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### **First-Ever National Directory of Deflection and Pre-Arrest Diversion Programs in Development**

CHICAGO, July 25, 2024 – Confronting a national epidemic of overdose and behavioral health crises, communities across the country are implementing new pathways to treatment before an arrest, overdose, or other crisis situation occurs.

Given the rapid growth of these initiatives—now happening in nearly every state—the field of deflection and pre-arrest diversion (DPAD) is building a first-of-its-kind national directory of such programs, thanks to a grant to the Police, Treatment, and Community Collaborative ([PTACC](#)) from the Virginia-based Catesby Foundation.

Serving as a comprehensive listing of programs across the United States, the [2024 National Directory of Deflection and Pre-Arrest Diversion Initiatives](#) will make it easy for such programs to contact and learn from other sites; it also will serve as a resource for those who seek to support or learn from deflection and pre-arrest diversion initiatives.

Deflection is cited in the recently released White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) [2024 National Drug Control Strategy](#) as a valued approach to confronting substance use disorders [SUD] and improving public safety: “Too often, people experiencing a mental health or substance use crisis end up interacting with the criminal justice system when they need mental health and SUD services. Today, significant work is underway to shift this paradigm.... Deflection programs aim to create non-arrest pathways to treatment and services for people with SUD, mental health conditions, or co-occurring disorders in non-violent, low-level cases, consistent with public safety. Importantly, these are voluntary services that offer a variety of deflection pathways.”

Based on a variety of approaches that communities have undertaken, [six pathways](#) of deflection have been identified and often are modified and implemented concurrently based on community needs.

First responder organizations and community partners currently operating deflection or pre-arrest diversion initiatives are invited and encouraged to fill out the brief submission form for the Directory at <https://ptaccollaborative.org/deflection-directory>.

#### **ABOUT PTACC**

The Police, Treatment, and Community Collaborative (PTACC) is the global voice for the field and movement of deflection and pre-arrest diversion, currently representing 66 organizations. PTACC is an alliance of deflection partners dedicated to providing vision, leadership, advocacy, and education to facilitate the growth and practice of deflection and pre-arrest diversion in all its forms—including initiatives that incorporate co-responder and community responder models—nationally and internationally. Learn more at [www.ptaccollaborative.org](http://www.ptaccollaborative.org).

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