ADVOCACY INITIATED RESPONSE (AIR) PROGRAM YEAR IN REVIEW: MAY 2022-MAY 2023

AIR Pilot Program Background

In May 2022, the New Orleans Health Department (NOHD), in partnership with the New Orleans Family Justice Center (NOFJC), New Orleans Police Department (NOPD), and Orleans Parish Communication District (OPCD) launched the Advocacy-Initiated Response (AIR) Pilot Program in NOPD's 3rd District.

- The AIR program is an **intervention for domestic violence** to increase victim safety, provide linkages to resources, and disrupt violence in the community.
- Community-based AIR Triage Advocates from the NOFJC contact victims directly after law enforcement responds to a domestic incident or disturbance with the goals of providing critical linkages to services and resources, enhancing safety and preventing repeat incidents.



AIR Pilot Program Initial Outcomes

From May 2022 - May 2023, AIR Advocates attempted contact with victims in 897 domestic cases that occurred in NOPD's 3rd District and:

- Reached over **32%** of victims within four days of an incident.
- Spoke directly with identified victims in **54%** of cases in which contact was initiated.
- Provided follow-up to victims who had been involved in subsequent cases. Addresses involved in repeat cases accounted for **21%** of cases.

79% of victims who were engaged requested referrals and community resources

46% of victims who were referred to the NOFJC followed up to engage in services



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Frequency of Incident Types in the 3rd District



Definitions

Domestic Disturbance (n = 752): a call for service involving individuals with a domestic relationship that does not involve a crime.

Domestic Incident (n=310): a call for service involving individuals with a domestic relationship that does involve a crime.

Days Between Incident and Follow-up Call²



¹ This graph includes all domestic data OPCD's Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) identified for the 3rd District from May 2022-2023. Due to technical setbacks, advocates were not able to reach victims in every identified domestic case.

⁴ This graph includes data from cases that were not initially identified as domestic when there was a call for service made or cases in which reports were made at the 3rd District precinct.



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Type of Violence



Definitions

Intimate Partner Violence: includes violence between individuals who are current or former dating partners, past or ongoing sexual partners, or current or former spouses.

Family Violence: includes violence between family members who are parents/children, siblings, grandparent/grandchild, cousins, and in-laws





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Precursors to Incidents and Disturbances

- AIR Advocates identified arguments or verbal altercations immediately preceded law enforcement responses in **57%** of cases.
- AIR Advocates documented law enforcement was called to assist a victim with unwanted contact from the individual who had caused them harm in **20%** of cases.
- AIR Advocates documented that in **14%** of cases law enforcement was called to assist with custody disputes and in **13%** of cases they were called to assist with property disputes.

Identified Risk Factors

Advocates identified risk factors associated with increased risks of lethality in 471 cases, and in **96%** of these cases, advocates identified a previous history of domestic violence or histories of domestic disturbances. Additional risk factors include:





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Types of Referrals Provided



NOFJC services, civil legal aid for custody, divorce, and protective orders, and **behavioral health** resources for adults and adolescents were victims top three requested referrals.



NOFJC Referrals

- Overall, **46%** of victims who received referrals to the NOFJC followed up to engage in services such as case management and counseling.
- Over **half** of the victims who followed up to engage in services completed an intake with the NOFJC for the first time.
- **Twenty-two percent** of victims were previous NOFJC clients who were reengaged by an AIR Advocate and came back to the NOFJC to reengage in services

New Child Clients

AIR Advocates informed victims about children's services available at the NOFJC that include "Playland" and child and adolescent counseling. As a result, **71 new child** clients received services at the NOFJC.

