



Quarterly Briefing

**Atlanta City Council
Public Safety & Legal
Administration Committee**
May 28, 2024

The PAD Initiative



Policing Alternatives & Diversion Initiative (PAD) is an Atlanta-based non-profit organization that improves community safety and wellness by addressing the needs of people experiencing concerns related to mental health, substance use, or extreme poverty.

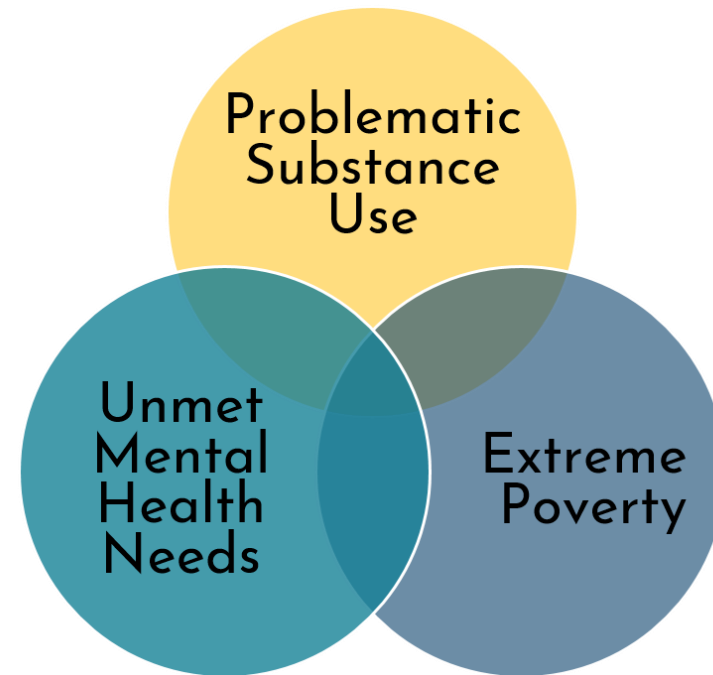
PAD Overview

GOALS:

1. **Address community concerns** related to substance use, mental health and extreme poverty
2. **Reduce arrest and incarceration** of people experiencing these issues
3. **Increase the accessibility of supportive services** in Atlanta and Fulton County.

THREEFOLD STRATEGY:

- Immediate alternatives to arrest via Pre-arrest Diversion
- ATL 311 Community Referrals
- Post-Arrest Diversion



January- March Diversions to PAD

112
Diversions

Top diverted charges were Criminal Trespass, Panhandling, Shoplifting, Disorderly Conduct, and Public Indecency

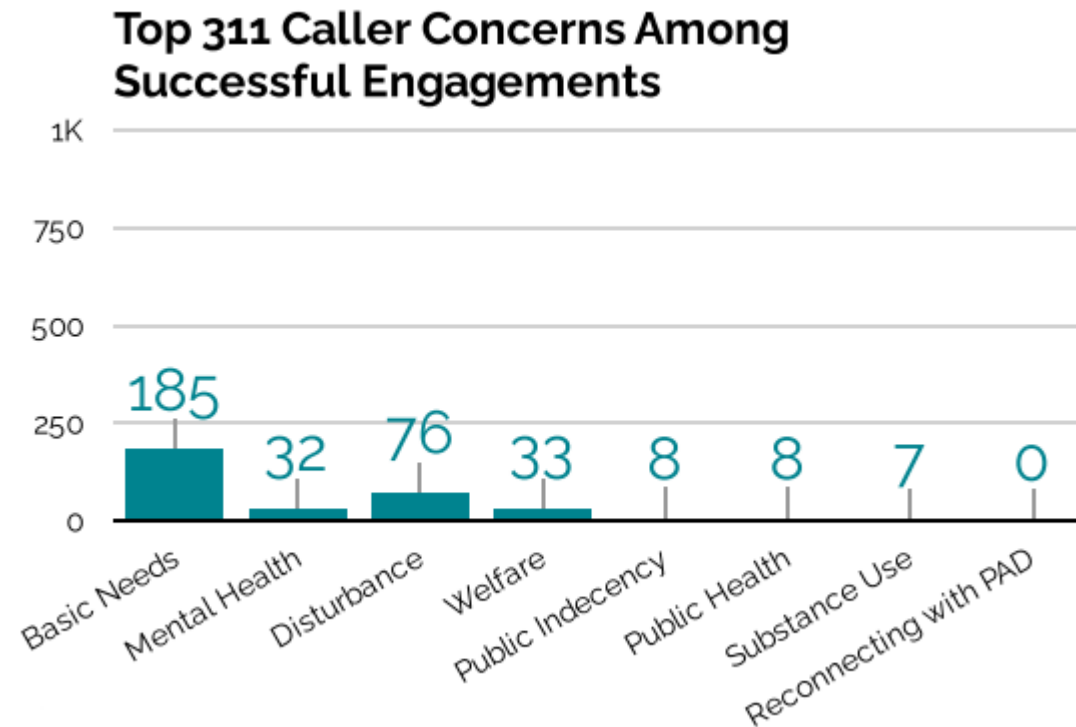
68 people (61%) were arrested but diverted by prosecutors post-booking because they were eligible for PAD

In the 3-month period, only 12 people out of 619 PAD participants were re-arrested by APD (2%)

January-March ATL311 Referrals to PAD

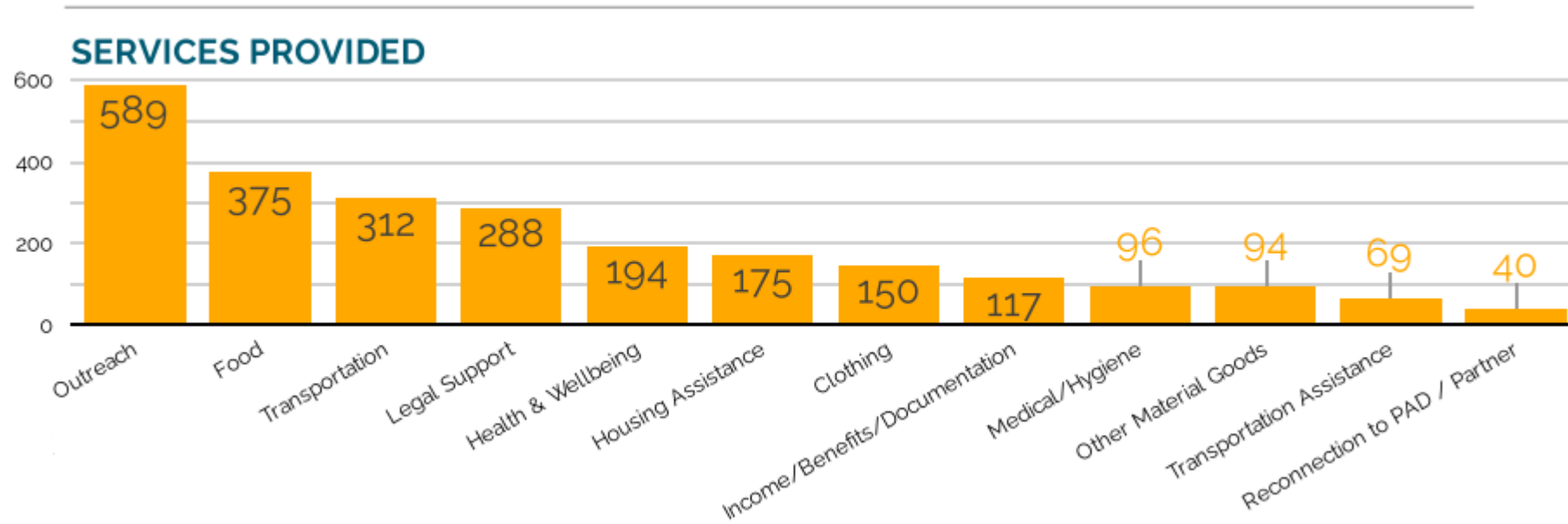
512 calls
dispatched to
PAD

Average Response Time- 18 minutes



January- March PAD Direct Services

619 Total enrolled Participants



January- March PAD Direct Services Cont.

HOUSING SUPPORT

Placed in Shelter	32
Provided Emergency Housing	28
Placed in Recovery Housing	9
Placed in Permanent Supportive Housing	7
Placed in Bridge Housing	1

Housing Success Story



"I ended up living on the street for about six months. I was living in a vacant house until the police were called to tell me to get out. Emma and Bean from PAD helped me move from the vacant house and find affordable housing. I've been living here for a year now. They're working on getting me on with social security. They always seem to come around when I need them."

- Ms. Mary, PAD Participant

January- March Community Engagement



- 808 Businesses Engaged
- 12 Stakeholder Trainings
- 21 Community Events

Washtenaw County Site Visit



- Government officials and other staff from Washtenaw County, Michigan traveled to Atlanta to learn about the various aspects of PAD.
- They have recently implemented a diversion program and are expanding their knowledge on its operation.
- The Washtenaw team met with PAD, COA officials, and other partners to understand the different components of the program.

Life Savers



Thank
You