



Specialized Assistance For Everyone (SAFE)

## Initial Assessment of Community Needs

• In 2020 following requests from the Petaluma Community, especially our local youth groups, the City of Petaluma and the Police Department explored differential policing strategies including the evaluation of the potential for a mobile crisis intervention team.

• The City contracted with Crisis Consulting for that analysis and during their study and assessment of a representative sample of public safety calls for service they estimated that approximately 5% of total calls for service could be handled by such a program.





#### Program Goals

- Through the City of Petaluma's partnership with Petaluma People Services Center the goal of the SAFE team is to address crisis response, prevention and intervention for our most vulnerable community members experiencing crises related to mental health issues, substance abuse issues and homelessness.
- The team is made up of specially trained civilian first responders, who respond to and proactively address calls for service that have traditionally (and unnecessarily) burdened law enforcement, emergency medical services and health care providers.

# Structure and Operations

SAFE began service in the field in July 2021 currently serving within the city limits of the Petaluma.

- Hours of operation:
- 12-hours 9am-9pm July Sept, 2021
- 18-hours 7am-1am Sept Oct 2021
- 24 hours 5am-5am Currently Ongoing

For 24-hour staffing, each role (crisis worker and para-clinician), is staffed with 5 positions. For a total of 10 employees.

One program supervisor oversees the daily operations of the team and is available on-call as needed.

SAFE is dispatched through Petaluma PD's Communication Center or **707-781-1234** 

SAFE is the only model currently operating on a 24/7 cycle in California.







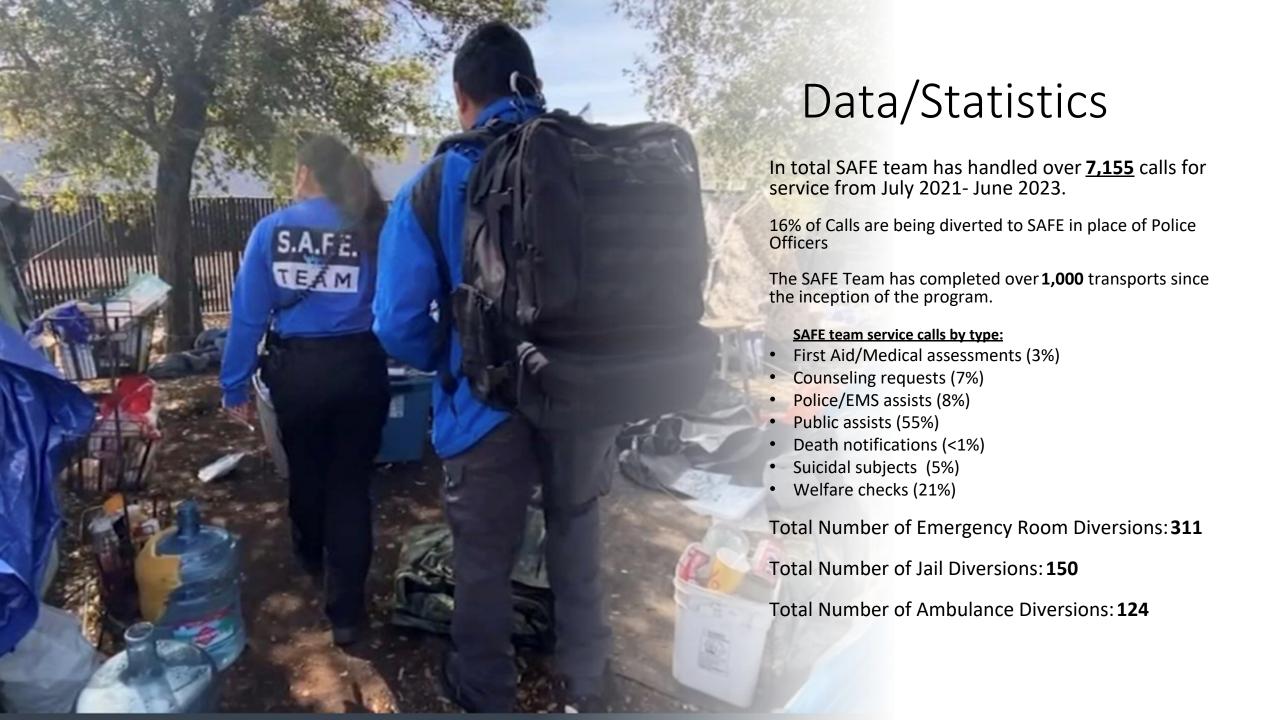






#### SAFE- A Model That Scales

- SAFE has expanded to the serve the communities of Cotati, Rohnert Park, and San Rafael.
- SAFE is the first program to serve a University campus and serves Sonoma State University.
- SAFE is connected with SRJC and has responded to their campuses to provide assistance.
- LAPD recently interviewed Petaluma PD and PPSC staff about the SAFE Team as they are evaluating how to implement a mobile crisis team with similar personnel.



### Successful Outcomes

- Assisting community members to become medication compliant.
- Assisting community members to secure housing at local shelters.
- Alleviated public safety responses stemming from calls from community members experiencing mental health issues and dementia.
- Connected community members with psychiatric services and assisted in deescalating incidents.
- Preventing and diverting medical and mental health patients from regional Emergency Departments.
- SAFE successfully negotiated for 2 hours with a juvenile on the ledge of the C Street garage threatening to jump if they saw officers.



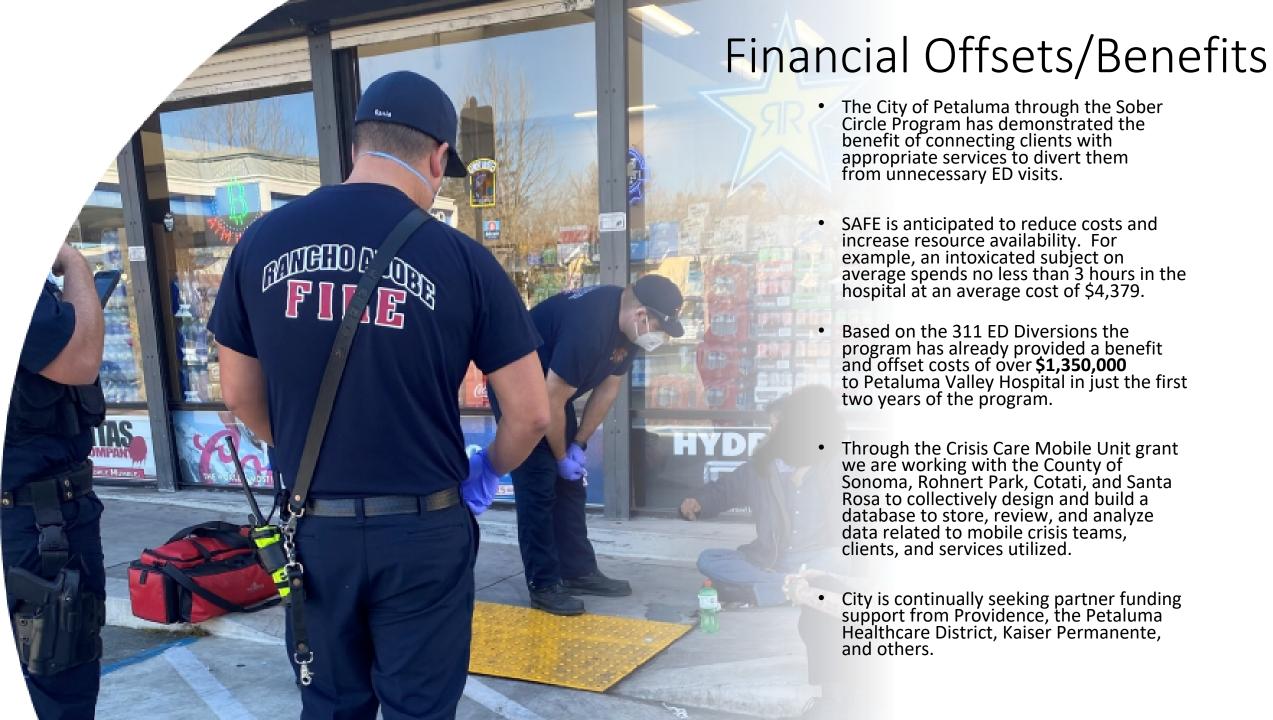






#### Program Costs

- First-Year Total Costs (Inc. Start-Up Costs) \$1,100,000
- Year Two Anticipated Total Annual Cost \$1,000,000
- Estimated On-going Annual Cost \$1,000,000
- Hourly cost of SAFE is approximately \$125/HR
- Potential Future Funding Sources:
  - Petaluma Health Care District
  - Local Health Care Providers (Providence Medical Group and Kaiser Permanente)
  - County of Sonoma Measure O funds
  - Federal and State grant opportunities





Additional information regarding the SAFE Team can be found at; cityofpetaluma.org/safe petalumapeople.org/

The SAFE Team can be requested by calling **707-781-1234**