

Maine
Cumberland **County**
POSITION PAPER FOR AGENDA ITEM

TO:	Cumberland County Commissioners
FROM:	Chief Deputy Brian Pellerin
DATE:	February 7, 2025
SUBJECT:	MOU Between CCSO and The Opportunity Alliance – Mental Health Liaison

Requested Action:

Review the proposed MOU between the Cumberland County Sheriff’s Office and The Opportunity Alliance to develop and coordinate efforts for a Law Enforcement Crisis Response Liaison (LECRL).

Support the Sheriff’s Office in developing a Mental Health Liaison program for the 15 county municipalities that the Sheriff’s Office provides law enforcement services to.

Background & Purpose of Request:

This position will be funded through The Opportunity Alliance in conjunction with their Crisis Response program as funded and coordinated through the state of Maine. This position would work directly with Deputies in the field in a co-response model and referral program for Mental Health related calls for service. This would include responses to residential calls as well as mental health related calls to the multiple schools in our patrol areas.

This is initially intended be a pilot program with the hopes of developing a more compressive program that will have trained mental health responders imbedded with our staff. The LECRL will also have the ability to receive and track law enforcement mental health referrals for follow up and connecting those in need with available community resources.

The Opportunity Alliance currently has an MOU with the City of Portland provides Portland PD with two mental health liaisons. There is another position based in the Town of Bridgton.

Funding Amount and Source:

This position would be funded through The Opportunity Alliance and supported through claims submitted directly to MaineCare, Medicare and other private insurers for those individual beneficiaries receiving services through this program. There would be no costs associated with Cumberland County.

Attachments: (Please list out any Attachments you’re including):

- Draft MOU Dated March 1, 2025
- CCSO Mental Health Related calls for service for calendar years 2023 and 2024

Result: On this date _____, the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners, by vote of _____, _____ the above request.