

Assessment, Intake & Diversion (AID) Center

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Jeff Holliday
Chief of Staff
Department of Public Safety

Carlton Manuel
AID Center Director
Department of Public Safety

Wendy Shea
Assistant City Attorney
City Attorney's Office

What the AID Center is:

- **A bridge between public health and safety.** The AID Center operates as an integrated referral source to services.
- **An alternative to arrest for certain state and municipal offenses** and provides a connection to community and systems-based services to facilitate a trauma-informed public health approach to public safety.
- **A key component—along with its partners—to law enforcement deflection and diversion programming** with the goal of connecting people with the help they need before they are in-crisis or have criminal charges pending against them.

What the AID Center is Not:

- A “diversion” program in the traditional legal sense, as law enforcement are not initiating criminal charges prior to participation in the program.
- A center for people experiencing a behavioral health crisis. The Solutions Center and Walk-In Crisis Center will continue to serve those who are in-crisis.

AID Center Guiding Principles

- Utilize a trauma-informed and person-centered approach to address service gaps for individuals to decrease the risk of future criminal justice involvement.
- Address underlying Social Determinants of Health by offering integrated system- and community-based services.
- Collaborate with existing alternative response models (e.g. STAR, SET, HOT)* as part of an integrated care approach.

**STAR (Support Team Assisted Response), SET (Street Enforcement Team), and HOT (Denver Police Dept. Homeless Outreach Team)*

AID Center Operations



Logistics

- The AID Center is staffed from 8 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday
- Providers have established hours of operation at the AID Center to facilitate a warm referral
- Community space for hosting trainings and classes

Facility

- West-facing entrance on 1370 Elati St.
- City contracted security are onsite; operable security cameras are in place
- Available facility services include storage lockers for client use while accessing services, kennels for pets, and a kitchen with packaged foods for client use
- Nursing & lactation room, children's play area

Available Services & Resources

- Housing navigation
- Substance misuse support
- Mental health support
- Food resources
- Hygiene products
- Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Program
- Veteran support services
- Case coordination
- Outreach Court*
- Sober living services
- Birth certificates and identification
- Employment preparation

*Piloted Outreach Court on 12/14/22; currently in discussions about future opportunities.

Pilot Progress

Pilot programming launched on November 21st, 2022.

- Have served more than 40 participants to date (partner and self-referral/walk-in)
- Self-identified needs included: birth certificates, identification, housing, transportation, General Education Development (GED) test support, and substance misuse support
- Top services referred: sober living/substance use referrals, birth certificates, IDs & WorkForce (employment assistance) referrals
- More participants sought service referrals in the AM (23), than in the PM (19)
- DPD District 6 pilot anticipated launch late January 2023

Accessing Services at the AID Center

Walk-In

- Any person interested in accessing services may voluntarily walk-in during operating hours.

Outreach Referral

- SET, STAR, HOT
- DPD Outreach Case Coordinators
- Other outreach teams across the City as appropriate
- Officers and other first responders

Pre-Arrest

- Officers may deflect a person from arrest if:
 - Probable Cause exists to make an arrest for certain State or Municipal charges and the person comprehends and agrees to be transported to the AID Center in lieu of arrest.
- Upon arrival at the AID Center, engagement with staff and services is voluntary.
- No arrest record is created regarding the contact.

Eligible Offenses for Pre-Arrest Deflection

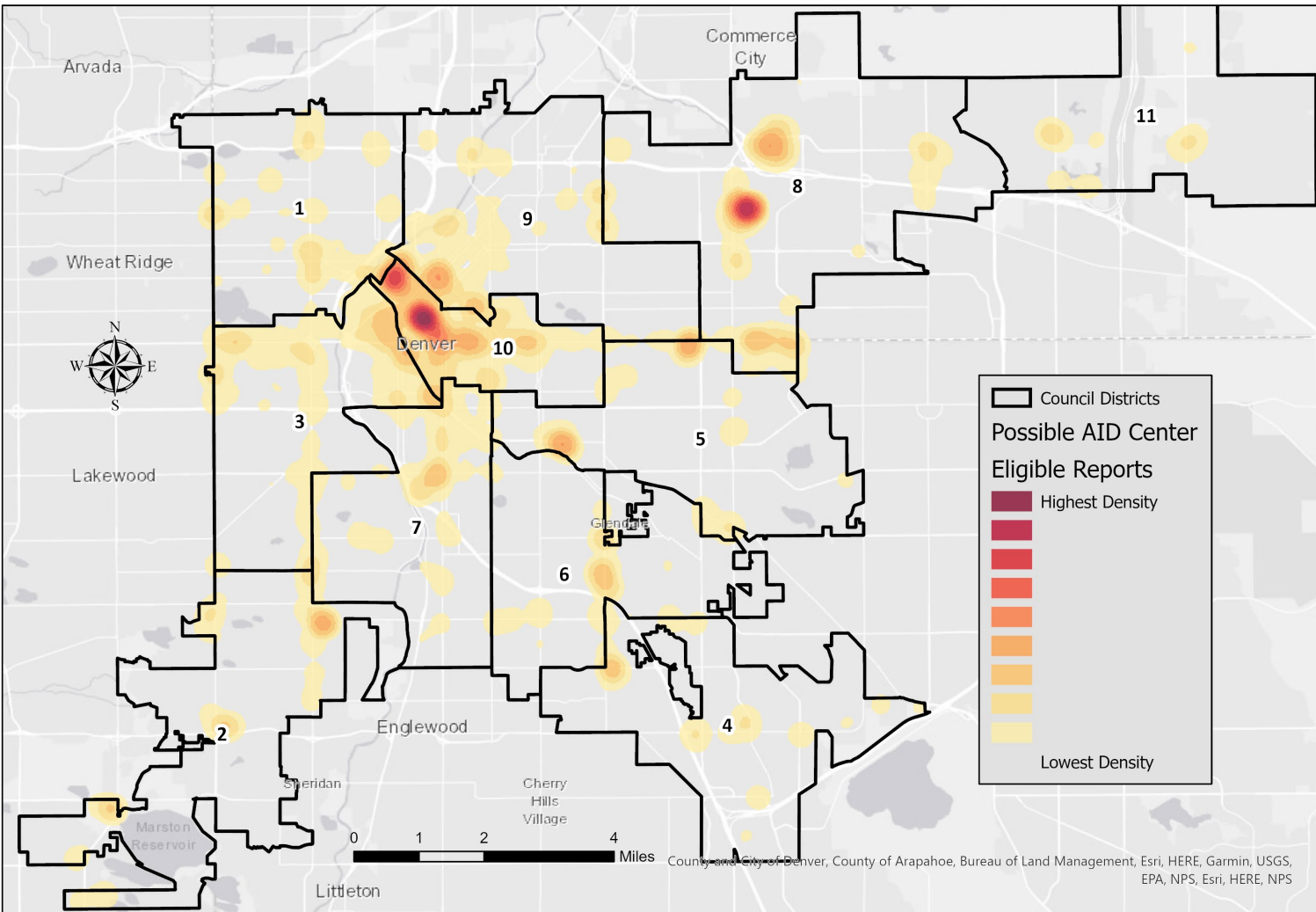
State Level Offenses

1. State Level Prostitution;
2. Level 4 Drug Felony (DF4) Possession of a controlled substance (no intent to distribute);
3. Level 1 Drug Misdemeanor (DM1) Possession of a controlled substance (no intent to distribute);

Municipal Level Charges

1. Prostitution;
2. Shoplifting (no restitution);
3. Trespassing;
4. Disturbing the peace (no domestic violence);
5. Public fighting;

Possible AID Center Eligible Police Report Density with Council Districts



Upwards of 100 incidents weekly potentially AID Center-eligible.

Of these incidents, ~40% occur in the downtown core.

Training & Engagement

- Piloting in Denver Police District 6
 - Roll call trainings
 - Updated DPD manual (Section 116.01) available online at www.denvergov.org.
- Engagement

Questions