



# Virtual Crisis Care

## Unified Judicial System

August 2020

### August Updates

Eight counties entered the implementation phase, a multi-meeting training process between Avera, UJS, and the county to understand each location's unique process and train on the uses of the Virtual Crisis Care program.

*Walworth • Lyman • Day • Campbell •  
Custer • Lawrence • Pennington • Codington*

***Faulk, Lyman, Day, and Roberts Counties went live with the program in August***

### In the Media

On August 13, the [True Dakotan](#) published an editorial by Sheriff Jason Weber about Jerauld County's participation.

On August 14, the [Sisseton Courier](#) featured the program in Roberts County with Sheriff Barry Hillestad.

On July 30, [Dakota News Now](#) released a story about program, as did Avera in its [News & Media](#) section.

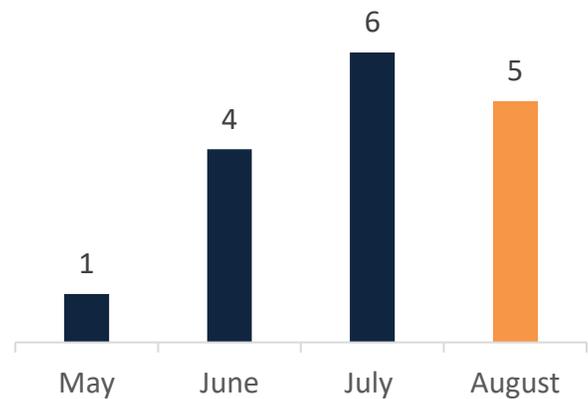
“We are now able to connect quality, professional and certified caregivers with our residents experiencing a mental health crisis. A successful on-site consult may be the difference between remaining safely in one's home with a follow up plan verses an hour-long drive and two to four hour long emergency room visit and 24-hour stay in a strange and stressful environment. A good percentage of our residents will do well knowing someone cares about them. With a plan for services and follow up with a provider, many would do much better remaining in their homes. We are honored to be a part of this pilot program and would like to thank all those investing time and finances to make this program a success.”  
*McPherson County Sheriff Dave Ackerman*

*For more information, contact Greg Sattizahn, State Court Administrator, at 605-773-3474*

### Utilization and Outcomes

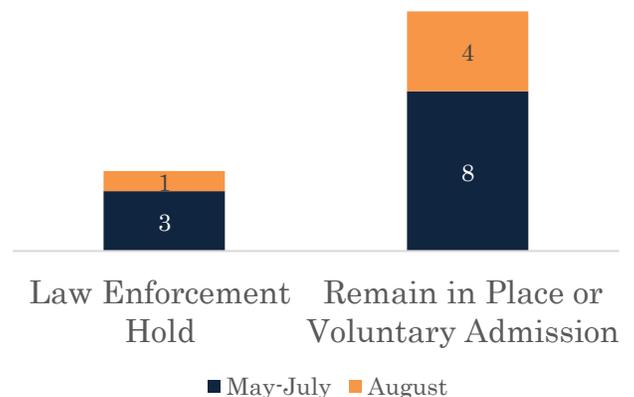
11 sheriff offices and the Fourth Judicial Circuit probation are online with the Virtual Crisis Care program.

#### Monthly Usage



In August, the Virtual Crisis Care program was used to mitigate suicidal ideations and self-harm situations.

#### Outcomes



In August, there was only one involuntary commitment when Virtual Crisis Care was used. Three individuals remained in place, and one individual chose voluntary admission at the hospital.

*Virtual Crisis Care is a partnership between Avera eCARE® and the South Dakota Unified Judicial System, with funding from the Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust, and in collaboration with local law enforcement.*