



# QUARTERLY REPORT

Q3 2023 • JULY-SEPTEMBER

---

CITYWIDE



[LEADKINGCOUNTY.ORG](http://LEADKINGCOUNTY.ORG)  
[WEAREPDA.ORG/COLEAD](http://WEAREPDA.ORG/COLEAD)

# SUMMARY

CITY-WIDE, YEAR-TO-DATE

# 1,014

## CLIENTS

At the end of Q3 2023, LEAD/CoLEAD's Seattle roster contains 1,014 clients.\*

# 27,300

## SUBSTANTIVE MEETINGS

These figures blend CoLEAD and LEAD outcomes; frequency of meetings increases with CoLEAD because participants are available on site.\*\*

# 435

## REFERRALS

LEAD/CoLEAD received 435 referrals for individuals needing support.



### A CLOSER LOOK

\*This includes active clients who are working with case managers on goals, as well as a smaller number of outreach clients who are in a rapport-building process with case managers. It also includes a small number of alumni clients who may be largely stabilized and self-sufficient, but for whom continued case manager support is beneficial as they set up their lives — even if it's just a few check-ins per year.

\*\* LEAD has undergone a series of performance evaluations to test client outcomes, recidivism, and other metrics. One study found that each meeting between a participant and case manager increases that person's likelihood of gaining shelter or permanent supportive housing. The actual likelihood of gaining these resources depends on many factors, including the regional supply of shelter and housing. These numbers are substantially larger than reported in Q1 because of the addition of CoLEAD. On-site access to CoLEAD staff provides continuous support to participants.



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CITY-WIDE, YEAR-TO-DATE

**695** Connections to behavioral health programs

**1,298** Connections to substance use treatment

**2,581** Connections to legal services

**577** Steps taken toward financial self-sufficiency



## A CLOSER LOOK

For some LEAD clients, any substantive engagement with a case manager is a huge win. For all LEAD clients, every substantive meeting with a case manager is one step closer to stability.

\*The Q1 report indicated this data would be quarterly, but going forward it will be year-to-date.

LEAD clients often face additional barriers to housing, shelter, and other resources. For many LEAD clients, a LEAD case manager is the first form of interpersonal support in years. As a result, LEAD case managers are often required to engage in the slow task of building rapport and trust with LEAD clients before the arduous work of resource acquisition begins.



# COMMUNITY IMPACT

## RAPIDLY DEPLOYING SERVICES IN SOUTHWEST DELRIDGE



No matter where it operates, the goal is the same: improve public safety by supporting people who commit crimes born out of poverty to achieve stability and pursue self-identified goals, such as recovery, housing, work, or schooling.

“Success” under the LEAD model is rarely linear and looks different from participant to participant. Recently, REACH case managers helped place seven different participants at a local housing facility, four of whom had high behavioral health needs. Case managers began outreach with one of these clients in 2020, and it took four months of consistent contact until he felt comfortable sharing the details of his criminal justice system involvement, which was crucial in allowing his case manager to work with him more effectively. He cycled in and out of incarceration, eventually entering a treatment program in December 2021, but there was no housing or shelter when he got out. He relapsed.

Case managers stayed with him through new arrests and additional time at the Kent Regional Justice Center from June 2022 to September 2023. When he was released, they helped him complete a housing application, and he moved into his new spot in a permanent supportive housing facility in November 2023. It was the first time he’d been housed since 2016.

No matter where LEAD operates, the goal is the same: improve public safety by supporting people who commit crimes born out of poverty to achieve stability and pursue self-identified goals, such as recovery, housing, work, or schooling. This requires dedicated work from case managers over the course of months and years and the confidence of key players including law enforcement and prosecutors to avoid setbacks that can occur in the criminal justice system.

# MAKING THE DIFFERENCE

---

LEAD can accommodate clients whose needs disqualify them for other programs. These are their stories.

LEAD case managers work with a wide variety of clients, including some clients who are Trueblood-class members. The "Trueblood" class refers to a group of people covered by a settlement following a 2014 lawsuit *Trueblood v Department of Social and Human Services*, which concerned people with mental health conditions who were detained for indefinite periods of time without a competency hearing.

LEAD Trueblood clients live throughout Seattle. However, a large number – approximately 45 percent of our total Trueblood-class caseload – reside in Capitol Hill and other surrounding neighborhoods.

One Trueblood-class LEAD client, "Stan," was an active fentanyl user living independently in a traditional apartment setting. Stan told his case manager that he was afraid of using alone, a reasonable concern given the unpredictability of fentanyl and the prevalence of overdose. To protect himself, he invited people over, but they didn't turn out to be good friends. One refused to leave altogether. The management of the apartment complex threatened to evict him, but Stan chose to

quit the apartment voluntarily. Stan came to the conclusion that independent living wasn't safe or healthy for him.

His case manager referred him to a spot in permanent supportive housing. He's still there, housed, receiving methadone treatment every day, and working with a payee to help him manage his money.

Another client, Bob, was also in permanent supportive housing, but thought – mistakenly – that he had lost his apartment, so he left. He was particularly hard to find when surviving outdoors; Bob depended on concealment for safety. A chronic medical condition landed him in the hospital, where members of the outreach teams were able to find and reconnect with him.

He was relieved to hear that his spot indoors was secure and that he would have a place to convalesce. Since then, Bob has made progress regaining his health and signing up for medication-assisted treatment for an opioid use disorder. He also worked with a legal systems advocate to get a case held at the Seattle Municipal Court resolved.

Now, Bob has the stability and latitude to seek out support to make the place he sleeps the place he wants to come home to.



## ABOUT LEAD & COLEAD

Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) is a widely replicated community-based, pre-booking diversion model that was designed and first implemented in Seattle/King County. CoLEAD utilizes the model and lessons learned from LEAD to provide temporary lodging and intensive case management.

## PARTNERS

LEAD is governed under an interjurisdictional memorandum of understanding by a Policy Coordinating Group (PCG), to which the project management team reports. The PCG sets policy and approves all operational protocols for LEAD work.

PDA provides project management for Seattle LEAD and subcontracts with REACH, a program of Evergreen Treatment Services, to provide LEAD's outreach and case management services.

ACLU OF WASHINGTON  
KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
KING COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
KING COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE

KING COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH & RECOVERY DIVISION-  
RECOVERY NAVIGATOR PROGRAM  
SEATTLE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL  
SEATTLE MAYOR'S OFFICE  
SEATTLE POLICE DEPARTMENT