Sarpy County Crisis Stabilization Center
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• 22,000-25,000 sq.ft. facility
  • Near 25th Street and Highway 370
  • Adjacent to Nebraska Medicine Bellevue

• Operated as a Public-Private Partnership
  • Sarpy County owns the land and building; private partner operates

• Short-term treatment and stabilization of those dealing with mental health crises

• Available for use by Sarpy County law enforcement agencies as well as others in the Region 6 service area
  • Sarpy, Cass, Dodge, Douglas and Washington counties
A look at the problem

Sarpy County jail (2018)*
- $1,430,742.72 to house inmates with mental illness from July-December (13,189 jail days x $108.48/day)
- # of inmates with mental illness: 548 (12%)
- # of inmates on psychotropic medications 1,431 (30%)
- # of Crisis Response Team visits: 56

Emergency Crisis Response Team (2018)+
- 373 face-to-face assessments
- 233 with client-identified mental health needs

Emergency Protective Custody Reports+
- FY16: 350
- FY17: 372
- FY18: 412
- FY19: 476 projected

* Source: Sarpy County jail data, compiled by Jo Martin
+ Source: Region 6 Behavioral Health
New facility offers a solution

• Allows law enforcement to focus on actual criminal behavior, making Sarpy County safer

• Provides care for people experiencing mental health crises
  • Currently no options in Sarpy County for this level of care

• Stops the further criminalization of mental illness
  • People with mental illness spend more time in jail
    • Not getting treatment in jail
    • Every day in jail costs Sarpy County more money and staff time and resources
  • Reduces recidivism
  • Connects people to the support services they need

• Saves money currently spent on the jail and other stop-gap measures
Construction and operating costs

Cost
- $1,050,000 for land
- $10-$13 million for construction costs
- $2-$2.5 million projected operating costs
  - Partnership with Region 6 Behavioral Health

Funding
- Cash on hand
  - County has been saving for land purchase
- Reallocation of funds
  - Cost savings in other areas: jail, medical
- Public-Private Partnerships
  - Research and pursue as primary option
Support for Stabilization Center

Sarpy County Attorney Lee Polikov

“After years of recognizing the need for accessible mental health resources, I am excited Sarpy County is taking this concrete step toward establishing its own crisis stabilization center. This center will allow law enforcement more time to focus on keeping our county safe, while providing citizens in crisis with a place to obtain mental health services and a connection to community resources. Moving forward with this project affirms our dedication to improving public safety and the justice system, and I am in full support of Sarpy County’s effort to address this growing need.”

Sarpy County Public Defender Tom Strigenz

“Mental illness is prevalent in the criminal justice system, and many Public Defender clients have identifiable behavioral health issues. The Mental Health Crisis Stabilization Center will assist in identifying those clients at the onset of a case and provide early intervention so that people can receive treatment and services. When the center is completed, it will help divert the mentally ill from the jail to a hospital setting, which will reduce criminal justice legal costs. In addition, with this early intervention, the citizens of Sarpy County can expect lower criminal recidivism rates.”
Support for Stabilization Center

Sarpy County Sheriff Jeff Davis

“I fully support establishing a mental health crisis stabilization center in Sarpy County, allowing persons with mental illness access to treatment rather than possible incarceration and ending further criminalizing mental illness.”

Region 6 Regional Administrator Patti Jurjevich

“Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare is pleased to offer our support for Sarpy County’s plan to create a specialized center to serve individuals in a behavioral health crisis. We have, over the past several years, researched models and feel this type of facility/program will assist in providing the right service at the right time for individuals in the community.”