



Community Restorative Court



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CRC Mission

Repair Harm

Reduce Risk

Rebuild Community



CRC's Response to Criminal Justice Reform

- Victim Based
- Respondent Focused
- Community Driven



What is CRC?

- Pre-Charge Diversion Program for 17-25 year olds
- Eligible referrals include:
 - Municipal citations
 - Misdemeanor/ Felony offenses
- Provides a voluntary alternative to the traditional justice system by using a restorative justice model that includes victims and community members (trained Peacemakers)
- Upon completion of the program:
 - Respondents do not receive a formal charge, CCAP entry
 - Municipal tickets are dismissed, including the fine
 - There is not a program fee associated with CRC -- it's free
- If unsuccessful:
 - Respondent returns to the traditional criminal justice system for charging



Participants in CRC and the Restorative Justice Process

- Referrals received from Law Enforcement Agencies (LEA's) and the District Attorney's Office
- CRC social worker assigned to each case
- Respondent (and a support person)
- Victim (and a support person)
- Trained community member (Peacemakers)



Who is Eligible for CRC?

- 17-25 year old's in Dane County
- District Attorney's Office referrals, at their discretion, that include:
 - Any Misdemeanor or Felony cases they deem eligible **IF** the Victim agrees to CRC
 - Pre-Charge and Post-Charge cases
- Law Enforcement Agencies referrals for Municipal Citations that include:
 - Battery
 - Disorderly Conduct
 - Obstructing an Office
 - Theft
 - Criminal Damage to Property
- Respondent:
 - Lack a severe or violent criminal record
 - Accept responsibility for their actions
- High profile cases, protest/unrest cases and hate crimes



Intake Process with Respondent and Victim

- **What is an Intake?**
 - Social history interview to gather information to gain a full perspective of what lead the Respondent to enter the system
 - Process started by a CRC social worker contacting the Respondent/Victim by phone, text, and letter to schedule an Intake appointment
- **During the Intake appointment:**
 - CRC social worker explains the consequences of system involvement
 - Identifies risks and needs, including:
 - Mental health
 - AODA
 - Trauma
 - Lack of support
 - Isolation
 - Identifies underlying essentials to address basic stabilization, such as:
 - Housing
 - Employment
 - Mental Health
 - Education
 - Groceries



Overlapping Risk Factors

- Trauma history
- Lack of a family connection
- Chronic abuse and neglect
- Not connected to community resources
- Substance abuse and mental health
- Collateral consequences of system involvement
- Language/ Cultural barriers



Training Community Members “Peacemakers”

- Community volunteers participate in 16 hours of Peacemaker Training
- Presented by Jonathan Scharrer, Director of the Restorative Justice Project at the University Of Wisconsin’s Law School
- CRC conducts 2- 4 trainings a year
- CRC has trained over 250 hundred Peacemakers in Dane County.
- Peacemakers come from all walks of life. Each is a unique individual dedicated to supporting our community.



Peacemakers

- Support the victim
- Take part in holding the Respondent accountable
- Speak to how the community is affected by the type of conduct and behavior displayed by the Respondent
- Mentor the Respondent and assist with community resources
- Identify opportunities to contribute to the Repair Harm Agreement
- Help Respondents understand the broader impact



Circle Process = Individualized Justice

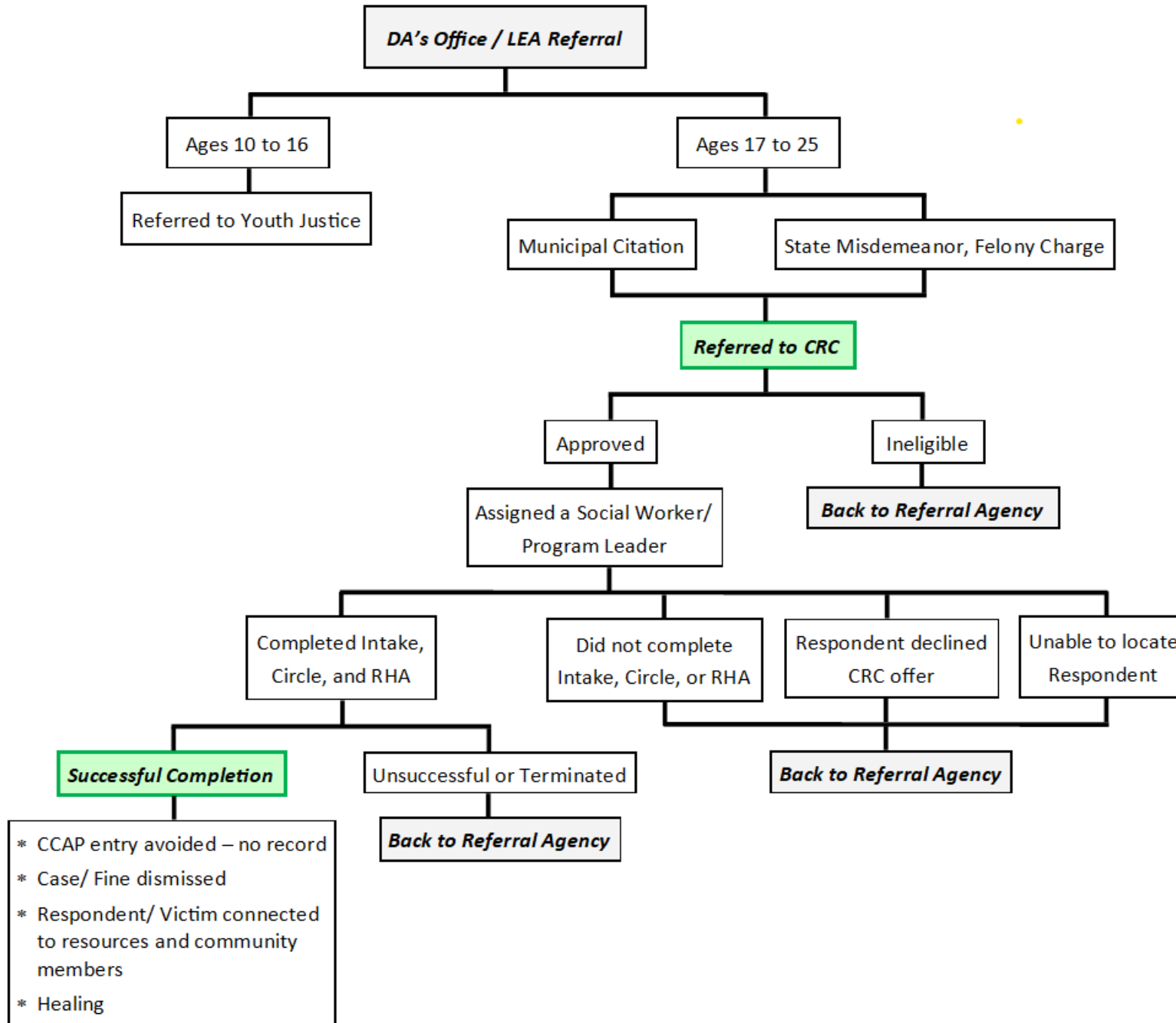
- Circle members: CRC Staff, Respondent, Victim, Peacemakers, Primary Officer
- What is a **Repair Harm Agreement**:
 - Contract stating what the respondent needs to accomplish in order to complete the program successfully and make the victim whole.
 - The agreement is customized to each person.
- Who has a voice: Everyone has a voice and the agreement is a collective decision
- **Conditions may include:** AODA assessment, individual and family therapy, community service, restitution, meetings with officers, retail theft group, AA Meetings, employment search, reflection papers, letters of accountability, school registration, mentorship with peacemaker, creative expressions through art and music
- Average agreement length is 3-6 months. More complex cases last 12-24 months



Closing Process

- CRC social worker conducts individual debriefings with Respondents, Victims, and Peacemakers
- Closure letter is sent to the Referral Agency and Primary Officers
- The Respondent does not receive a formal charge or CCAP entry.
- Municipal citation is dismissed

CRC Model from Start to Finish

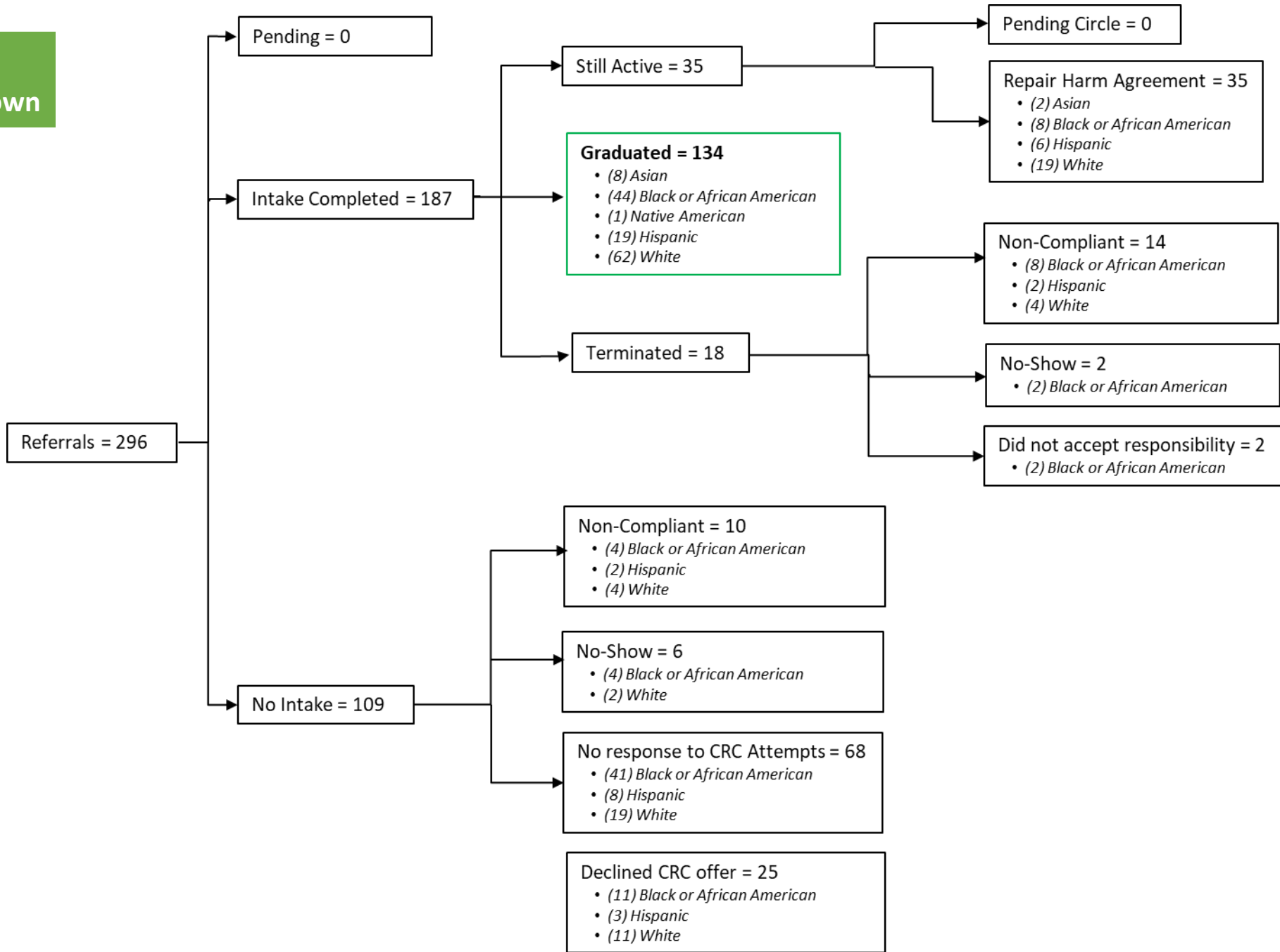




How does CRC represent systemic change?

1. Provide victims and respondents with a voice in the restorative process.
2. Promote community driven solutions utilizing citizen Peacemakers.
3. Reduce burden on criminal courts and agencies through efficient case resolution.
4. Reduce discriminatory barriers and future recidivism.
5. Reduce crime and racial disparity.
6. Avoidance of a CCAP entry signifies a lack of discrimination based on a criminal charge that affects employment, housing, education, loans and finances.

CRC Process with Racial Breakdown

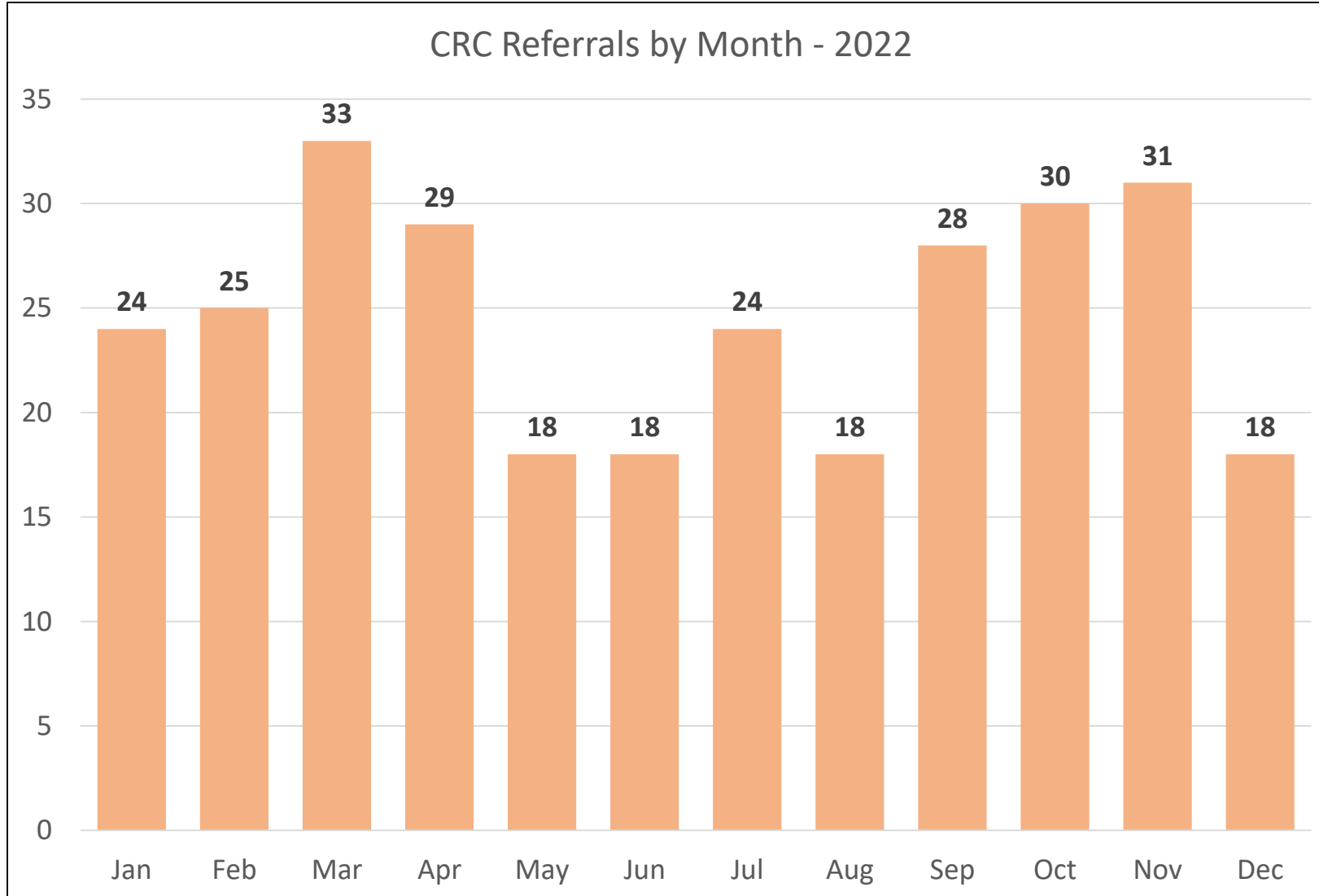




AIMS

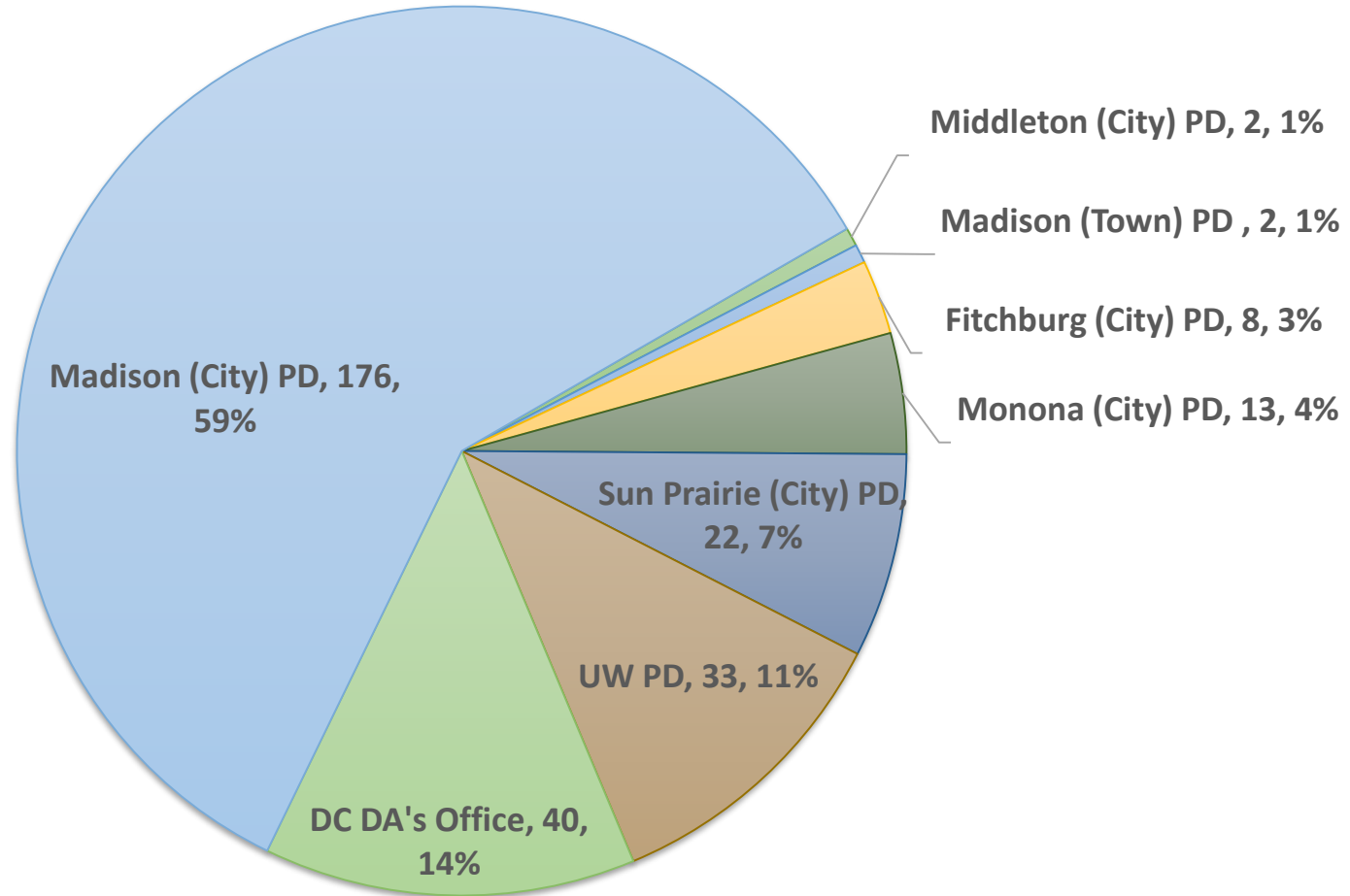
Data Source: 2022

- AIMS – AutoMon Involvement Management System



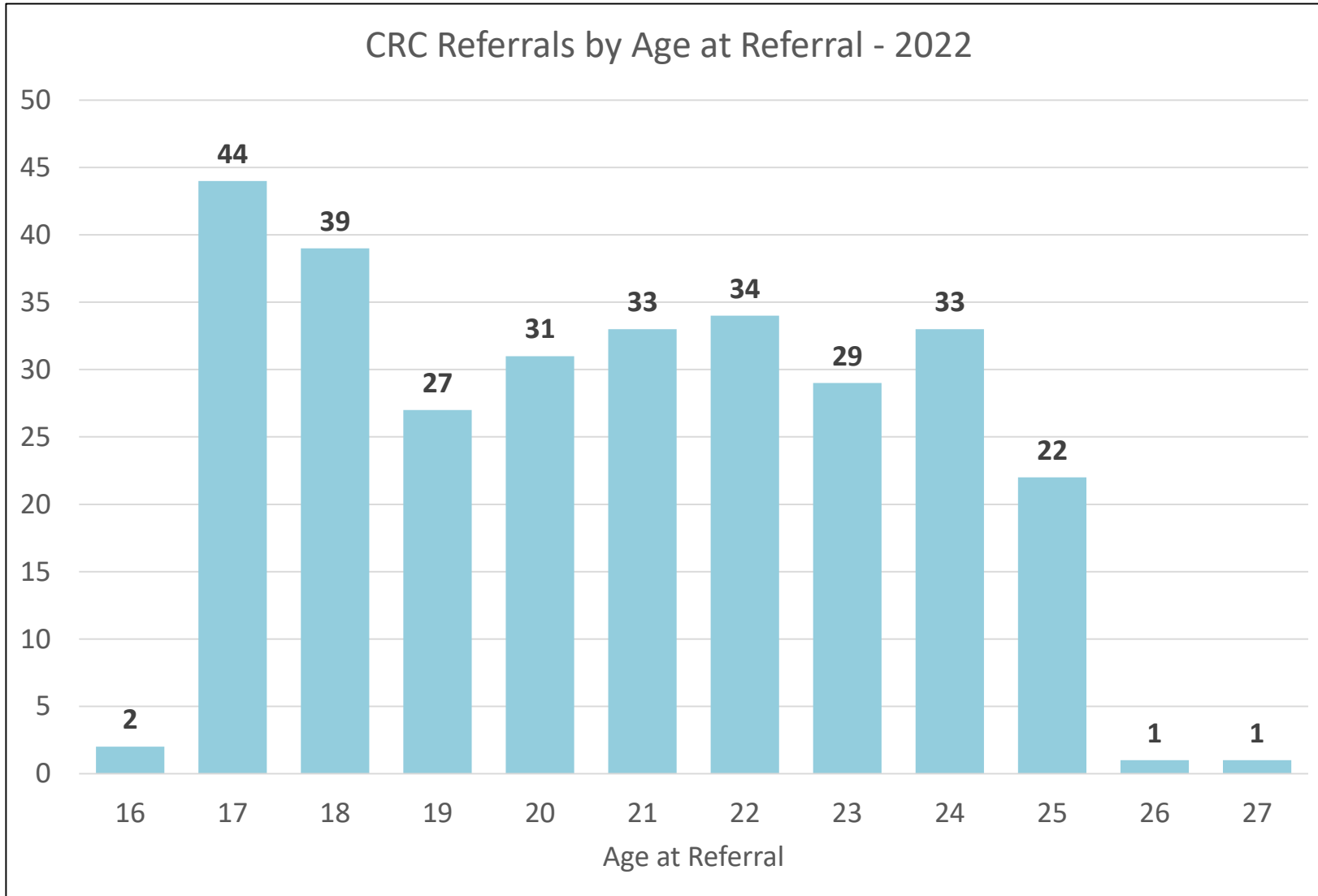


2022 CRC Referral Sources



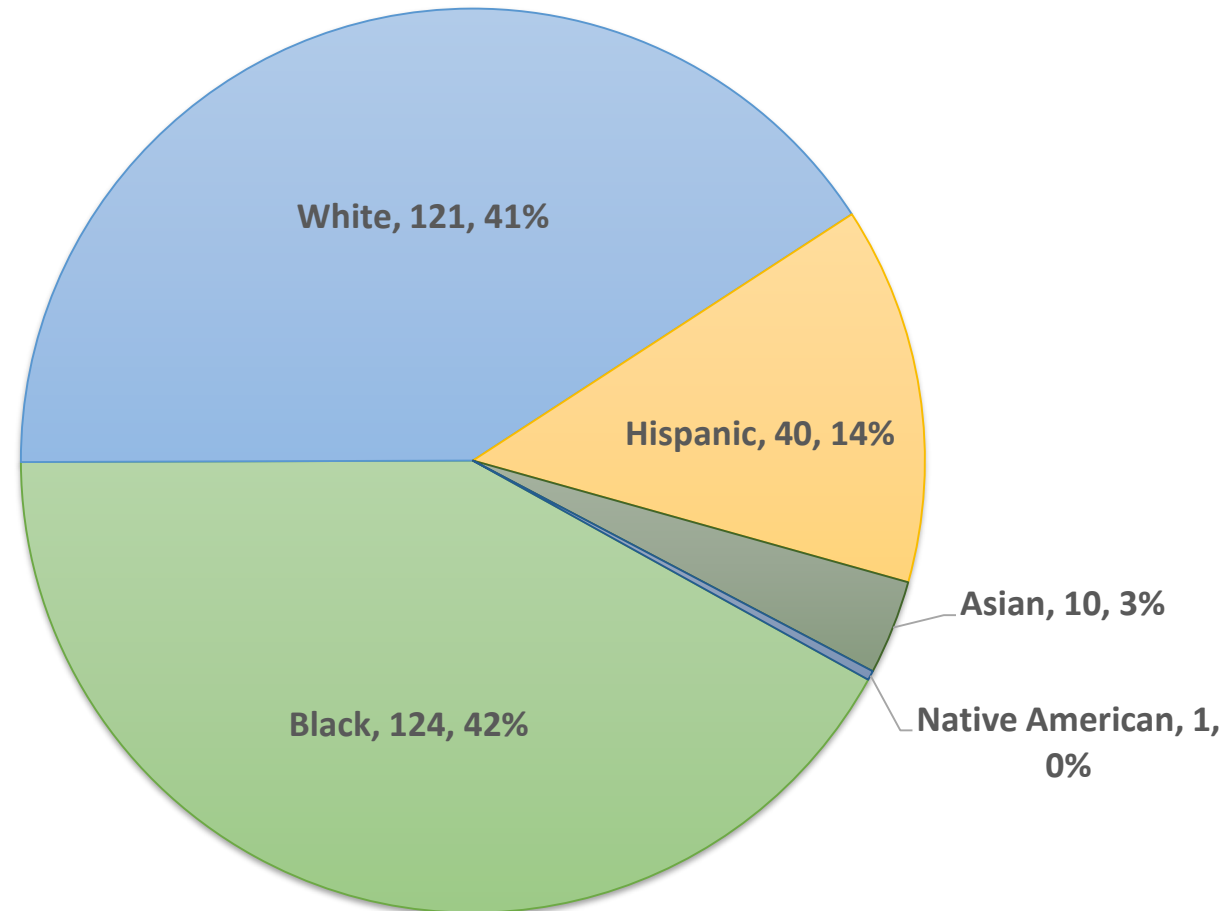


CRC Referrals by Age at Referral - 2022





2022 CRC Referrals by Race/Ethnicity





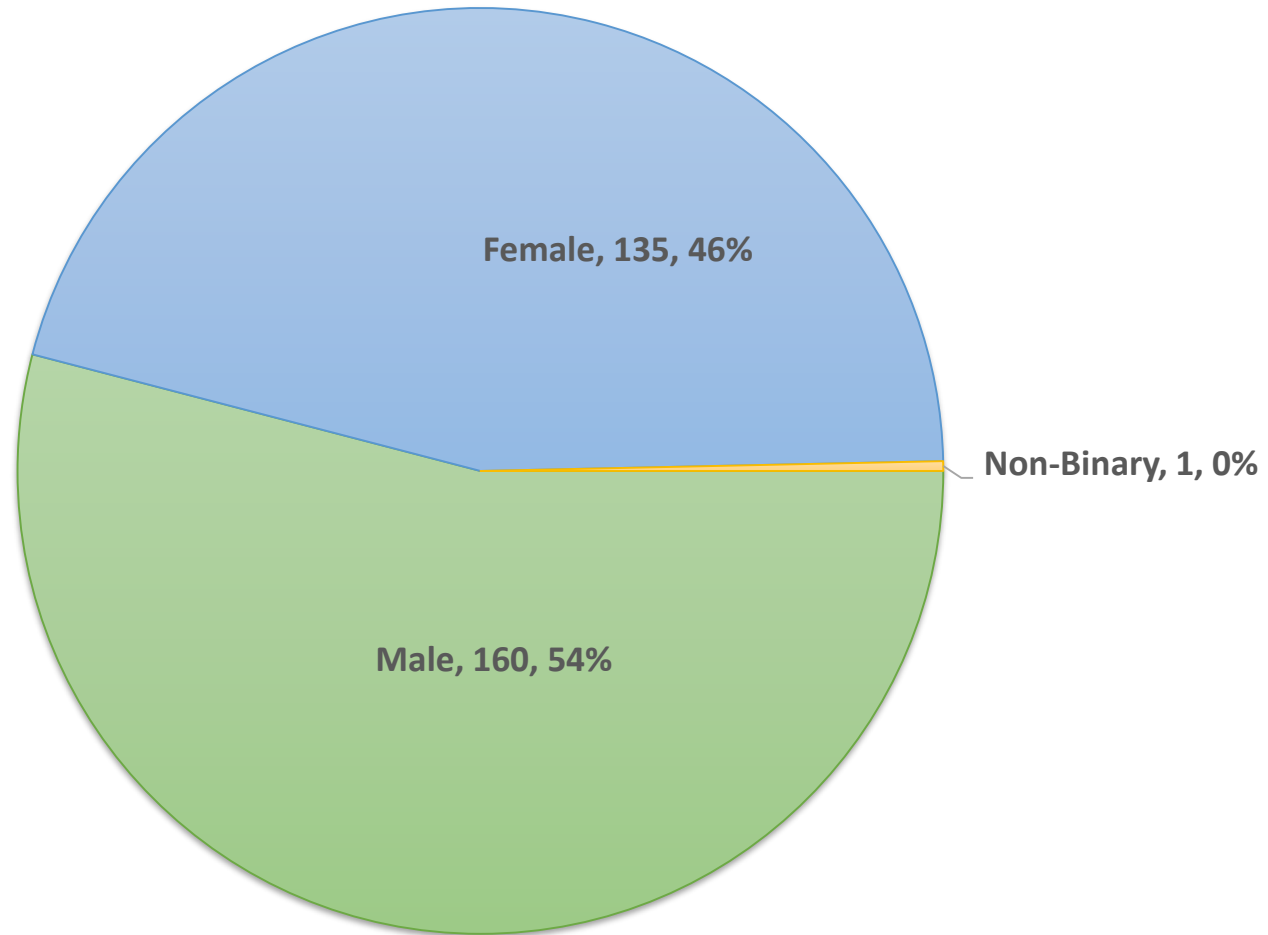
2022 CRC Referrals by LEA and Race

	Number of Referrals by Race
Asians	10
Black	124
Hispanics	40
Native American	1
Whites	121
Total Referrals:	296

	Number of Referrals	% of Referrals
Dane County District Attorney's Office		
40 Referrals, 14%		
Asian	3	30%
Black or African American	19	15%
Hispanic	4	10%
White	14	12%
Fitchburg (City) Police Department		
8 Referrals, 3%		
Black or African American	4	3%
Hispanic	4	10%
Madison (City) Police Department		
176 Referrals, 59%		
Asian	2	20%
Black or African American	78	63%
Hispanic	28	70%
White	68	56%
Madison (Town) Police Department		
2 Referrals, 1%		
Black or African American	2	2%
Middleton (City) Police Department		
2 Referrals, 1%		
White	2	2%
Monona (City) Police Department		
13 Referrals, 4%		
Black or African American	8	6%
Hispanic	1	3%
White	4	3%
Sun Prairie (City) Police Department		
22 Referrals, 7%		
Asian	1	10%
Black or African American	11	9%
Hispanic	2	5%
Native American	1	100%
White	7	6%
University of Wisconsin Police Department		
33 Referrals, 11%		
Asian	4	40%
Black or African American	2	2%
Hispanic	1	3%
White	26	21%

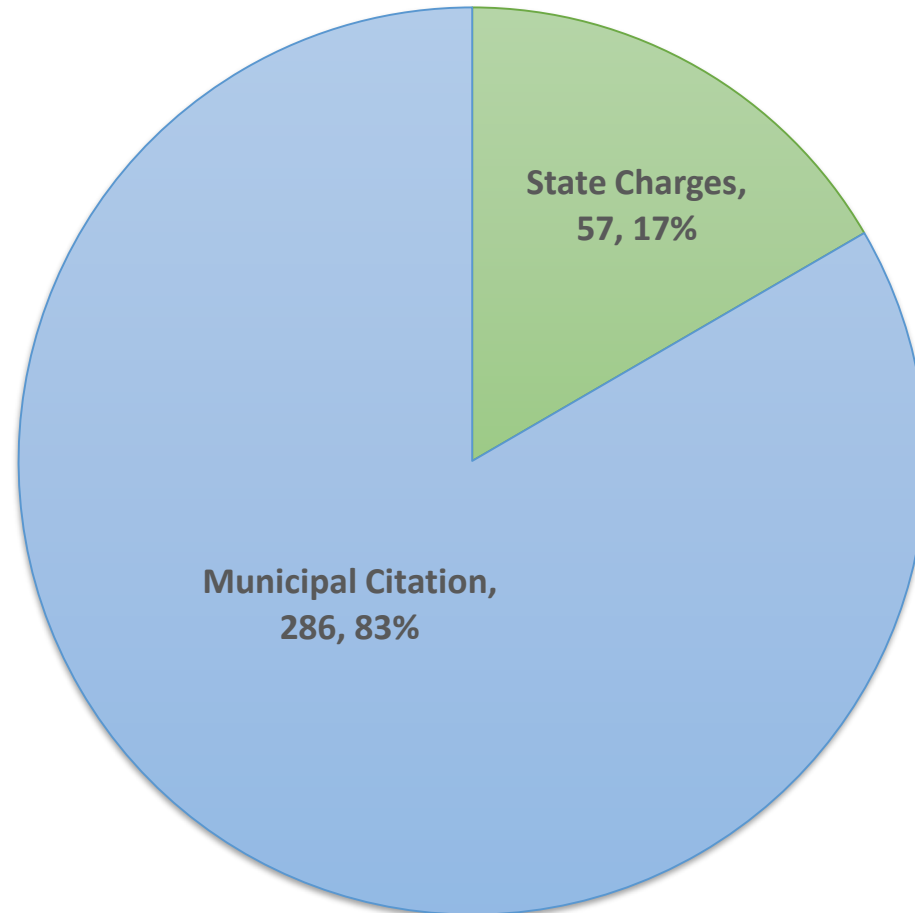


2022 CRC Referrals by Gender



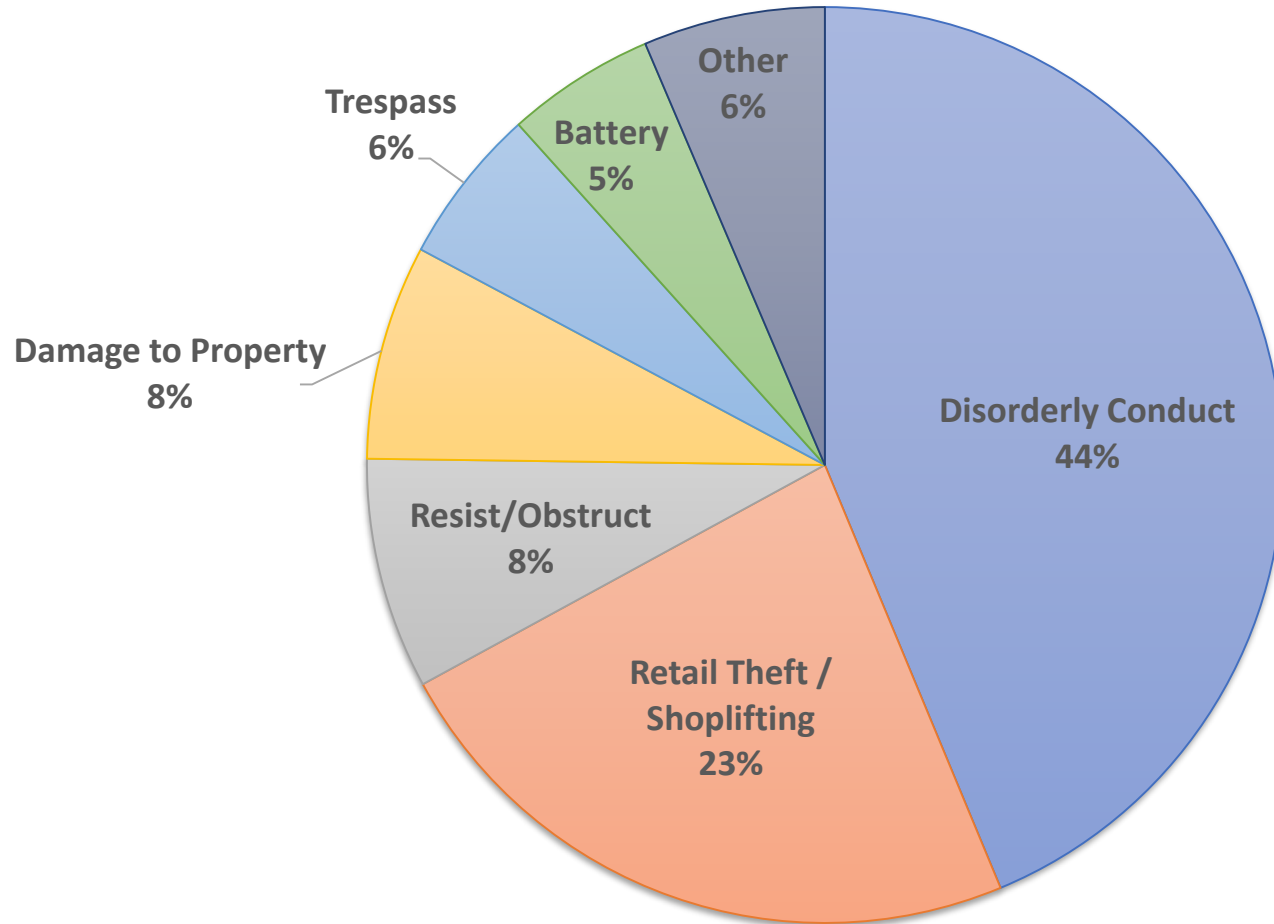


2022 CRC Referral Offenses by Type



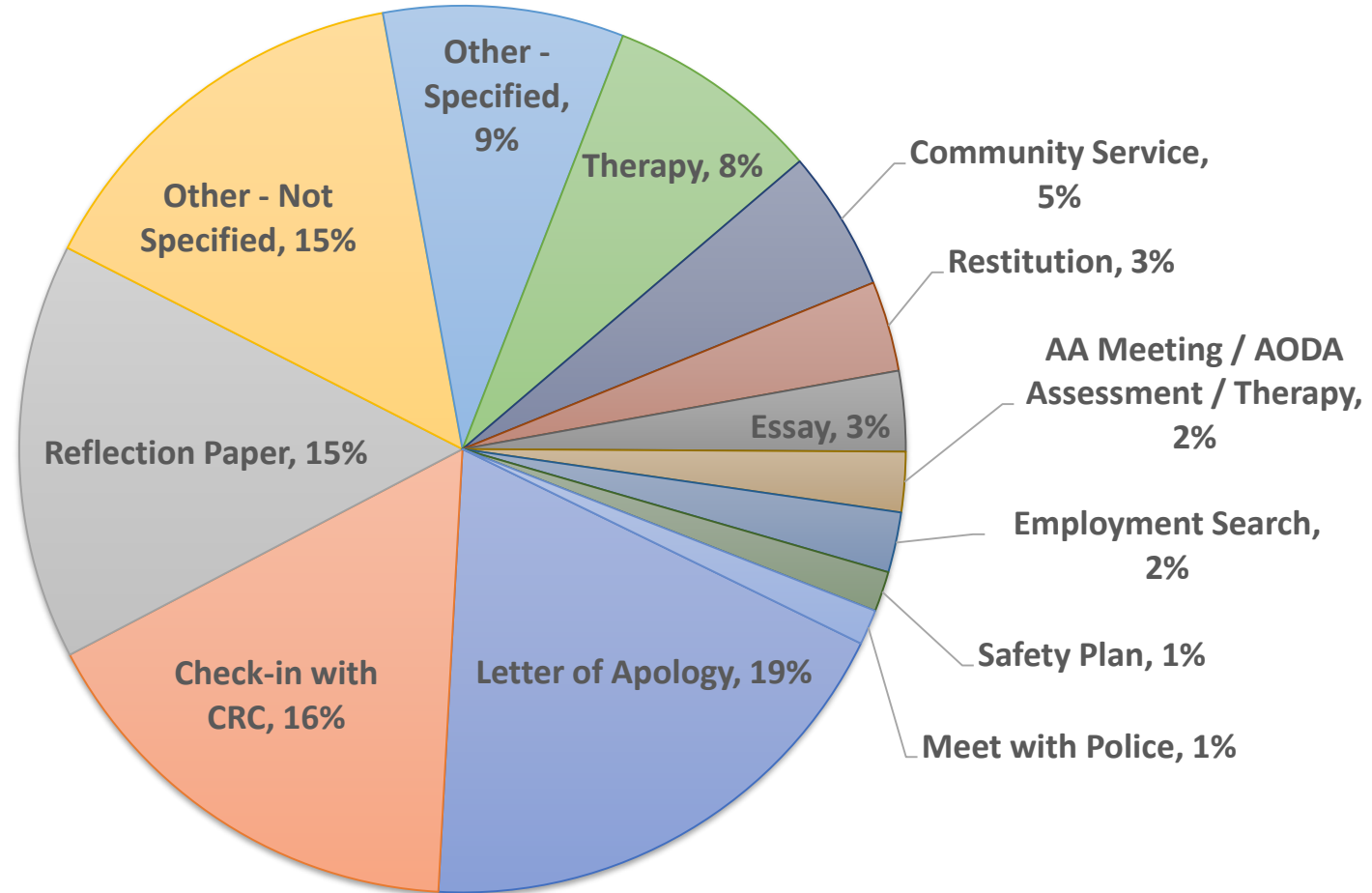


2022 CRC Referral Offense Descriptions



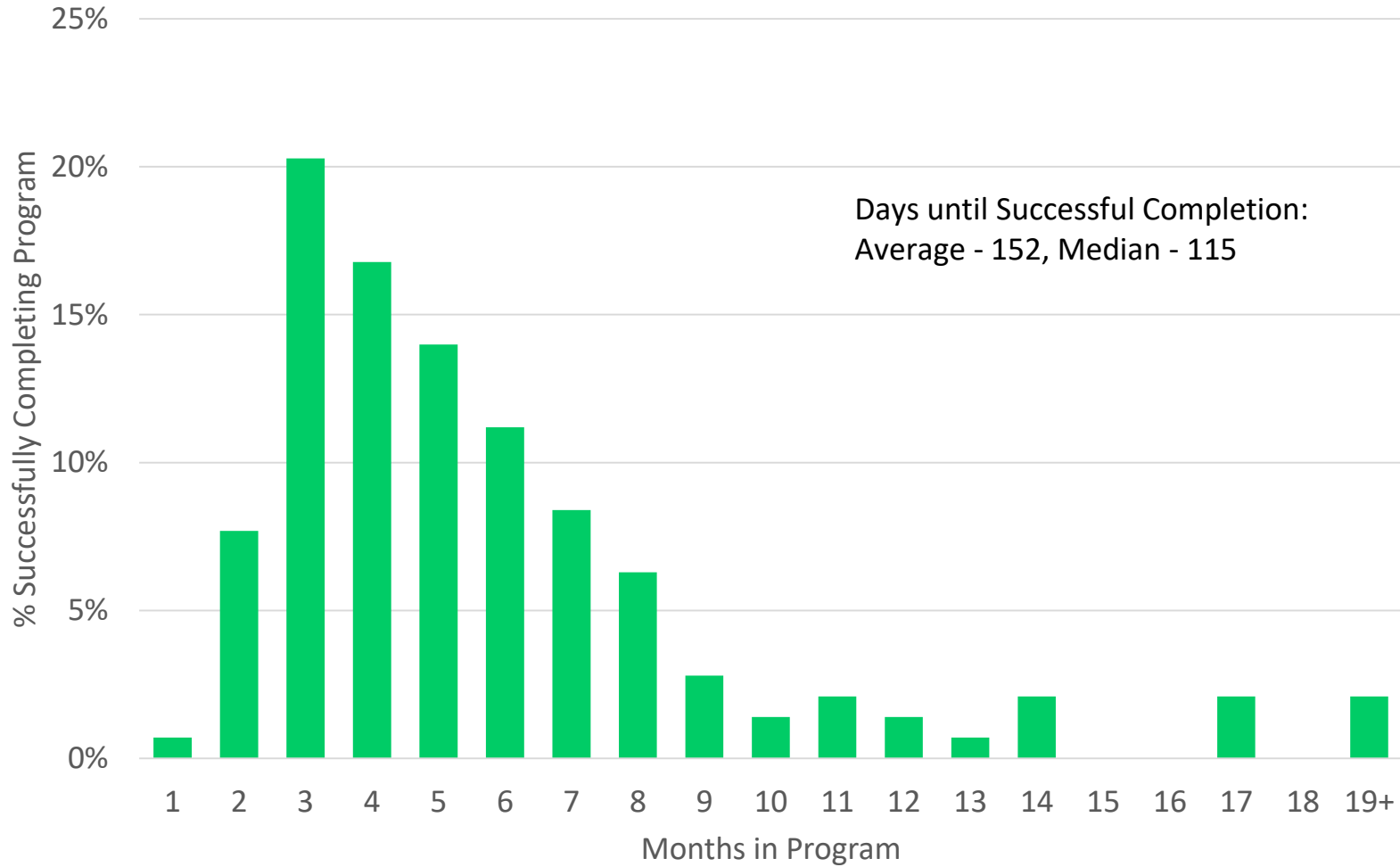


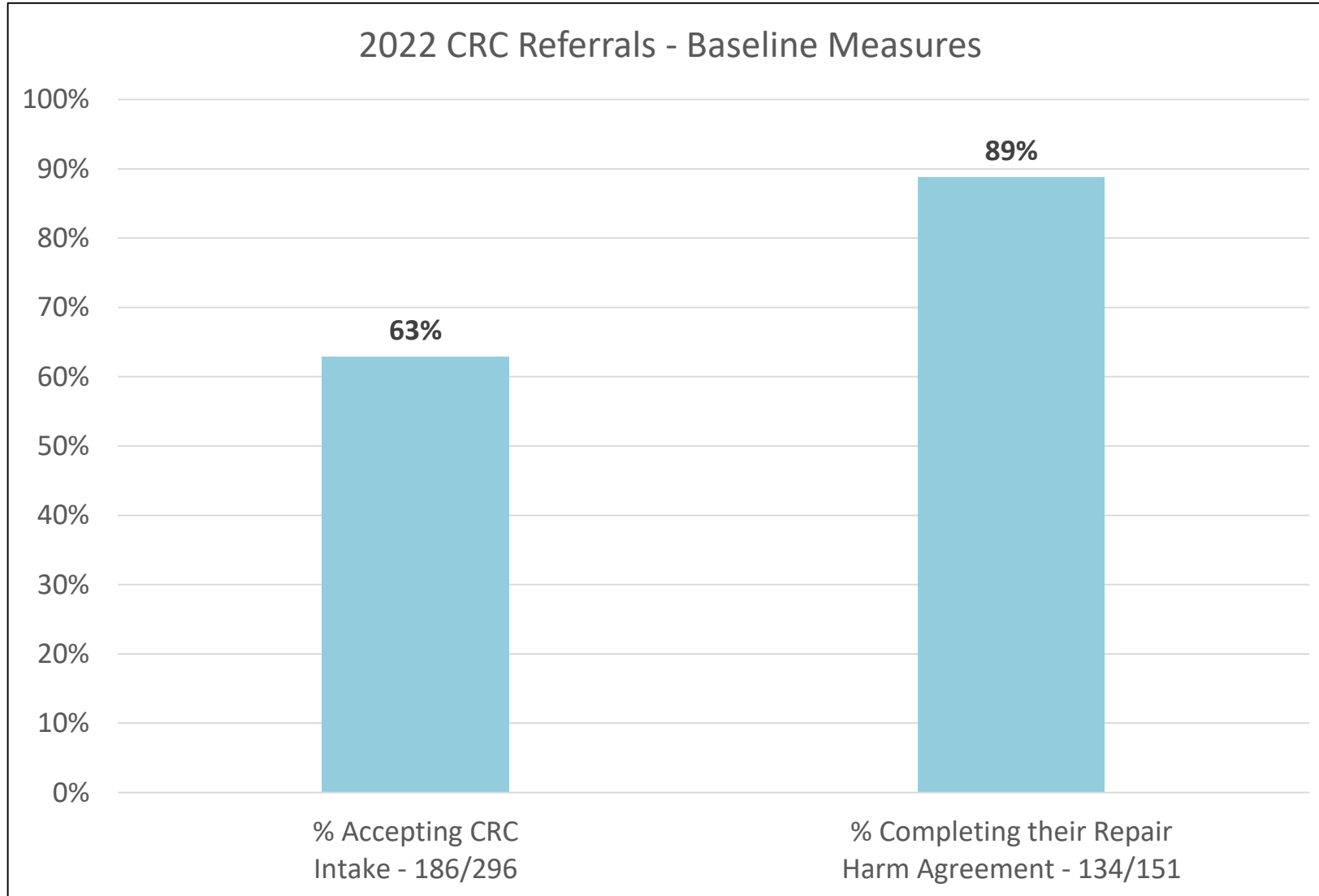
Repair Harm Agreement Requirements for 2022 CRC Referrals





2022 CRC Successful Completions by Months in Program







FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

- Increase complex cases- Misdemeanors and Felonies
- Increase data analysis to review needs, outcomes and recidivism
- Increase capacity including diverse referrals to address racial disparities
- Continue efficient and authentic response to people we serve by increasing staff
- Compliment the Community Court



“Each of us is MORE than the worst thing we’ve ever done.”

-Bryan Stevenson

Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption



DANE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
Community Restorative Court (CRC)

Thank you