



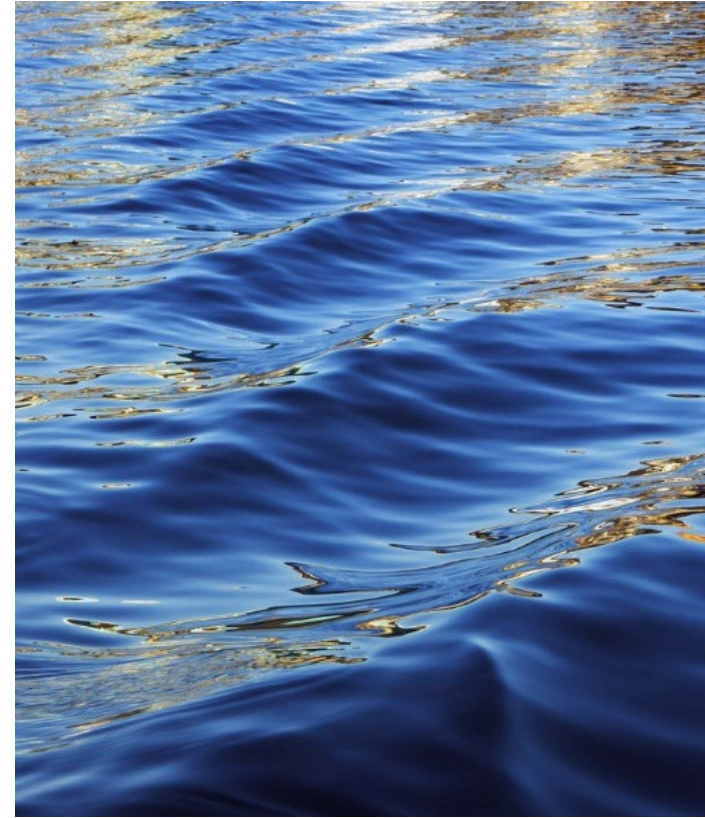
# Oregon Behavioral Health Deflection **Best Practices Report: Overview and Findings**

Deflection Coordinator ECHO

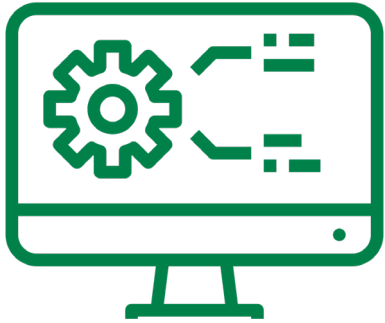
Erika Simeon, MPH  
May 7, 2025



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# Key activities



## Statewide data collection system

- Go live date – September 1, 2024
- Ongoing grantee data collection



## Best practices report

- Submitted to legislature April 1, 2025



# Best Practice Report Overview



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# Sources for the best practices report

- ✓ Literature review
- ✓ Subject matter experts
- ✓ BHD grant applications
- ✓ Interviews with grantees
- ✓ Grantee reporting to CJC
- ✓ Statewide program data



# What is deflection?



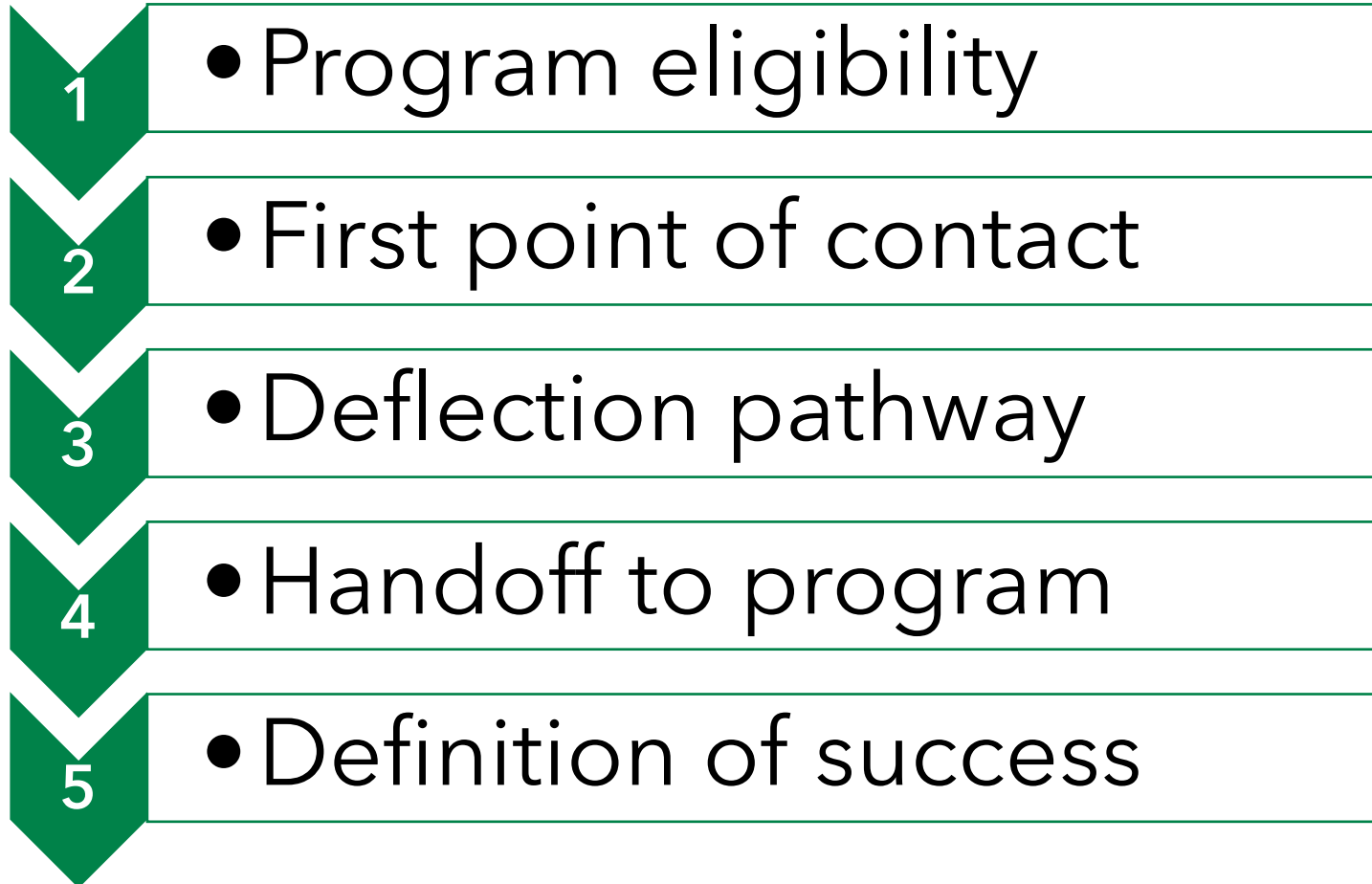
- A **collaborative intervention** between law enforcement and public health systems
- Provides **treatment and services as an alternative** to entry into the criminal legal system
- Social referrals are deflections **without criminal charges** being present

# Deflection pathways

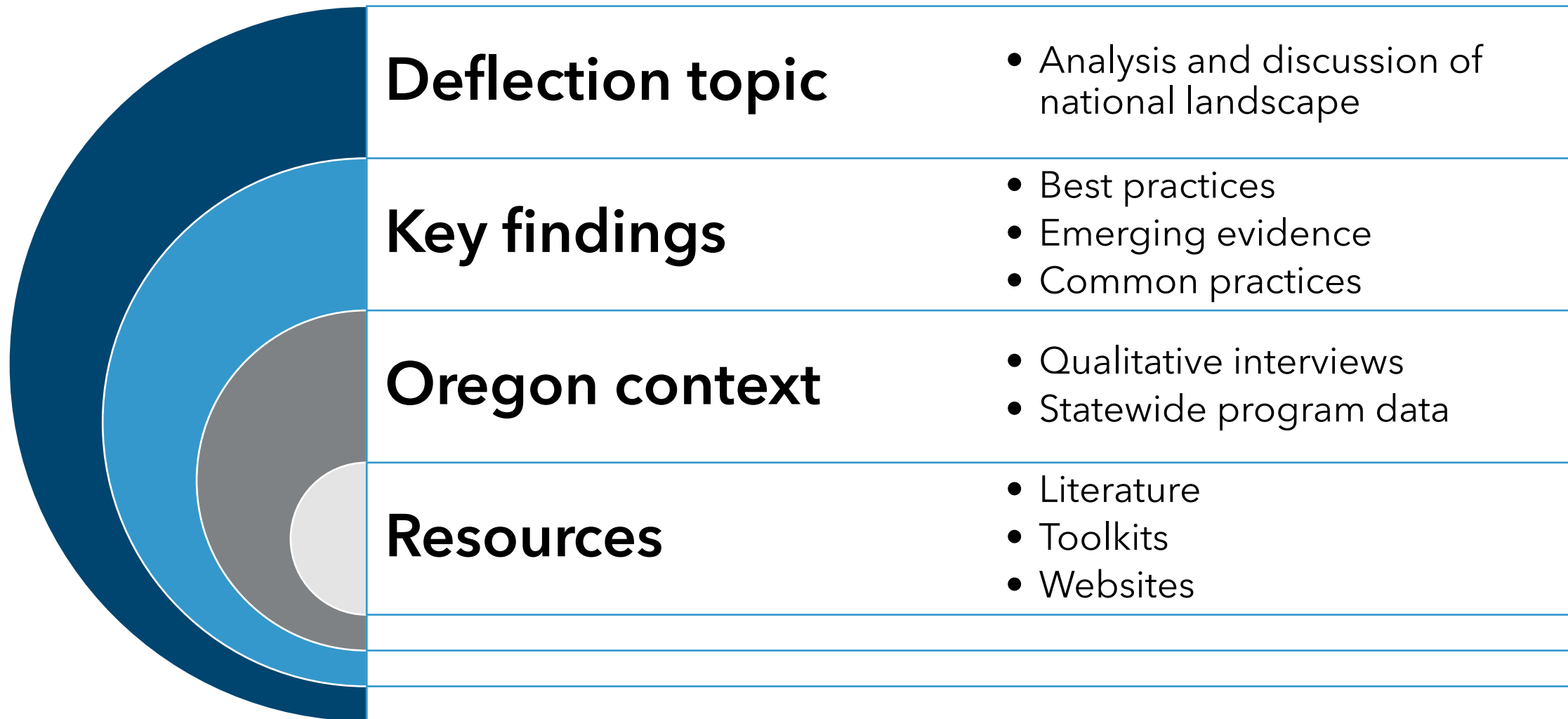
Pathway	Definition
Self-Referral	Individual voluntarily initiates contact, seeking treatment.
Active Outreach	Law enforcement/community organization performs outreach.
Naloxone-Plus	Law enforcement/first responder/crisis worker engages individuals during overdose response.
1 <sup>st</sup> Responder/Officer Referral	Law enforcement initiates a referral, but no criminal charges are present.
Officer Intervention	Law enforcement initiates a referral, and criminal charges or potential charges present.
Community Referral	A community-based behavioral health team engages with individuals and refers to services.



# The deflection process



# How the report is organized







# Program model elements

## Key findings

# Eligibility – Key findings

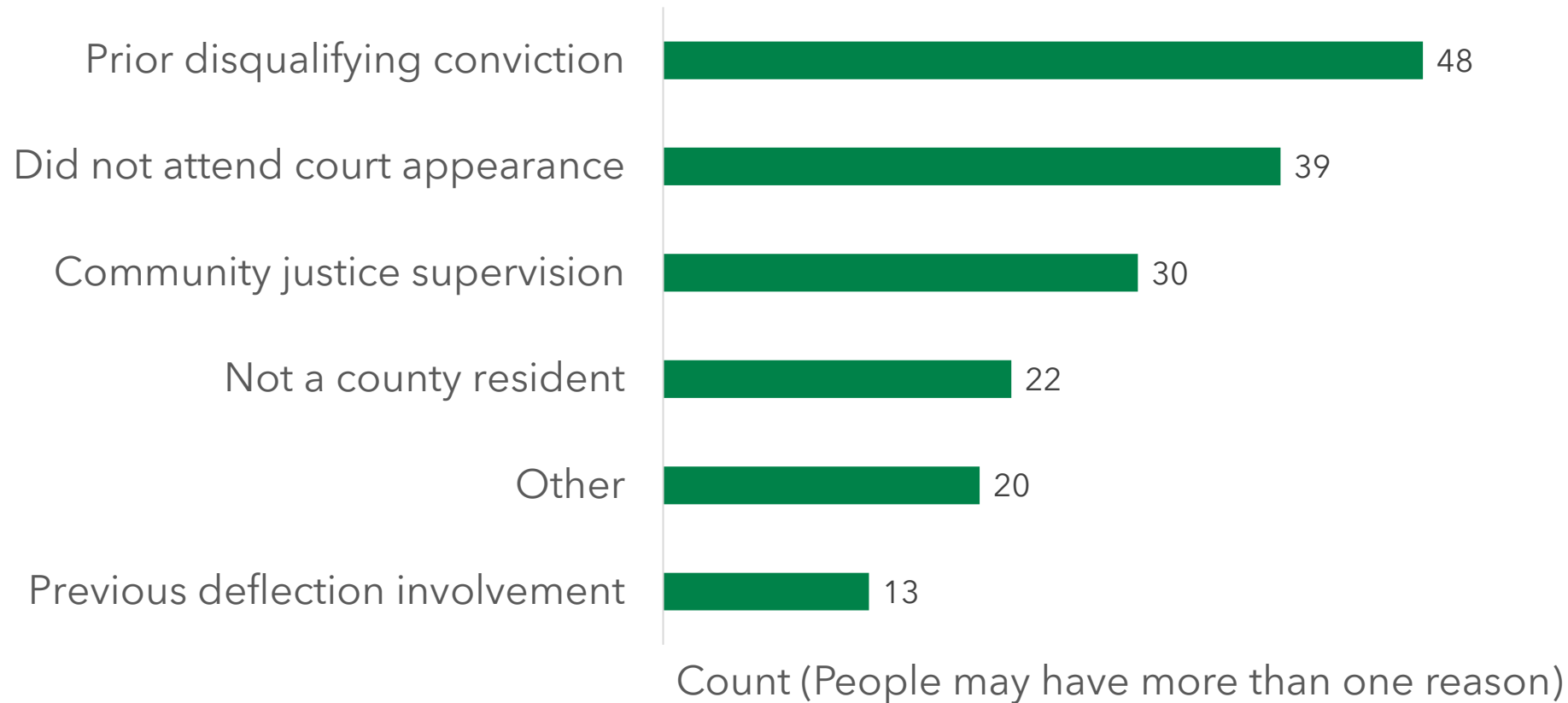


- There are no standardized eligibility criteria
- ***Emerging evidence*** supports broadening eligibility criteria to extend the reach of deflection programs.
- ***Common practice*** to exclude more serious crimes

# Eligibility – Oregon context

Draft data from September 1, 2024, through March 3, 2025

## Reasons for program ineligibility (n=xx)



# Deflection pathway - Key findings

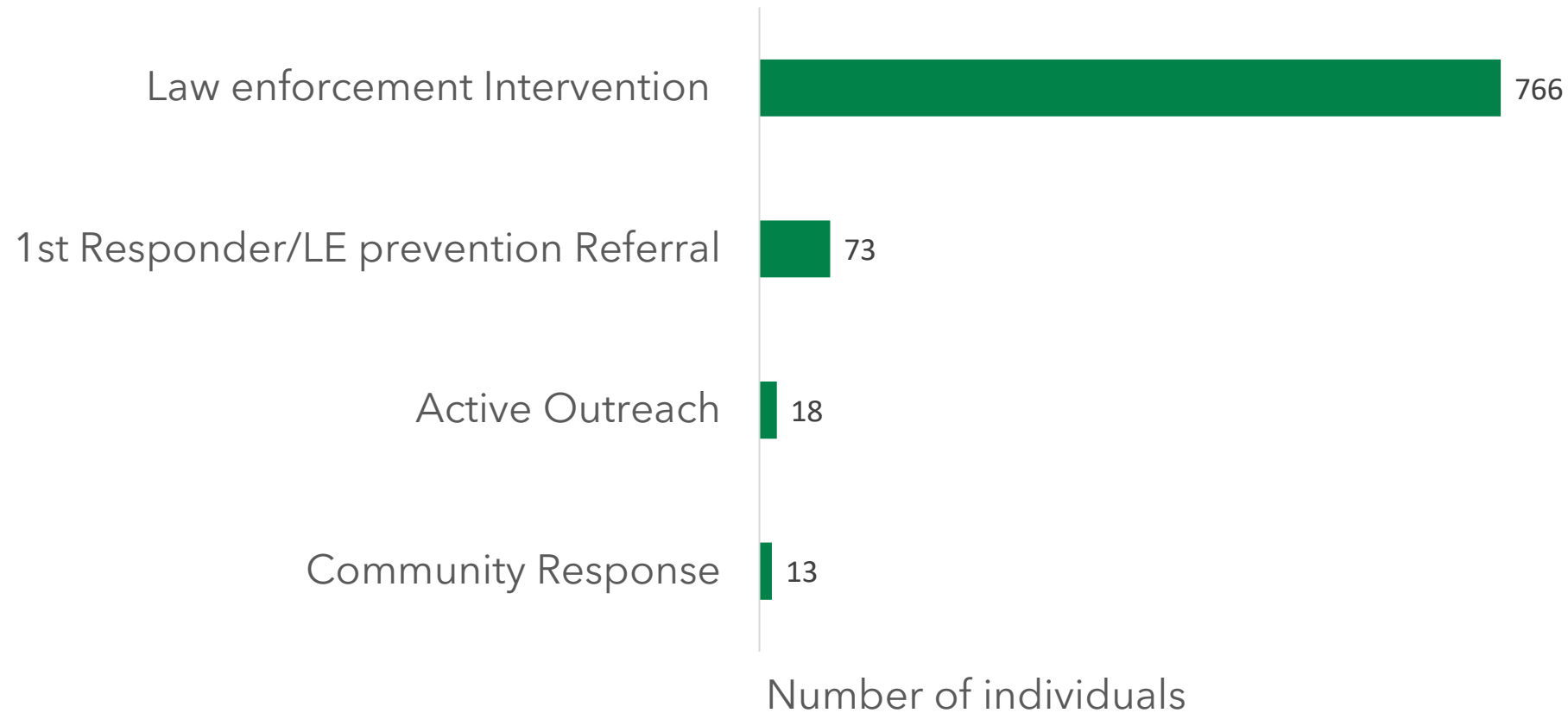


- The LEAD model has been shown to utilize ***best practices*** for the Officer Intervention pathway.
- ***Emerging evidence*** supports using multiple pathways.
- Social referrals are a ***common practice*** nationally.

# Deflection pathway – Oregon context

Draft data from September 1, 2024, through March 3, 2025

## Pathways utilized by programs



# First point of contact – Key findings

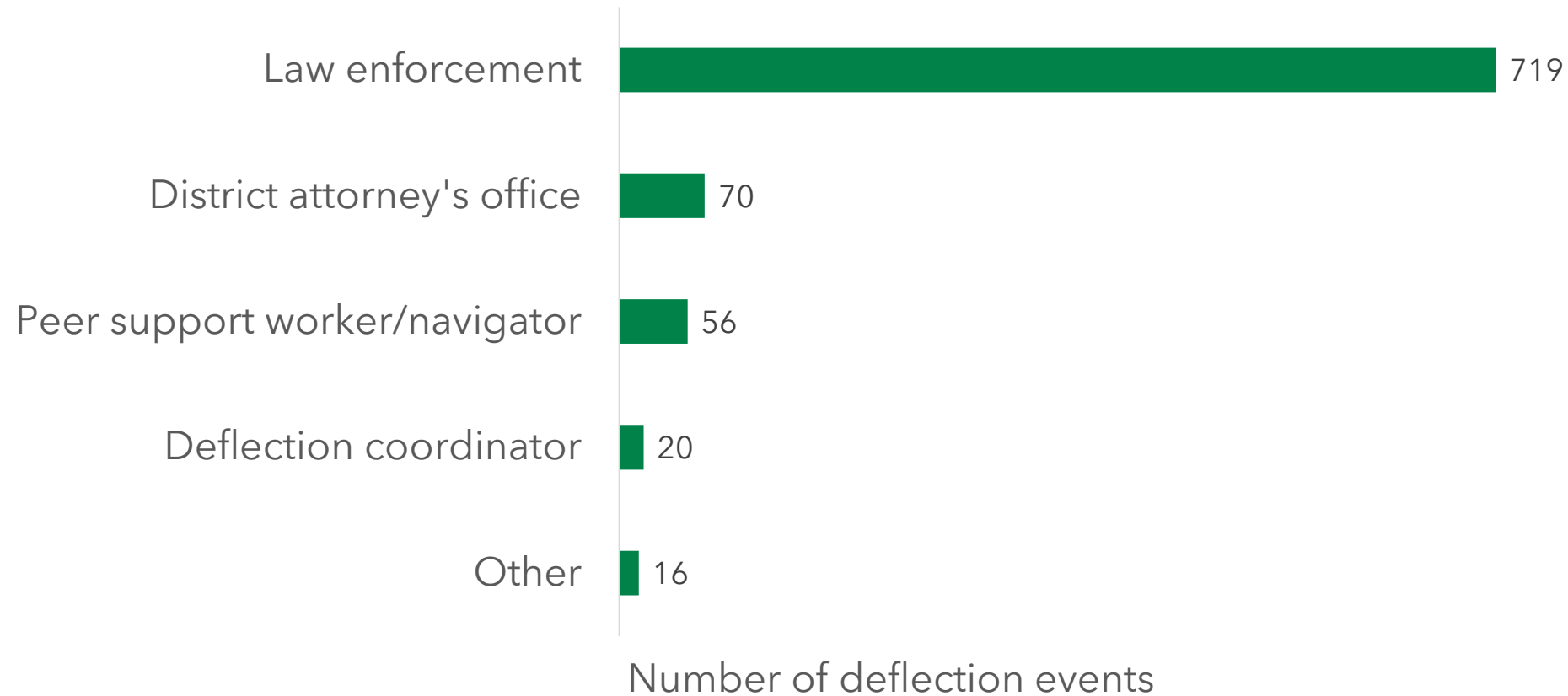


- It is a **common practice** to utilize law enforcement and other first responders as the first point of contact.
- **Emerging evidence** that co-response facilitates engagement with program services.

# First point of contact – Oregon context

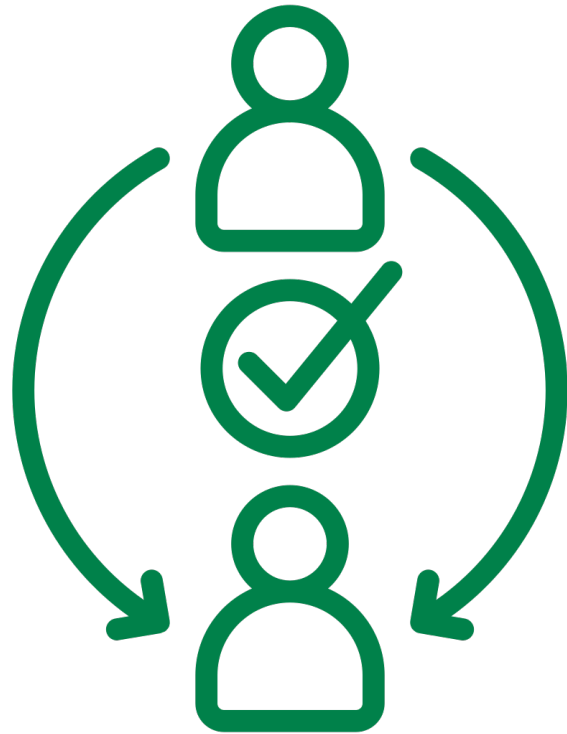
Draft data from September 1, 2024, through March 3, 2025

## Role of deflection staff





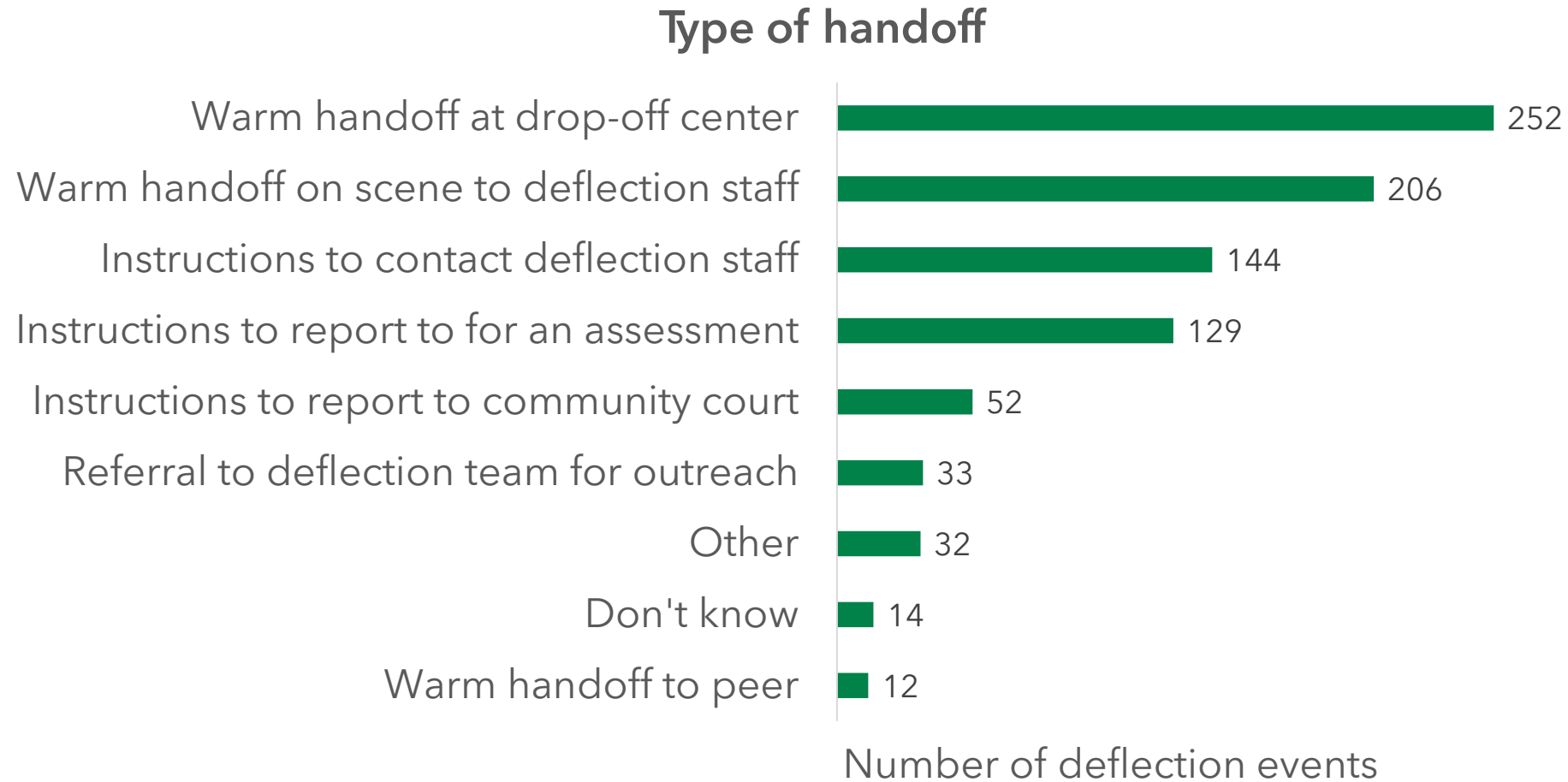
# Handoff to programs – Key findings



- Warm handoffs are a ***best practice***.
- ***Emerging evidence*** shows that timely outreach can lead to increased program engagement.
- There is ***emerging evidence*** supporting conducting assessments in the field.

# Handoff to programs – Oregon context

Draft data from September 1, 2024, through March 3, 2025



# Defining success – Key findings

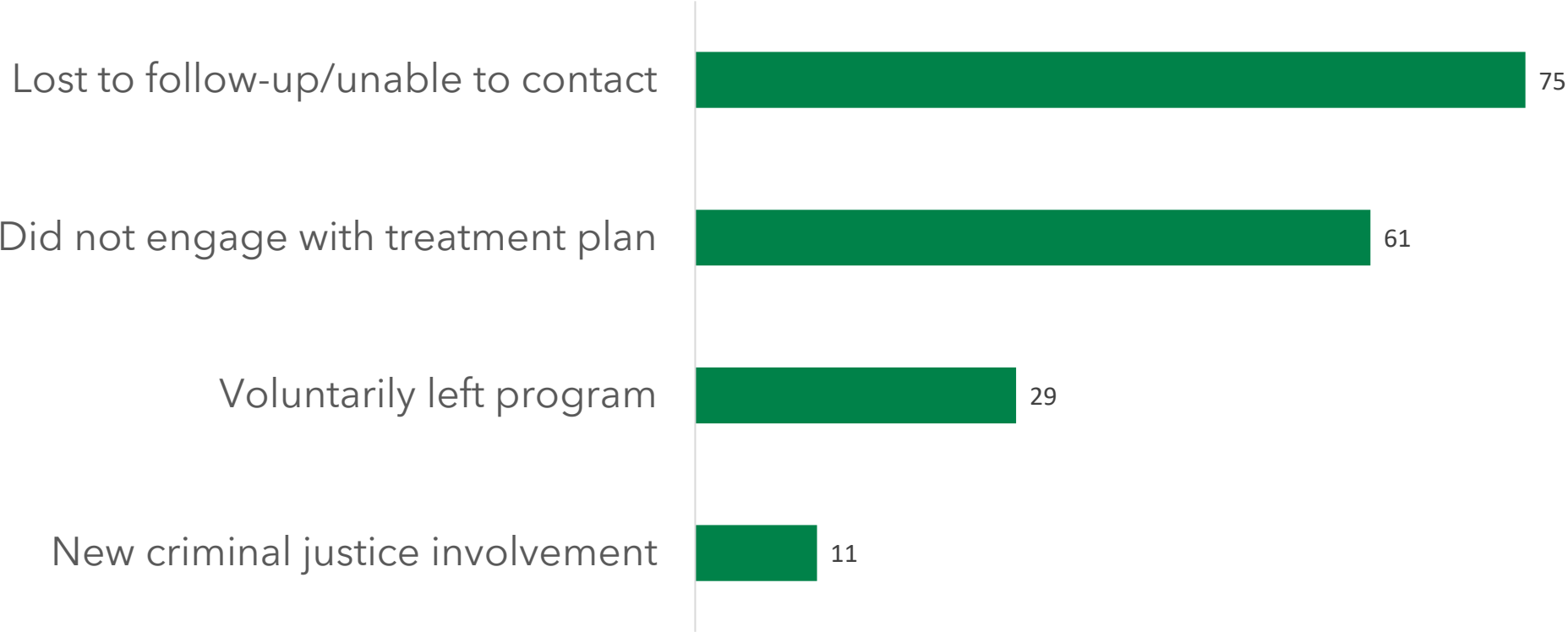


- There is no standard definition of what a successful deflection looks like.
- There is ***emerging evidence*** to support tracking success by collecting quality of life indicators and measures of engagement.

# Defining success – Oregon context

Draft data from September 1, 2024, through March 3, 2025

## Reasons for not completing the program (n=xx)



Count (People may have more than one reason)

# Additional report content



## Program planning

- Building partnerships
- Information exchange
- Planning considerations



## Program implementation

- Law enforcement training and buy in
- Program navigators and peer support staff
- Program sustainability



## Program evaluation

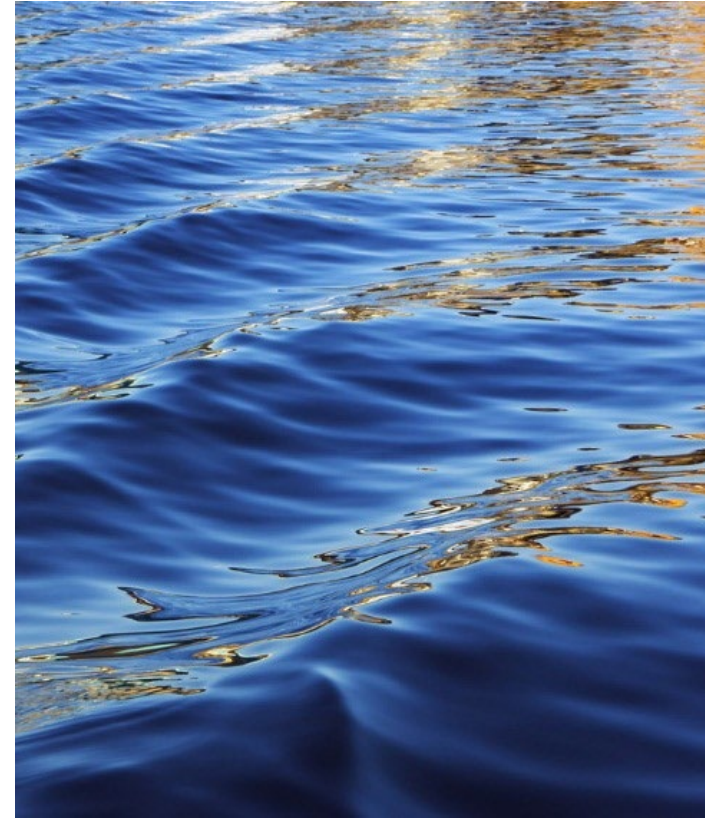
- Data collection
- Measures and outcomes
- Gaps in knowledge



# Questions?

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