

Department Source: Public Health and Human Services

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: January 5, 2026

Re: DIVERT Programmatic Report

Impacted Ward: Citywide

Executive Summary

An annual report of the DIVERT program for Council review and situational awareness.

Discussion

The City of Columbia's DIVERT Program is a collaborative initiative between the City's Police and Fire departments, Office of Neighborhood Services, Animal Control, Environmental Health, MU Community Paramedics and Columbia/Boone County Public Health and Human Services. The program integrates social services into the City's public safety and justice systems to address the underlying health and social needs that often drive repeated system involvement. Its goals are to connect people with case management, reduce the burden on public safety and justice systems, and to create a just and accessible community.

PHHS, in partnership with other departments, prepared a yearly report of the DIVERT program for Council's situational awareness. Overall, the DIVERT program has grown significantly this past year, increasing the number of referrals and engaged clients. The progress of the program exceeds staff expectation and aligns well with community and program goals.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: none

Long-Term Impact: none

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Organizational Excellence, Secondary Impact: Safe Community, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Not Applicable, Secondary Impact: Not applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Legislative History

Date	Action
None.	None.

Suggested Council Action

Staff request that Council accept the DIVERT annual report.