



# Cumberland County

## Commissioner Workshop

### Meeting Agenda - Final

Meeting Location: Feeney Conference Room

Workshops are for Commissioner review; items are informational only unless otherwise directed by the Board. The public is welcome to attend; public comment will not be received unless invited by the Board.

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**Monday, March 17, 2025**

**5:30 PM**

**County Courthouse  
205 Newbury St  
Portland, ME 04101**

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**The Monthly Board of Commissioner Meeting will proceed after the Workshop.**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

[REV 25-05](#)

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).

**Attachments:** [PP - Opportunity Alliance Crisis Response Position](#)  
[CCSO TOA Draft MOU \(002\)-signed SM](#)  
[2023 Mental Health Related Calls for Service](#)  
[2024 Mental Health Related Calls for Service](#)  
[Analysis of Mental Health Response Data - 2023 - 2024](#)

#### **ADJOURNMENT**



# Cumberland County

142 Federal St  
Portland, ME 04101

## Position Paper

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**File #:** REV 25-05

**Agenda Date:** 3/17/2025

**Agenda #:**

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**Agenda Item Request:**

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).

**Background and Purpose of Request:**

**Requestor:** Chief Deputy Brian Pellerin

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.

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.

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.

**Presentation:** Yes

**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.

**Effective Date if Applicable:**

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

<b>TO:</b>	Cumberland County Commissioners
<b>FROM:</b>	Chief Deputy Brian Pellerin
<b>DATE:</b>	February 7, 2025
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	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

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



# CUMBERLAND COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

- Kevin J. Joyce  
SHERIFF
- Brian R. Pellerin  
CHIEF DEPUTY

36 County Way, Portland, Maine 04102

Phone (207)774-1444 – fax (207)828-2373

Effective Date: March 1, 2025

Revision Date: March 1, 2026

## The Opportunity Alliance Law Enforcement Crisis Response Liaison

Memorandum of Understanding between The Opportunity Alliance and the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office

### Objective

In a joint effort of The Opportunity Alliance (TOA) and the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office (CCSO), we have created the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to promote the effective utilization of the TOA Crisis Service Law Enforcement Liaison Service. The Law Enforcement Crisis Response Liaison position (LECRL) at TOA was developed to strengthen the partnership between law enforcement and mental health services in order to better serve our communities and people experiencing a mental health crisis.

### Shared Goals

The shared goal of TOA and the CCSO in creating this MOU is to produce the following results in support of the (LECRL) position.

- Effective collaboration between TOA and CCSO.
- Coordinated and regular communication across the program between the CCSO administration and TOA.
- Shared accountability for supporting the work of the Law Enforcement Crisis Response Liaison.
- Continuous quality improvement strategies to promote meeting identified service outcomes.
- Promotion of the best practice models that support the work of CCSO Deputies, mental health providers, and the community.

### Roles and Responsibilities

- The role of TOA LECRL is to support CCSO in their efforts to stabilize individuals experiencing a mental health crisis by providing crisis assessment and intervention planning, risk determination for harm to self or others, and general mental health consultation.
- The role of the TOA Crisis Director is to provide staff development, administrative oversight, and clinical supervision of the LECRL. The Crisis Director is also responsible for collaborating closely with the CCSO Mental Health Supervisor to effectively coordinate and support the LECRL in achieving the stated goals of



the MOU. Performance management of the LECRL will be completed by the TOA Crisis Director with input from the CCSO Mental Health Supervisor.

- The role of the CCSO Mental Health Supervisor is to work collaboratively with the TOA Crisis Director and to provide on-site direction and support as necessary for the LECRL.
- TOA Human Resources and CCSO will work closely together to assure the employment policies, work safety standards, and on-boarding processes for the LECRL are congruent with TOA Human Resource policies and the needs of CCSO.

#### Expectations within the Law Enforcement Crisis Response Liaison

In signing this MOU, TOA Crisis Services agrees to the aforementioned goal and will work toward achieving results by:

- To employ and maintain the TOA staff LECRL. The LECRL will be collocated within the CCSO and works closely with the CCSO Mental Health Supervisor in providing mental health crisis services. The LECRL will be an employee of the TOA and not a County employee. Selection, pay and benefits for this position will be the sole responsibility of the TOA. As this position will have access to legally confidential material, the TOA LECRL will be subject to a CCSO criminal background check to assure agency accreditation standards and legal compliance with State and Federal electronic databases and record information systems.
- The LECRL will report to the CCSO at the start of each shift to check in with the CCSO Mental Health Supervisor. The LECRL will maintain consistent communication with the CCSO Mental Health Supervisor in regards to any changes to their schedule.
- TOA will be responsible and have final authority over all aspects of the TOA agency employment requirements and policy around the LECRL. The TOA Senior VP of Human Resources and the CCSO will resolve any inconsistency of workplace policy across the two entities and promote successful on-boarding of the LECRL.
- TOA Crisis Director will work closely with the CCSO Mental Health Supervisor in the supervision of the LECRL. The Crisis Director is the formal TOA supervisor of the LECRL; however the CCSO Mental Health Supervisor will provide on-site direction and support for the LECRL.
- TOA will initiate and assemble an annual review of this MOU within 30 days of the renewal date. It will be scheduled so that the Sheriff of Cumberland County and the President and CEO of TOA can be present to authorize renewal of this MOU.
- TOA will develop and maintain Business Associate Agreements (BAA) with the CCSO that allow for sharing of client information that is necessary to promote the goal and results of this MOU.

In signing this MOU, CCSO agrees to the aforementioned goals and will work toward achieving results by:

- The CCSO Mental Health Supervisor will provide on-site direction and support for the LECRL and work closely with the TOA Crisis Director on any identified needs to support the LECRL in the practice.
- In an effort to enhance communication and collaboration, the CCSO Mental Health Supervisor will attend a TOA Crisis Staff meeting at least once a month.
- CCSO will attend the TOA annual review of this MOU that will be scheduled so that the Sheriff of Cumberland County and the President and CEO of TOA can be present to authorize renewal of the MOU.

In signing this MOU, TOA and CCSO agree to further support the LECRL position by expecting the TOA Crisis Director and CCSO Mental Health Supervisor to:



- Meet monthly with the LECRL in a co-supervision session to assure the goals of this MOU are being achieved.
- TOA will offer support and trainings to the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office as requested to enhance the knowledge and understanding of various mental health and substance use topics.

Termination of MOU by Agreement

This agreement will require an annual review and will remain in effect until either party withdraws from the agreement or finds it necessary to make adjustments to the document. Either party upon 30 days may terminate this agreement through written notice.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Sheriff Kevin J. Joyce  
 Cumberland County Sheriff  
 Portland, Maine

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

*Sally Maxwell*

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Sally Maxwell  
 Chief Operating Officer  
 The Opportunity Alliance  
 Portland, Maine

2/6/25  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date





**Cumberland County Sheriff's Office**  
 Mental Health Related Calls for Service  
 Year 2023



Nature of Incident	Total Incidents
911 Cell Hangup	13
911 Hangup	5
911 Misdial	3
Agency Assistance	57
Alarm	1
Animal Problem	1
Assault - Simple	4
Attempt to Locate	12
Burglary	1
Canine Call	4
Child Abuse or Neglect	1
Citizen Assist	78
Citizen Dispute	5
Community Policing	1
Court Service	2
Criminal Mischief	4
Criminal Trespass	5
Death Unattended/Attended	10
Disturbance	57
Domestic Violence	4
Domestic Assault	8
Domestic Verbal Argument	14
Controlled Substance Problem	2
Evidence Technician Workorder	2
Escort	3
Incident Follow Up	1
Fraud	2
Harassment	5
Information Report	10
Juvenile Problem	24
Mental Health Event	467
Misconduct	11
Missing / Lost Person	23
Noise Complaint	8
Operating Under Influence	1
Overdose	35
Pedestrian Check	10
Runaway Juvenile	22
Search Warrant	1
Sex Offender Reg Verification	4
Sex Offense	3
Sex Offender Registry	1
Speed Complaint	1
Suicide/Attempted Suicide	60

Suspicious Person/Circumstance	22
Theft	1
Threatening	7
Traffic Violation	1
Vagrancy	1
Wanted Person	3
Welfare Check	78

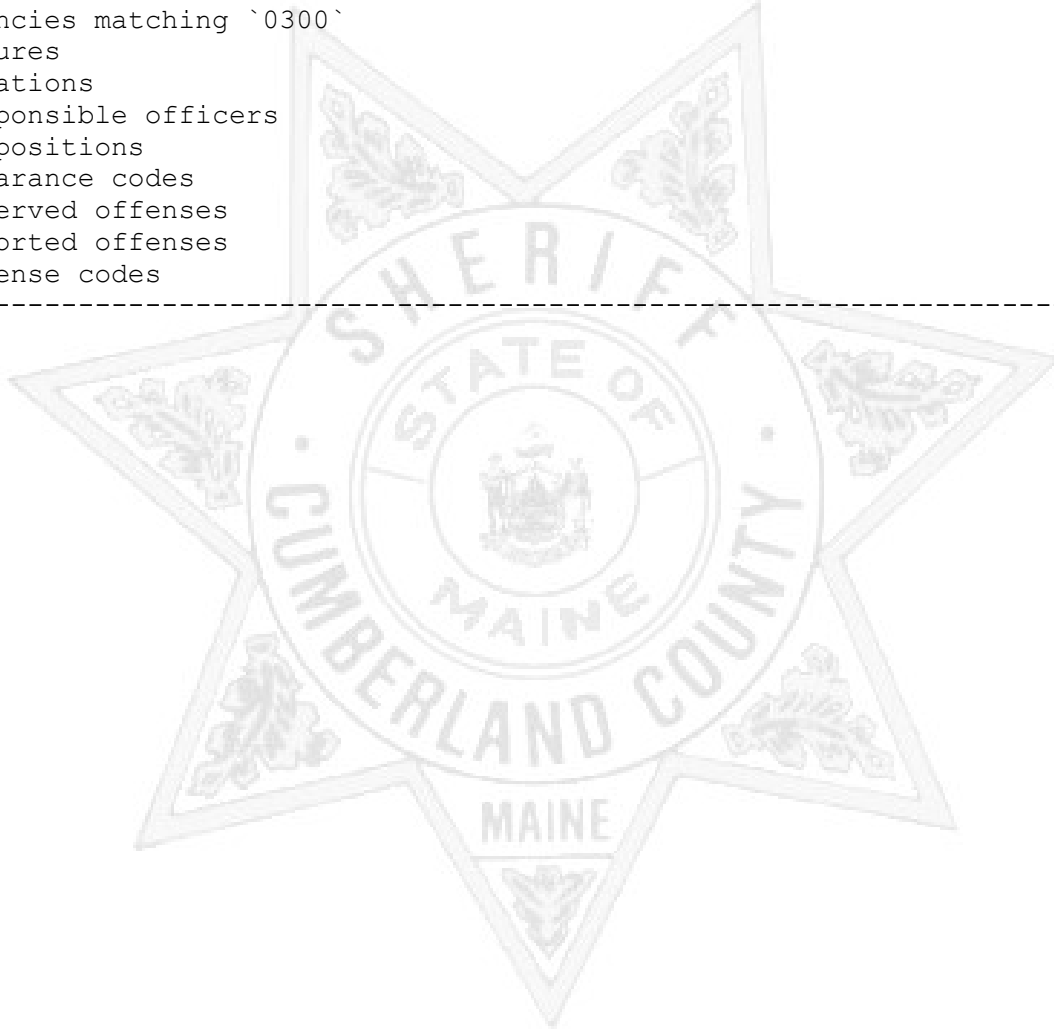
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Total Incidents for This Report: **1099**

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 All natures  
 All locations  
 All responsible officers  
 All dispositions  
 All clearance codes  
 All observed offenses  
 All reported offenses  
 All offense codes

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**Cumberland County Sheriff's Office**  
 Mental Health Related Calls for Service  
 Year 2024



Nature of Incident	Total Incidents
911 Cell Hangup	6
911 Hangup	6
911 Misdial	8
Accident w/ Property Damage	1
Agency Assistance	103
Alarm	1
Assault - Simple	16
Attempt to Locate	4
Burglary to Motor Vehicle	1
Canine Call	6
Citizen Assist	112
Citizen Dispute	7
Civil Dispute	2
Court Service	5
Criminal Mischief	2
Criminal Trespass	9
Death Unattended/Attended	10
Disorderly Conduct	4
Disturbance	62
Domestic Violence	2
Domestic Assault	3
Domestic Verbal Argument	20
Drug Recognition Expert	1
Escort	2
Family Fight	2
FI Mental Health	1
Found Property	2
Fraud	2
Harassment	22
Information Report	12
Intoxicated Person	1
Juvenile Problem	46
Lost Property	3
Mental Health Event	538
Misconduct	4
Missing / Lost Person	18
Noise Complaint	2
Operating Under Influence	1
Overdose	39
Pedestrian Check	6
Prowler	1
Runaway Juvenile	20
Sex Offender Reg Verification	3
Sex Offense	7
Sex Offender Registry	1

Suicide/Attempted Suicide	61
Suspicious Person/Circumstance	19
Theft	2
Threatening	8
Traffic Violation	2
Truancy	1
Wanted Person	1
Weapons Offense	4
Welfare Check	85

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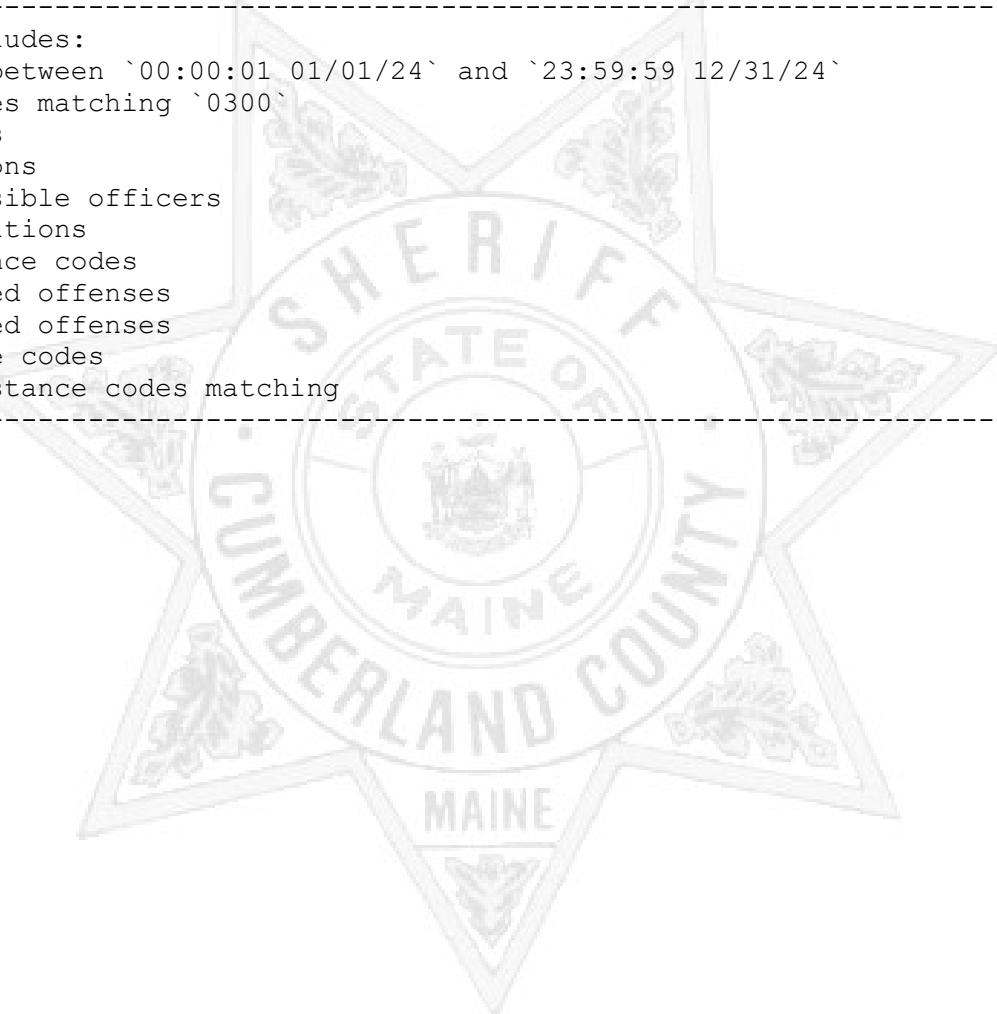
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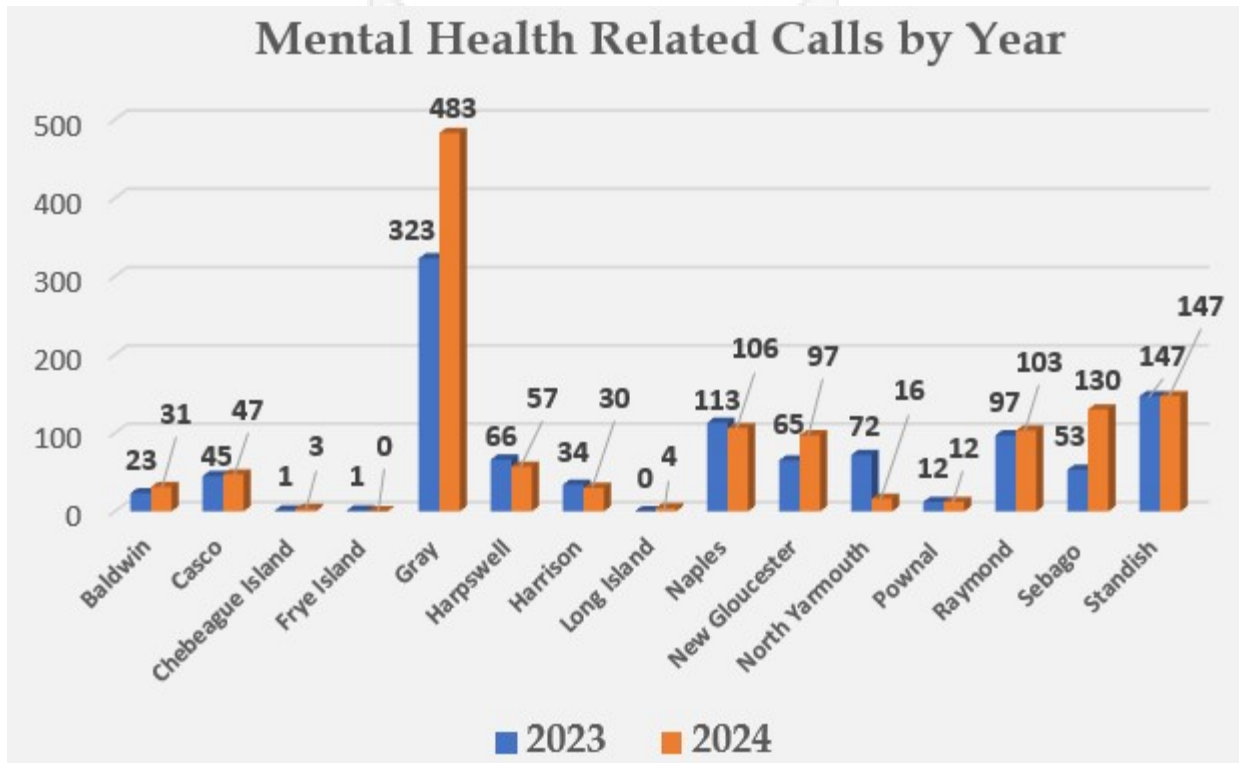
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 All agencies matching `0300`  
 All natures  
 All locations  
 All responsible officers  
 All dispositions  
 All clearance codes  
 All observed offenses  
 All reported offenses  
 All offense codes  
 All circumstance codes matching

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TO: Chief Deputy Brian Pellerin  
 FROM: Wendy Clark-Tarbox, Crime Analyst  
 DATE: January 3, 2025

**SUBJECT: ANALYSIS OF MENTAL HEALTH RESPONSE DATA**



**Mental Health Calls for Service**

Points of Interest -

- In 2023, we responded to 1099 mental health related calls. In 2024, we responded 1307 calls. Included in the totals are 88 calls for District 5 (47 in 2023 and 41 in 2024). Calls increased in 2024 by 18.9%.
- Of note, suicides increased in 2024 by 60%. Five (5) suicides were reported in 2023 and eight (8) were reported in 2024. The method of the suicides was by gunshot (7), hanging (4), drowning (1) and by vehicle (1).

- The towns with the most mental health related calls in both time periods were Gray and Standish.

In Gray in 2023, there were 323 calls and in 2024 there were 483 calls. The calls increased in 2024 by 49.5%. A total of nineteen (19) group homes were noted in the incidents in both periods.

In Standish in 2023, we responded to 147 mental health related calls. In 2024, we also responded to 147 calls. A total of three (3) group homes were noted in the incidents in both periods.

### Mental Health Calls by Month and Districts

#### Points of Interest -

- In 2023, the district with the most mental health related calls was District 3. The month with the most calls was December.

#### Year 2023

	<u>District 1</u>	<u>District 2</u>	<u>District 3</u>	<u>District 4</u>	<u>District 5</u>	<u>Total</u>
January	8	19	36	9	1	73
February	19	16	36	4	2	77
March	17	17	43	2	5	84
April	12	26	29	4	5	76
May	18	22	30	1	5	76
June	19	24	31	7	5	86
July	22	28	25	5	4	84
August	24	27	35	3	4	93
September	19	25	49	6	2	101
October	23	27	40	9	5	104
November	22	24	55	6	4	111
December	20	35	63	11	5	<b>134</b>
	223	290	<b>472</b>	67	47	<b>1099</b>

- In 2024, the district with the most mental health related calls was District 3. The month with the most calls was October.

### Year 2024

	<u>District 1</u>	<u>District 2</u>	<u>District 3</u>	<u>District 4</u>	<u>District 5</u>	<u>Total</u>
January	23	23	64	3	3	116
February	10	19	28	2	1	60
March	32	24	39	5	3	103
April	29	16	42	4	5	96
May	22	23	56	3	2	106
June	19	19	59	10	4	111
July	23	26	44	8	3	104
August	39	30	58	7	4	138
September	27	27	79	4	6	143
October	31	35	68	9	5	<b>148</b>
November	30	22	38	6	3	99
December	23	22	33	3	2	83
	308	286	<b>608</b>	64	41	<b>1307</b>

