



POLICING  
ALTERNATIVES  
& DIVERSION  
INITIATIVE

# MONTHLY REPORT

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May 2023

*A NEW APPROACH  
TO COMMUNITY SAFETY  
& WELLNESS*





PAD promotes a new approach to community safety and wellness by reducing police involvement in issues related to quality-of-life concerns and by increasing the accessibility of supportive services. We engage in creative problem-solving to respond to community concerns, and addressing people's human needs with dignity, patience and care. PAD provides an alternative to criminal justice involvement through two core strategies:

**1. Community Response Services:** We partner with the City of Atlanta's 311 non-emergency services line to accept community referrals for issues of concern related to mental health, substance use or extreme poverty.

**2. Diversion Services:** We accept pre-arrest diversion referrals from law enforcement to provide an immediate alternative to arrest for individuals experiencing substance addiction, mental health concerns, or extreme poverty. We also accept post-booking diversions from the Fulton County Jail and Atlanta City Detention Center.

Our Care Navigation Team provides housing support, case management, and legal navigation for individuals who have been diverted by law enforcement or have an open and eligible criminal case in the City of Atlanta or Fulton County. We provide case management assistance to our participants for as long as they need assistance. We aim to build relationships to support our participants in achieving their goals for more stable and healthy lives.

THE TOP LINE May 2023

18

Diversions

145

Community  
Response  
Requests  
Through ATL311

15

New  
Participants  
Enrolled

101

Businesses  
Engaged Through  
Outreach

"A couple days ago I called PAD to get help for an elderly woman that had taken up residence on the porch of a neighbor's unoccupied home. She had just been released from a hospital and was in desperate need of shelter. PAD arrived within 20 minutes. They couldn't have been more respectful and kind to the woman. They gently explained they were there to help her, which really got things off to a great start. Though I told the woman of the work PAD does, she was still suspicious that I was calling the police on her. PAD told her of the help that was possible without making promises that might not come through. Thanks to their friendly approach, she went with them to take a much needed shower and discuss a plan. It was so heartwarming to see people come to help and be so respectful to a woman that has known too much of different type of treatment... You and your team are angels on earth. I'm so thankful you're here to offer help to those that need it most."

- Mac Teeter

## Diversions

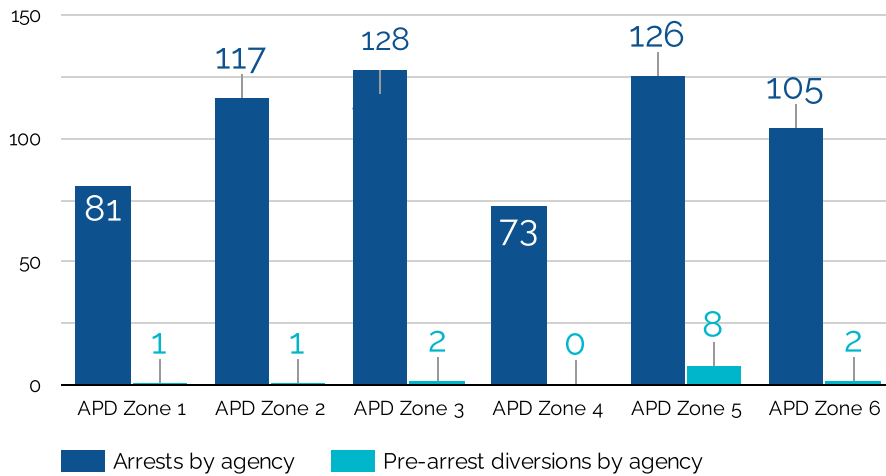
# 18 COMPLETED DIVERSIONS

- 9 Total pre-arrest diversions, excluding re-referrals
- 5 Total re-referrals
- 4 Total post-booking diversions
- + 0 CHANGE IN DIVERSIONS FROM PRIOR MONTH
- 10 CHANGE IN DIVERSIONS FROM PRIOR YEAR

PAD accepts pre-arrest diversions from Atlanta Police Department, MARTA police officers, and Georgia Tech police officers who have probable cause to arrest an individual and identify that there is a need related to substance use, mental health, or extreme poverty. We also accept post-booking diversions from the Fulton County Jail and Atlanta City Detention Center.

The Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion initiative, or LEAD, is a collaboration between PAD and the Atlanta Police Department, MARTA Police Department, City of Atlanta Public Defender's Office, City of Atlanta Solicitor's Office, Fulton County Public Defender's Office, Fulton County Solicitor General's Office, and Fulton County District Attorney's Office.

### Diversions and diversion-eligible arrests by police zone/agency



### RESPONSE STATISTICS

Average response time to diversions was

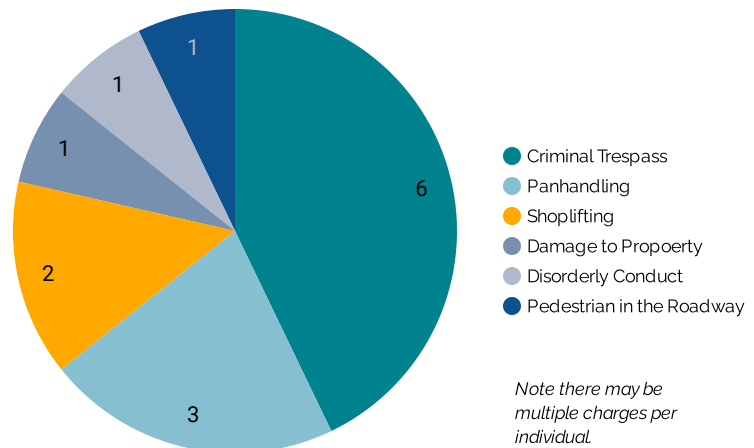
# 23 minutes

### TYPICAL TIME OF DIVERSION\*

APD Zone 1	1pm-3pm
APD Zone 2	3pm-5pm
APD Zone 3	10am-12pm
APD Zone 5	12pm-2pm
APD Zone 6	10am-12pm

\*50% or more of diversions happened during this time. If no diversions occurred, the zone will not be listed.

### CHARGES AT THE TIME OF DIVERSION



Note there may be multiple charges per individual.



# Community Response Services

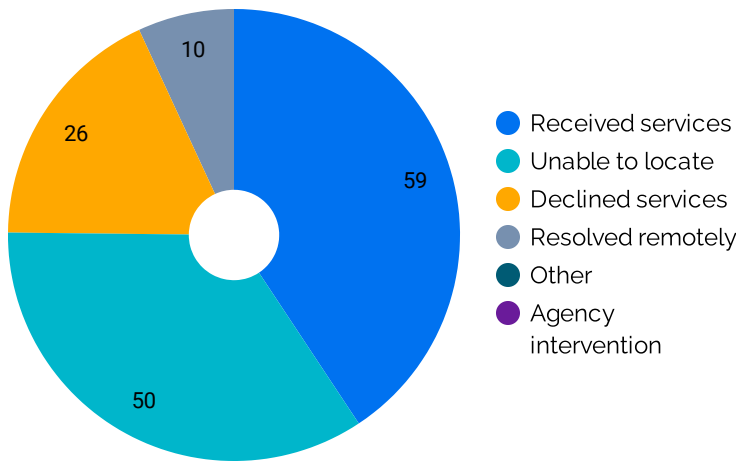
## 145 RESPONSE REQUESTS

2	# of 911 call transfers to 311
+ 43	Change in total 311 requests from prior month
-26	Change in total 311 requests from same month, prior year

*Excludes ineligible and duplicate calls.*

Community members in Atlanta can call 311 regarding issues of community concern related to behavioral health or poverty. In October 2022, 911 also began transferring calls concerning public indecency to 311. Our team responds to these concerns and offers individuals immediate resources and warm referrals to other service providers.

### Response Outcomes - 311



Note: "Declined Services" may include individuals who are already working with other service providers or would prefer to be re-engaged at another time

### 311 RESPONSE STATISTICS

120 referrals ( 82.8% of all calls) were designated as requiring an immediate response.

86% of these calls (103 ) received an in-person response within 30 minutes.

21.5 minutes was the average response time to calls designated as requiring an immediate response

16 requests were designated as outreach requests. 100% of these calls (16 ) received a response within 48 hours.

10 requests were provided with resources by PAD staff over the phone.

### Demographics of Engaged Individuals

#### By Race and Ethnicity:

43	Black, not Latinx
3	Latinx
9	Not specified
14	White, not Latinx

#### By Gender:

41	Cis men
23	Cis women
5	Not specified

#### By age:

18 - 24	1
25 - 40	7
41 - 60	6
61+	6
Not specified	38



# Community Response Services *continued*

## 69 SUCCESSFUL ENGAGEMENTS

- 16 CHANGE IN SUCCESSFUL ENGAGEMENTS FROM PRIOR MONTH
- + 17 CHANGE IN SUCCESSFUL ENGAGEMENTS FROM PRIOR YEAR
- 0 ENROLLED 311 LEAD PARTICIPANT(S)

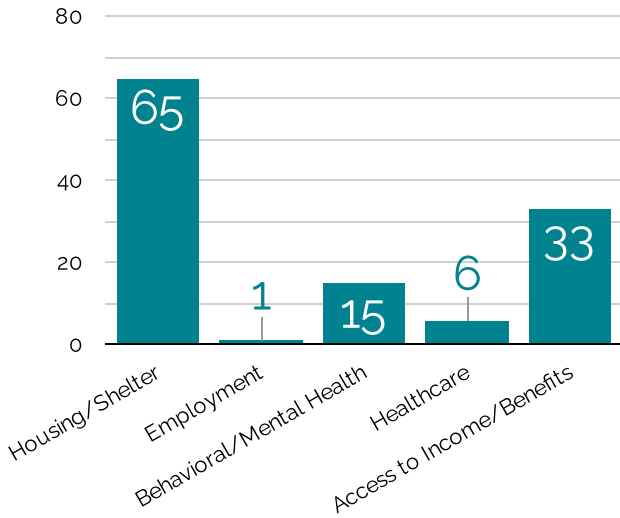


**DeVon Green**

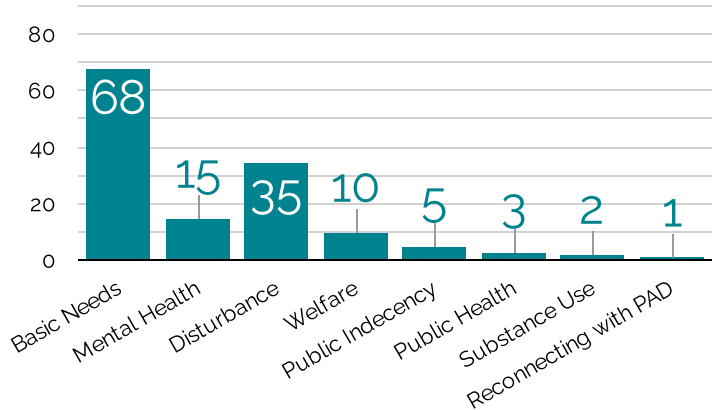
1h · 🌐

At lunch today I had the opportunity to witness **Policing Alternatives & Diversion Initiative** in action as they helped to calm an unhoused man who had lapsed into a screaming fit on Spring Street. They offered him food and treated him with dignity, kindness, and understanding, successfully calming him down without forcing him to relocate. Just had to give a shout out to this amazing organization that I hadn't been aware of until today.

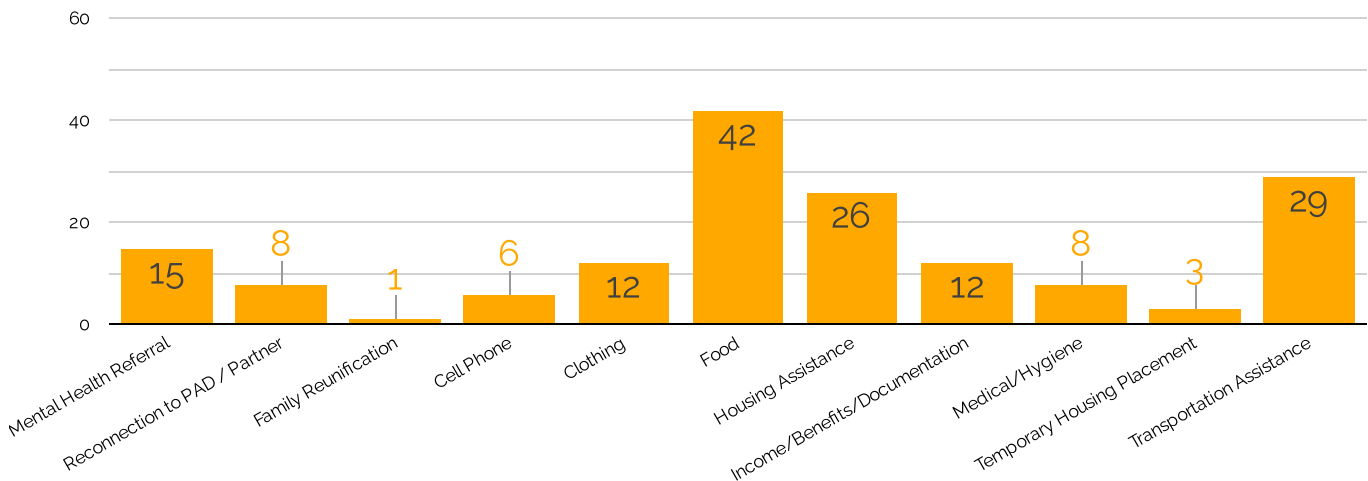
### Identified Needs Among Successful Engagements



### Top 311 Caller Concerns Among Successful Engagements



### SERVICES PROVIDED DURING COMMUNITY RESPONSE ENGAGEMENT





# Care Navigation

## 15 NEW PARTICIPANTS

-1 CHANGE IN PARTICIPANT ENROLLMENTS FROM LAST MONTH

### Newly Enrolled Participants by Referral Source

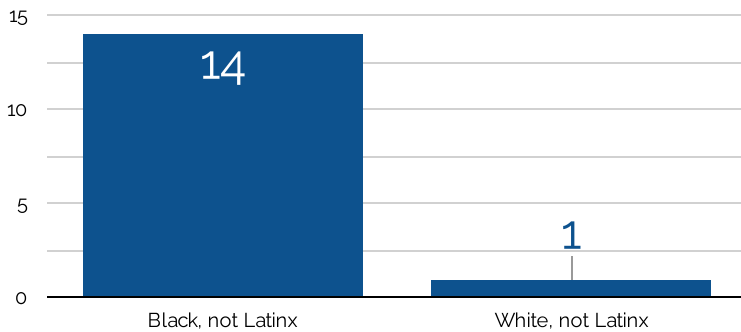
LEAD Diversion	9
Partner Agency Referral	4
311 Referral	2

PAD provides direct services to individuals that are focused on reducing the activities that lead to police contact and address quality of life concerns in a way that honors the dignity and self-determination of the referred individual. Our direct services include:

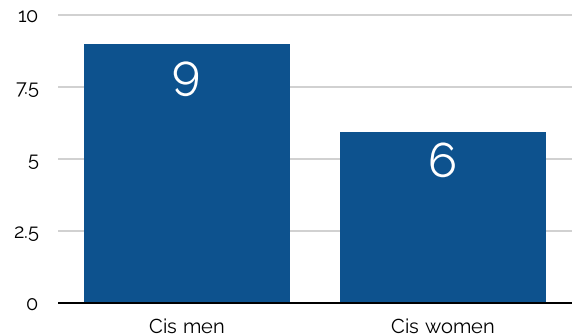
• **Immediate Shelter & Basic Needs:** People are offered emergency shelter, transportation and food assistance.

• **Linkage to Care:** People are supported with care navigation, and connected to service providers for identification documents, recovery support, employment, and other services.

### Participant enrollment by age, race/ethnicity

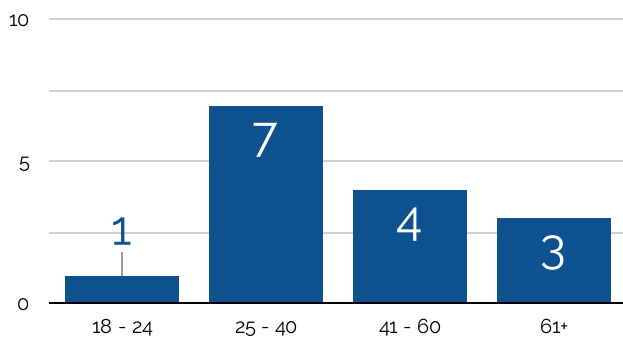


### Participant enrollment by gender

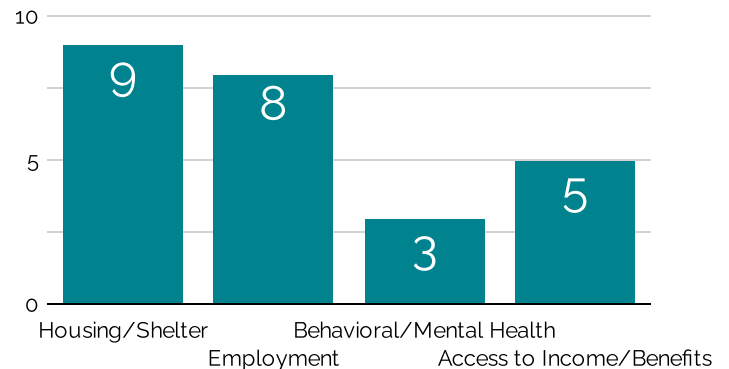


\*People who are Latinx may be of any race. API = American Pacific Islander

### Participant enrollment by age



### Identified needs among newly-enrolled participants



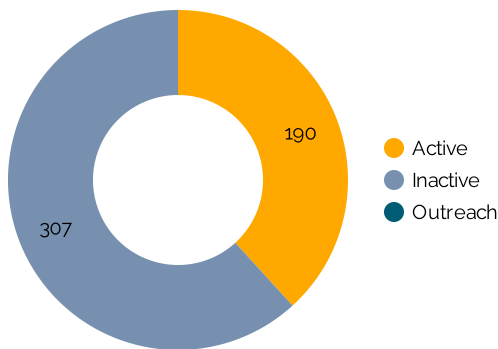
## Care Navigation *continued*

95

**PARTICIPANTS  
ENROLLED  
YEAR TO DATE**

Our participants have reconnected with family members, started working, secured name changes and disability benefits, and resolved longstanding legal issues that had prevented them from moving forward.

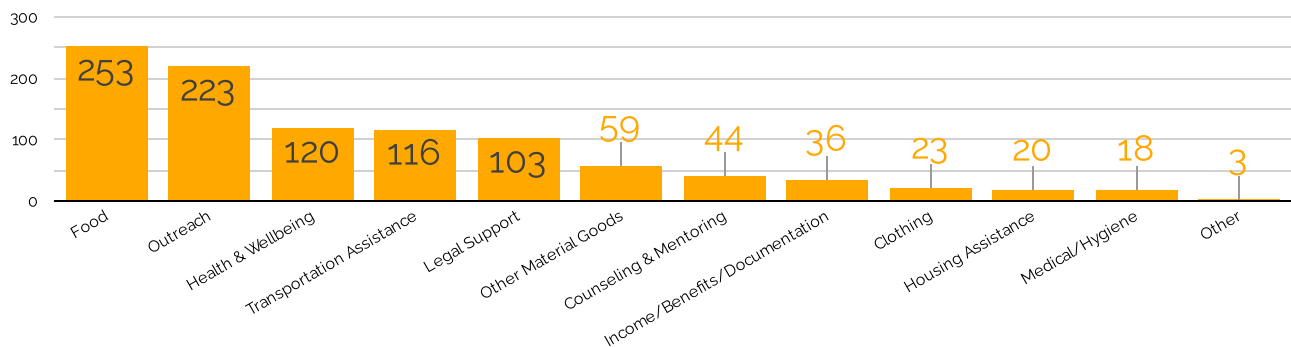
### PARTICIPANT STATUS



### HOUSING SUPPORT

Placed in Permanent Supportive Housing	16
Provided Emergency Housing	15
Placed in Bridge Housing	9
Placed in Shelter	2

### SERVICES PROVIDED - ALL PARTICIPANTS



### PARTICIPANT ARRESTS IN THE 6 MONTHS BEFORE AND AFTER APD DIVERSION

PAD provided legal system navigation to 51 participants this month in order to reduce legal barriers, resolve cases, and advocate for reduced jail sentences.

Of the 449 active participants for which we have data on the 6 months prior to and after their first diversion:

- 393 were not arrested by APD in the 6 months prior to their first diversion
- 56 were arrested in the 6 months prior to their first diversion, 18 with all charges eligible for diversion

Of these 449 participants, in the 6 months after their most recent diversion:

- 409 were not arrested by APD in the 6 months following their most recent diversion
- 40 were arrested in the 6 months following diversion, 14 with all charges eligible for diversion

Of PAD's currently active participants, 3 were arrested by APD in May 2023.



January 2023 - May 2023

# Diversions

## 96 DIVERSIONS

Includes individuals who are referred more than once to PAD.

Total re-referrals	18
Total pre-arrest diversions, excluding re-referrals	57
Total post-booking diversions	21

### RESPONSE STATISTICS

Average year to date response time to diversions was:

# 22 minutes

## Pre-Arrest Diversions by Zone and Agency

APD Zone 1	1
APD Zone 2	8
APD Zone 3	4
APD Zone 4	15
APD Zone 5	40
APD Zone 6	3
GT PD	2
MARTA	2

January 2023 - May 2023

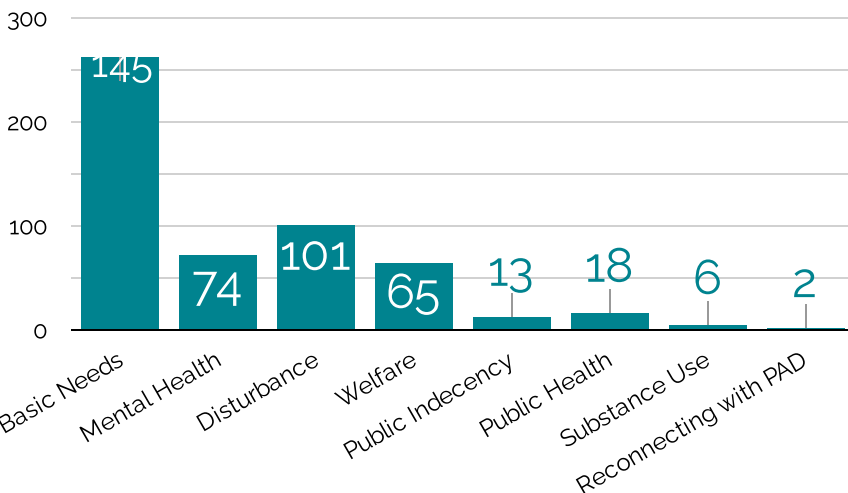
# Community Response Services

## 526 RESPONSE REQUESTS

Excludes ineligible and duplicate calls.

## 274 SUCCESSFUL ENGAGEMENTS

### Top 311 Caller Concerns Among Successful Engagements



## 311 RESPONSE STATISTICS

389 referrals (74.0% of all calls) were designated as requiring an immediate response.

81.0% of these calls (315 ) received an in-person response within 30 minutes.

21.7 minutes, average response time to calls designated as requiring an immediate response

77 requests were designated as outreach requests 100.0% of these calls (75 ) received a response within 48 hours.

43 requests were provided with resources by PAD staff over the phone.



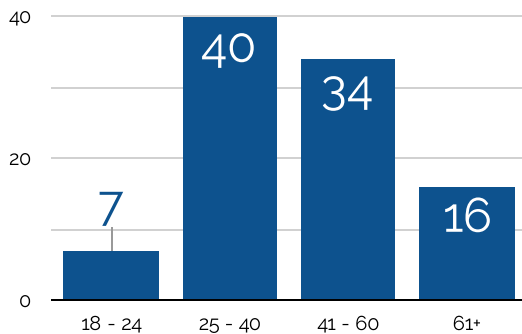
January 2023 - May 2023

## Care Navigation

**95** PARTICIPANTS ENROLLED  
YEAR TO DATE

**497** TOTAL PARTICIPANTS  
CURRENTLY ENROLLED

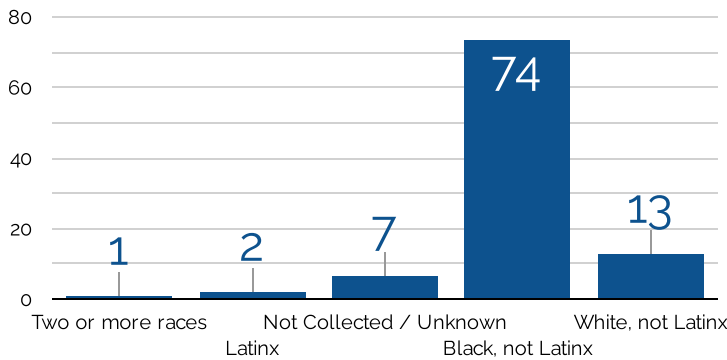
### Participant enrollment by age



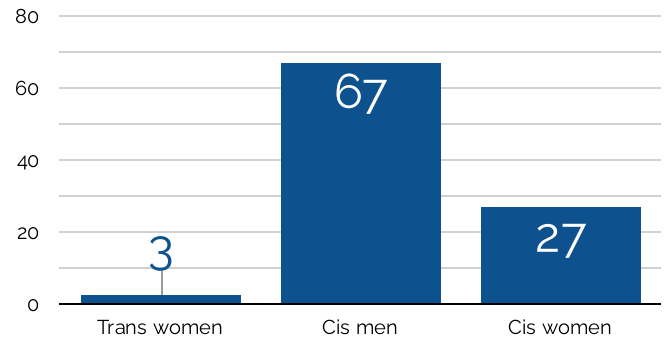
### HOUSING SUPPORT

Provided Emergency Housing	67
Placed in Permanent Supportive Housing	37
Placed in Bridge Housing	28
Placed in Recovery Housing	26
Placed in Shelter	26

### Participant enrollment by race/ethnicity

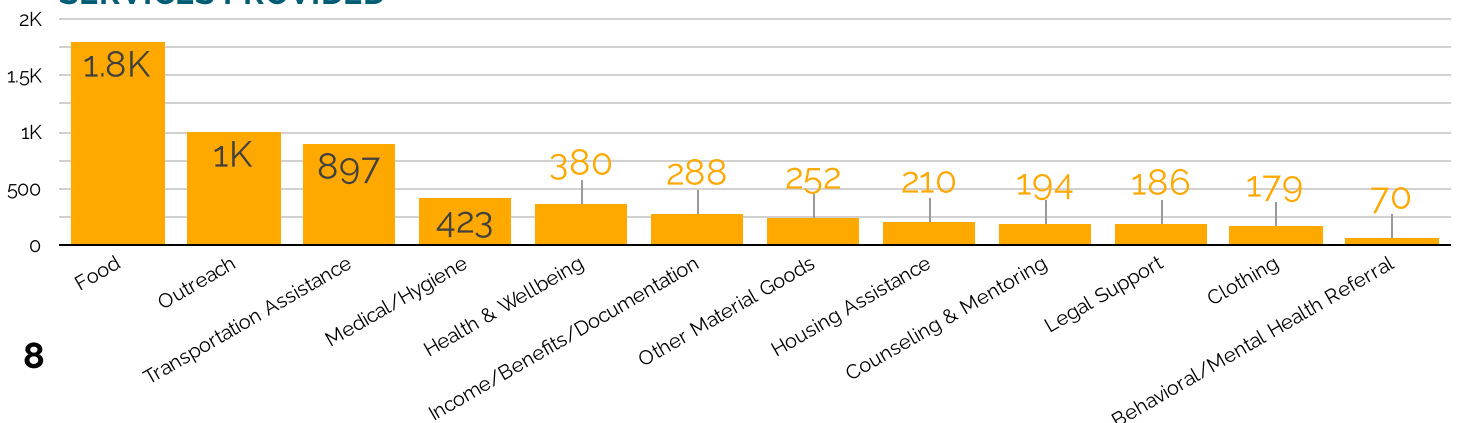


### Participant enrollment by gender



\*People who are Latinx may be of any race. API = American Pacific Islander

### SERVICES PROVIDED



# Community Engagement

PAD continues to engage community members across Atlanta by attending community events and conducting in-person outreach to businesses. A highlight of the month was visiting Congregation Bet Haverim to talk about our work and what it takes to build safer and healthier communities for all of Atlanta. Ruby-Beth Buitekant, a member of PAD's Community Leadership Team, helped facilitate the conversation.



*The Community Engagement team at the District 3 Townhall.*

101	businesses engaged
17	community events attended
1	media appearances
0	public trainings



*PAD Training Manager, Jadon Thomas, training APD officers on pre-arrest diversion to provide an immediate alternative to arrest for individuals struggling with substance use, mental health concerns, or extreme poverty.*