



# **Alexandria Co-Response Program (ACORP) Update**

September 28, 2021

# Overview

- Council appropriated \$184,483 in February 2021 to fund the pilot program
- Program staff (one DCHS Therapist Supervisor and one APD CIT Officer) have been hired and trained
- OPA Performance Analyst who specializes in behavioral health has been hired, as has program evaluator OMNI Institute
- Policies, protocols, data infrastructure and collection tools, MOUs, etc. have been created

# Overview Continued

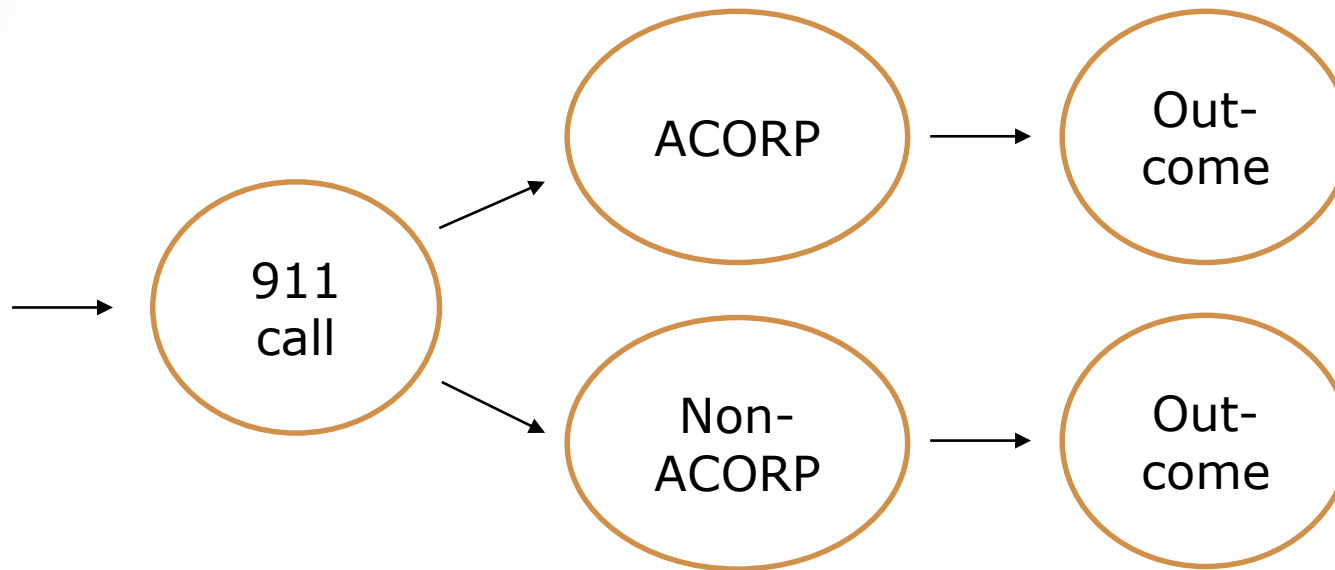
- All DECC staff have received CIT training; all APD patrol officers have received ACORP training
- DECC staff are now triaging calls and asking if calls involve the need for MH intervention
- “Soft launch” of ACORP began on 9/6; formal launch began 9/27
- Program operates Mon-Friday 12pm-8pm



# Initial Observations

- 3-6 cases per day; some are brief (30 minutes) and some take many hours
- The team has been able to divert persons away from inpatient psychiatric admissions, saving scarce inpatient beds
- ACORP interventions are allowing regular patrol officers to leave the scene and attend to other calls for service
- Persons seen range from 11 to 84 years of age

# Program Evaluation



- Evaluation goals:
  - Improve experiences and outcomes for all parties involved?
  - Improve system response to individuals experiencing mental health crises in the community?
- Program evaluation partnership with OMNI Institute
- Monitoring, 6 and 12-month reports

# Next Steps

- Expand program awareness in the community, including with Fire/EMS, RPCA and other City staff
- Monitor and evaluate program via OPA and OMNI Institute
- Call and outcome data are being collected and aggregated; data collected include call types, race, gender, call resolution, etc.
- Six- and twelve-month reports will be produced and provided to Council
- Reports and analysis will be used to guide future decisions about program alterations and growth