

Lowell Co-Response Jail Diversion Program 2023 Annual Report

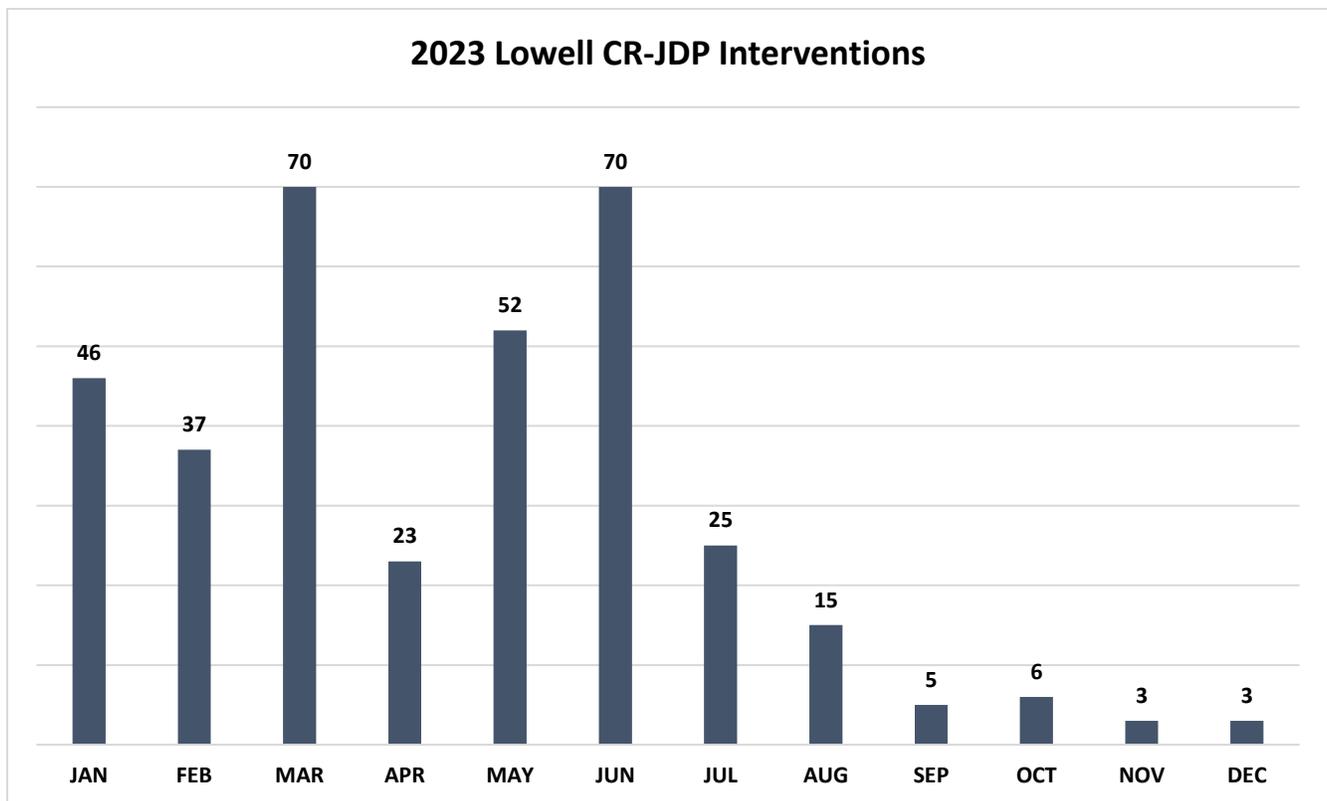
The Lowell Co-Response Jail Diversion Program (CR-JDP) pairs specially trained crisis clinicians from Advocates Inc. with police officers at the Lowell Police Department. These embedded clinicians respond to calls for service and 911 calls with patrol officers providing immediate on-scene de-escalation, assessment, and referrals for individuals in crisis. The primary goal of the Lowell CR-JDP is to re-direct individuals committing non-violent offenses out of the criminal justice system and into more appropriate community-based behavioral health services.

The Advocates' Co-Response team is excited to announce that we are currently training a newly hired clinician to provide needed support to the Lowell Police Department

CR-JDP Interventions

On-scene crisis interventions are facilitated through the dual response of police and clinicians to calls for service involving individuals in crisis. Chart 1 represents the **355** individuals referred to the Lowell Co-Response Jail Diversion Program clinicians by Lowell police officers in 2023.

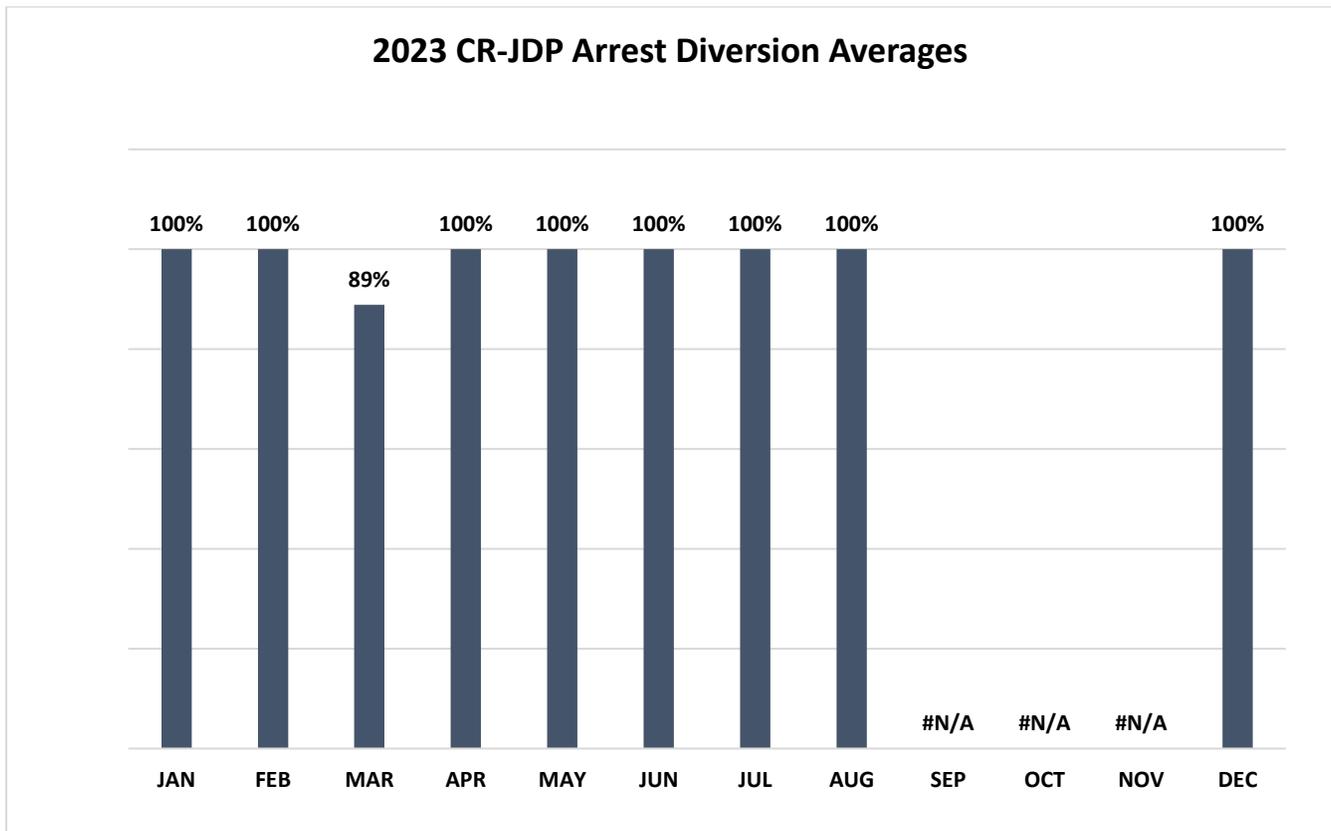
Chart 1: Lowell Co-Response Interventions



Diversions from Arrest

The primary goal of the Lowell Co-Response Jail Diversion Program is to divert low-level offenders away from the criminal justice system and into more appropriate, community-based behavioral health treatment. In 2023, a total of **41** individuals with behavioral health conditions were diverted from arrest by Lowell police officers and into treatment facilitated by CR-JDP clinicians. The average percentage of those eligible for arrest diversion who were diverted is **99%**. Chart 2 represents the percentage of diversions from arrest by month.

Chart 2: Lowell CR-JDP Arrest Diversions



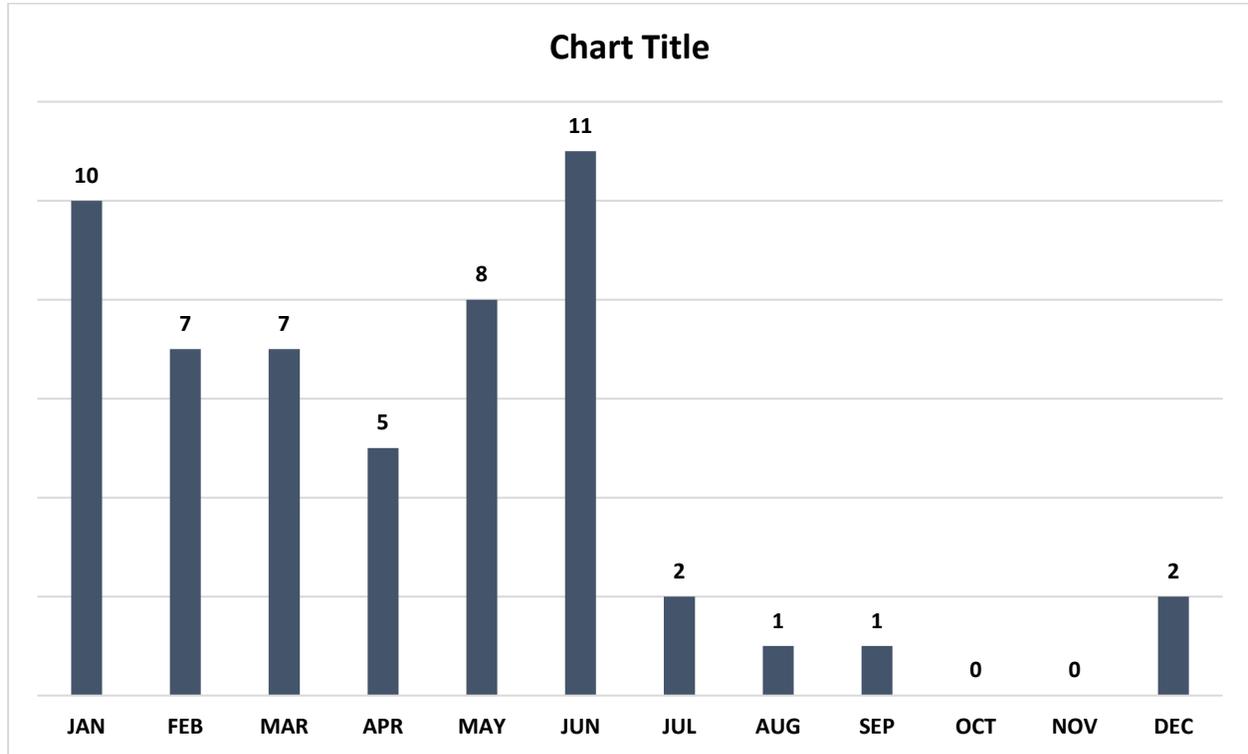
N/A = No arrestable offenses encountered

In addition to the benefit of diverting individuals in crisis from arrest, these diversions represent an *estimated* cost savings of **\$122,590*** to the criminal justice system (\$2,990 per arrest event).

Diversions from the Emergency Department

A secondary goal of the Lowell Co-Response Jail Diversion Program is to decrease the frequency of individuals with behavioral health conditions being referred to the hospital emergency department (ED) for psychiatric assessment by Lowell police officers. In 2023, **54** individuals were diverted from unnecessary hospital admissions due to the presence of CR-JDP clinicians on scene to facilitate assessment treatment recommendations. Chart 3 represents the monthly hospital ED diversions facilitated by the Lowell CR-JDP team.

Chart 3: Lowell Emergency Department Diversions



In addition to the benefits of receiving care outside of the hospital, these emergency department diversions represent *estimated* healthcare cost savings of **\$145,800*** (\$2,700 per ED diversion).

Combined, estimated cost savings due to arrest and emergency department diversion activity equals **\$268,390***.

Thank you for another year of partnership!

Report Respectfully Submitted By:
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*Cost-saving formulas represented in this report are cited based on the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health Jail and Arrest Diversion Grant Program FY 2021 Annual Report. The report is available here: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/fy2021-jail-and-arrest-diversion-program-annual-report/download>