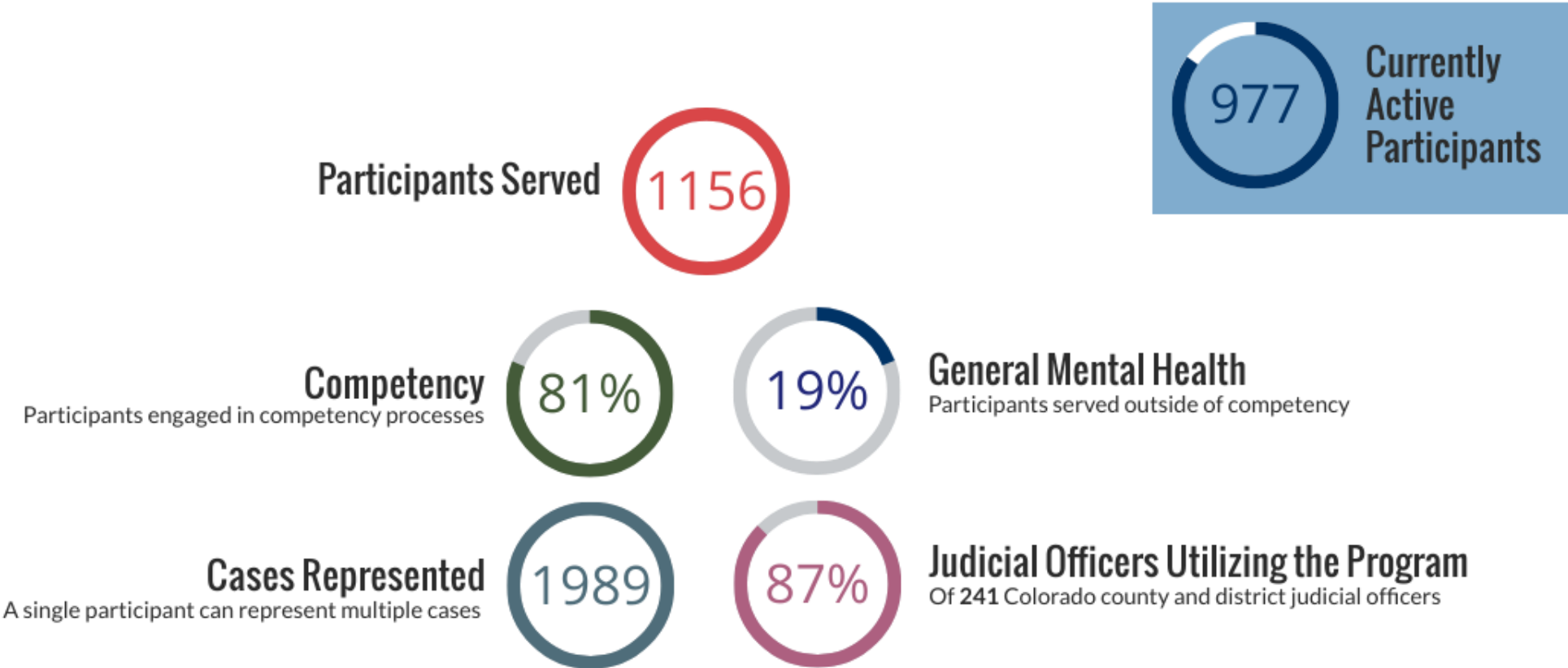
Connecting to Services

Identify needs and connect individuals to appropriate mental health and other support services.



From the Beginning: April 2019 - June 2020

Since April 2019, the inception of the Bridges Program, Court Liaisons across the state of Colorado have connected individuals with significant mental health needs who are engaged in the criminal justice system to services to support their long term stability.



Outcomes: January 2020 - June 2020



Location at Time of Court Liaison Appointment



Outcomes of Court Liaison Involvement



Judicial Districts

Colorado
**A Culture of
Collaboration**

Community Partners

State Court Administrator's Office

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