Mobile Crisis Services

Presentation to the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Services April 27, 2015 Lynne Saxton, OHA Director

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Mobile Crisis Services

- Provide the right services at the right time
- Reduce reliance on emergency departments and hospitalization
- Divert individuals from the criminal justice system
- Connect people to services BEFORE they get arrested
 - Reduce the chance for Aid and Assist referrals to the Oregon State Hospital
 - Keep people in their community, homes, jobs, support networks
- Limit disruption to the person and support recovery



Crisis Services in Oregon

- All communities have basic crisis services
- Services are limited and have a varied ability to respond to crisis onsite in the community
 - e.g., for some communities, mobile crisis services are only available in an emergency department
- 2013-15 investment in mobile crisis services enable communities to develop a robust mobile crisis response



Investment in Crisis Services

- 2013-15 Legislature invested \$7,030,000 in mobile crisis
- Request for Application process
 - Built on information from A Community-Based Comprehensive Psychiatric Services Crisis Response Service – Technical Assistance Collaborative
- Responses built on community planning
 - Eleven community mental health programs serving 18 counties received funding
- Programs varied but based on sound practices
 - Law enforcement officers and mental health clinician pairing
 - Expansion of dedicated mobile crisis teams

