

WHO IS PTACC?

PTACC is the definitive voice of the field of deflection and pre-arrest diversion. We provide vision, leadership, advocacy, and education to facilitate the growth and practice of deflection and pre-arrest diversion in all its forms—including programs that incorporate co-responder and community responder models—nationally and internationally.



PTACC'S MISSION

To strategically enhance the quantity and quality of community behavioral health and social service options through engagement in deflection and pre-arrest diversion.

About PTACC?

The Police, Treatment, and Community Collaborative (PTACC) is an alliance of practitioners in law enforcement and first response, behavioral health, community, advocacy, research, and public policy, whose mission is to strategically widen community behavioral health and social service options available through deflection and pre-arrest diversion. The purpose of the Collaborative is to provide vision, leadership, advocacy, and education to facilitate the practice of deflection both nationally and internationally.

PTACC is an open source collaborative pulling from the expertise of stakeholders who work in the growing field of deflection and pre-arrest diversion. Inclusion of the recovery community, families, and those with lived experience in the work of PTACC is essential to achieving the collaborative mission and purpose. In addition, PTACC seeks to address issues of racial disparity as deflection initiatives grow across the country, and believes that deflection should be practiced with equity, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, disability, or sexual orientation.

CORNERSTONE

PTACC does not endorse just one brand or pathway of deflection or pre-arrest diversion; each community must determine which approach meets its needs, responds to its local situation, and considers its current behavioral health capacity. The more pathways a community is able to implement, the more challenges it can address.

What is DEFLECTION?

Deflection is an early, “upstream” preventative approach to substance use and mental health that offers pathways for a community-based response to occur before an event such as an overdose, arrest, or mental health crisis. Centered in community and guided by treatment and health, deflection is a true shared public safety and public health approach that reduces crime while promoting well-being. For police, deflection creates a new, third option for addressing substance use disorder, homelessness, and mental health conditions. While in the past, officers could only arrest or take no action, deflection programs give them the opportunity to serve as conduits to treatment and services.

The SIX PATHWAYS of DEFLECTION There are six frameworks or pathways of deflection and pre-arrest diversion, each of which uses a different approach to address specific public health and public safety challenges faced by communities. These six approaches are referred to as “pathways” because, in contrast to justice system interventions, which mandate that individuals attend treatment, programs in these pathways enable first responders (law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical services) and community response teams to offer access, or pathways, to community-based treatment and resources to support individuals in need. Learn more about the pathways in the PTACC Resource Suite on our website.

PTACC'S History

The Police, Treatment, and Community Collaborative (PTACC) resulted from a consensus decision made at the inaugural National Pre-Arrest Deflection Summit held at the headquarters of the International Association of Chiefs of Police in March 2017. The summit was co-convened by TASC's Center for Health and Justice and the Civil Citation Network. Around the same table were 45 leaders representing 39 organizations from across the nation, including summit organizers from C4 Recovery Solutions, Inc., George Mason University, and Western Carolina University.

In March 2018, PTACC held the first of its kind National Training Conference on Pre-Arrest Diversion, which was attended by over 20 sites wishing to implement or enhance their existing pre-arrest diversion programs. Since 2018, we have held a total of three national training summits.

Engaging the Field

PTACC provides opportunities to the field for peer-to-peer networking and learning through:

- PTACC Resource Suite, which includes action items to advance equity, guiding principles, and core data metrics for deflection, all available on our website
- Annual National Deflection and Pre-arrest Diversion Training Summits
- The Ticker, a weekly newsletter for and about the field of deflection
- Hill Days and legislative advocacy
- Tailored support to individual communities including training, technical assistance, and solutions action planning
- Conversations with the Field, webinars, and the opportunity to serve in Strategy Area Workgroups



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How Do I Connect with PTACC?

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