

Community Police Alliance

End of Year Report 2023

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The Community Police Alliance's (CPA) mission is to bridge the gap between the community and law enforcement and respond to mental health crises with the Bound Brook Police Department (BBPD) when called upon. The Community Police Alliance (CPA) will receive, analyze, act upon, and follow up on referrals provided by the Bound Brook Police Department (BBPD) based on the observations of the "Officer Liaison" and the CPA. The CPA will offer referred individuals and families the information and support needed to take advantage of community services that address issues, such as mental health and substance use, domestic violence, housing and food insecurity, childcare, and healthcare. The CPA's focus is on reducing harm to the public, saving law enforcement resources, and creating a better community for everyone.

The Community Police Alliance (CPA) for Bound Brook began getting referrals the very first week of service. In total the CPA has received 63 referrals from Bound Brook Police Department and the Community. These referrals cover a spectrum of issues including Mental Health, Youth, Domestic Violence and more, highlighting the complex challenges the community of Bound Brook faces (see table below).

The day-to-day Operations of the CPA exhibit flexibility, while adapting to the diverse calls and referrals received. The process involves obtaining referrals from the "Officer Liaison," in addition to reviewing reports from CAD entries and subsequently reaching out to the referrals.

Most days of the week begin at the Somerset County Human Services office where CAD reports are read, and referrals are contacted by phone. The overarching objective of the CPA is to be available and to help reduce multiple calls from the community to the Bound Brook Police Department, channeling issues and/or needs of the residents more effectively through connections to appropriate community-based resources.

There has been great success over the past 3 months with community involvement, attending trainings and support of the Bound Brook Police Department. Here are some key highlights of the CPA accomplishments and organizations I've begun to foster relationships within the community.

- Helping the homeless population find shelter.

- Food and housing support for Bound Brook Families
- Red Rock Food Distribution Partnership with SC Food Bank
- Connecting victims of domestic violence with legal and therapeutic services.
- Working with families at various schools in Bound Brook school districts to assist with housing, food, and referrals to therapeutic services.
- Presentations/Collaborations with Bound Brook School District at
 - Smalley Elementary School
 - Community Middle School
 - Bound Brook High School: Officer Sam Caramella
 - Middle Earth: Maria Estrada
 - Safe and Sound: Susan Rivera
 - EmPoWER Somerset: Cheryl Pignatelli
 - Healthy Youth Coalition: Detective Jeff Clyne
 - Supporting the Drug Prevention Grant for Bound Brook:
 - Connecting with faith-based community organizations and attending local food bank distributions in the Community.
 - Training includes Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) and Narcan training facilitated by Somerset County Department of Human Services.

As the CPA moves forward, I have a few recommendations as we move into 2024 and continue to deliver and provide the best services to all residents in Bound Brook. First, come up with a plan to utilize CPA for transportation to PESS/RJW when deemed appropriate. Additionally, continue to improve on data collection. Finally, establish community office space for easier access to CPA for Bound Brook Residents.

I am pleased with the promising start of the CPA in Bound Brook, support of the Bound Brook Police Department and administration. Recognizing this program as an ongoing endeavor we are collectively shaping something unique. With the hope to continue to bridge the gap between law enforcement and the community, while providing connection and delivery of community-based services to the residents of Bound Brook.

First 3 Months of Service:

Presenting Problem:	Total number of referrals	Referral from The BBPD	Referral from the Community	Contacted	Follow-Up	Services Provided	Transportation to P.E.S.S./RWJ	Followed Police Transportation to RWJ
Youth	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0
Domestic Violence	17	17	0	14	10	10	0	0
Health Care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Housing and Food	18	15	3	18	18	18	0	0
Mental Health	12	12	0	12	12	7	0	0
Substance Use & Abuse	9	9	0	3	3	3	0	0
Other	6	6	0	2	2	2	0	0
Total	63	60	3	50	46	24	0	0