

# City of Atlanta Office of the Public Defender

Public Safety and Legal Administration  
Presentation

December 2022

Kenneth Days, III

Director and Chief Public Defender





# Office of the Public Defender Community Engagement

## Holistic Services Report

Advocacy. Outreach. Access

July – August 2022



### OVERVIEW

Clients Served  
Work Orders/Walk-Ins

322\*

HEP

52

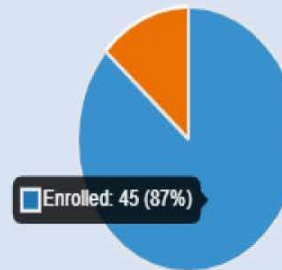
SOAR

2

### WORK ORDERS BY ATTORNEY REFERRALS



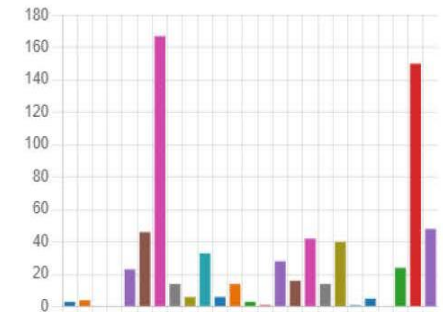
### HOLISTIC EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (HEP)



\*NUMBERS INCLUDE MULTIPLE TOUCHES FOR DIFFERENT SERVICES

### DATA BY SERVICES RECEIVED

|                                     |     |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| HEP (Enter Data in HEP Form)        | 3   |
| SOAR (Enter Data in SOAR Form)      | 4   |
| Driver's License Restoration Pro... | 0   |
| L.I.F.T.S Referral                  | 0   |
| Housing Referral                    | 23  |
| Homeless Verification Form          | 46  |
| Triage Sheet                        | 167 |
| MARTA Card                          | 14  |
| Hygiene Kit                         | 6   |
| Agency Referral                     | 33  |
| Clothing                            | 6   |
| Snack Pack                          | 14  |
| PPE Gear                            | 3   |
| Food Supply (McDonald's Card, ...)  | 1   |
| Substance Abuse Treatment Ref...    | 28  |
| Medical Assistance                  | 16  |
| Mental Health Treatment Referral    | 42  |
| Emergency Shelter Referral          | 14  |
| Other (See Defender Data for D...   | 40  |
| Harm Reduction/Narcan               | 1   |
| Safe Sex Kits                       | 5   |
| Gateway Visit                       | 0   |
| Social Work Court Visit             | 24  |
| Social Work Pre-Trial Visit         | 150 |
| Social Pod/Booth Visit              | 48  |





# Office of the Public Defender Community Engagement

## CLIENT SUCCESS STORIES

### **SOAR Success**

In March 2020, our client suffered a severe stroke. He was hospitalized for more than three months and has required intensive rehabilitation since that time. While still recovering, he lost his job of 20 years and was evicted from his apartment. The Gateway Center's staff referred him to us to apply for disability benefits through our department's SOAR program during our weekly outreach at the Center. Our Public Defender Social Worker staff got the Client approved in 4 months. He is now receiving monthly disability payments, awaiting backpay, and will currently enter supportive housing.

### **Reunification Success**

Our Client was arrested and accused of Disorderly Conduct. However, he also had numerous collateral issues that needed to be addressed – the most immediate being imminent homelessness. Our Client Advocates and Social Worker teams utilized their collective resources, resolved the Client's legal case, and with the assistance of Hope Atlanta, stabilized all of the collateral issues and purchased the Client a ticket home to Maryland. The Client is now reunified with family and doing well.



# Office of the Public Defender Community Engagement

## Holistic Services Report

Advocacy. Outreach. Access

September -October 2022



### OVERVIEW

**Clients Served**  
Work Orders/Walk-Ins

304\*

**HEP**

13

**SOAR**

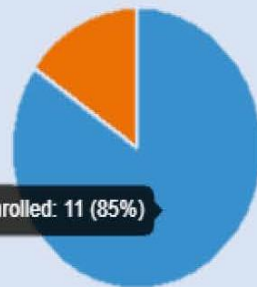
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### WORK ORDERS BY ATTORNEY REFERRALS



Work Order/Attorney Referral (Internal): 288 (95%)

### HOLISTIC EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (HEP)

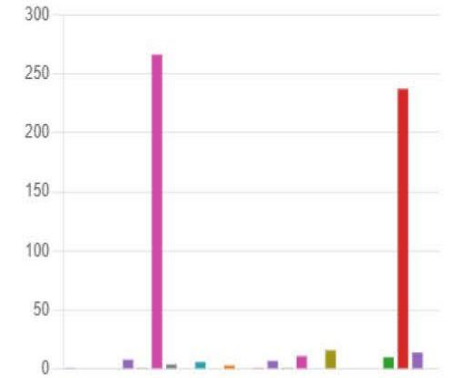


Enrolled: 11 (85%)

\*NUMBERS INCLUDE MULTIPLE TOUCHES FOR DIFFERENT SERVICES

### DATA BY SERVICES RECEIVED

|                                     |     |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| SOAR (Enter Data in SOAR Form)      | 0   |
| Driver's License Restoration Pro... | 0   |
| LI.F.T.S Referral                   | 0   |
| Housing Referral                    | 8   |
| Homeless Verification Form          | 1   |
| Triage Sheet                        | 266 |
| MARTA Card                          | 4   |
| Hygiene Kit                         | 0   |
| Agency Referral                     | 6   |
| Clothing                            | 0   |
| Snack Pack                          | 3   |
| PPE Gear                            | 0   |
| Food Supply (McDonald's Card, ...   | 1   |
| Substance Abuse Treatment Ref...    | 7   |
| Medical Assistance                  | 1   |
| Mental Health Treatment Referral    | 11  |
| Emergency Shelter Referral          | 0   |
| Other (See Defender Data for D...   | 16  |
| Harm Reduction/Narcan               | 0   |
| Safe Sex Kits                       | 0   |
| Gateway Visit                       | 0   |
| Social Work Court Visit             | 10  |
| Social Work Pre-Trial Visit         | 237 |
| Social Pod/Booth Visit              | 14  |
| Bus Ticket                          | 0   |





# Office of the Public Defender Community Engagement

## CLIENT SUCCESS STORIES

### HEP Success

Client is the sole provider of two young children and was unemployed for over a year. After court appointment to our office for a minor traffic offense, our Client Advocate intake processes identified him as an eligible candidate for our department's Holistic Employment Program (HEP). The Client's legal case has been resolved and he was hired by one of our employer partners in October. He remains employed and is on track for advancement.

### Housing Success

Our Client was charged with a traffic violation, but also had the unfortunate circumstance of being homeless – living in her car with her 13 year old son. The Public Defender Social Work and Client Advocate teams worked together to find placement for our Client and her son in a hotel until permanent housing could be secured. After several months of hard work, our staff procured a Georgia Housing Voucher and ultimately found a two-bedroom apartment. The Client recently invited our team members to visit her and thanked them personally for “not giving up on me”.



# MacArthur Foundation Safety + Justice Challenge Atlanta, Georgia



Network Meeting Presenter on:  
*Strategies for Public Defenders  
to Engage with their  
Communities, Build Trust, and  
Develop Holistic Services.*

# Community Engagement: Public Defender Thomasville Heights Mural Project

The Mural Project for the Thomasville Recreation Center initiated to assist the community in expanding their neighborhood culture, and to promote public safety, inclusiveness, improved quality of life, youth & senior engagement, and foster community pride.





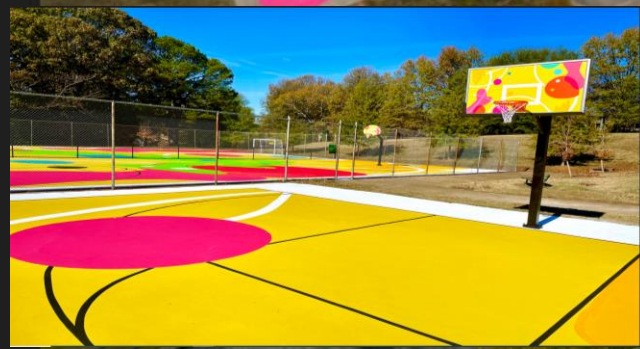
# Community Engagement: Public Defender Thomasville Heights Mural Project







**Before**



After

# Questions?