



Virtual Crisis Care

Unified Judicial System

November 2020

A Note from the Chief Justice



January is the 20th and final year I have had the privilege of serving as your Chief Justice of the South Dakota Supreme Court.

We all agree that we should not criminalize someone just because they have a mental illness. We need to be realistic enough to deal with the underlying cause of what got them into the system in the first place.

By providing more access to mental health resources in the rural areas, we can better address the underlying cause of their mental illness and better serve the people of our state.

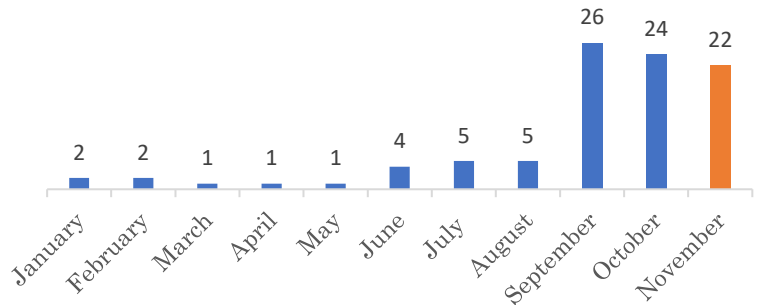
-Chief Justice David Gilbertson

In the Media

Virtual Crisis Care was featured in the Health Affairs Blog. The [article](#) discusses the role of law enforcement as first responders for medical emergencies and mental health crises. The article was written by Sheriff Fred Lamphere from Butte County, and Elizabeth Ruen and Wayne Booze from the Helmsley Charitable Trust.

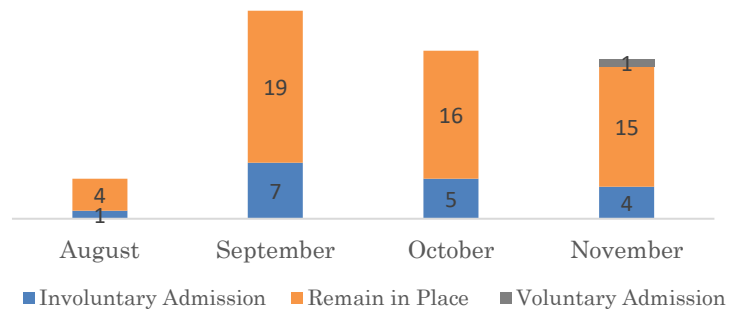
Utilization and Outcomes

Encounters by Month

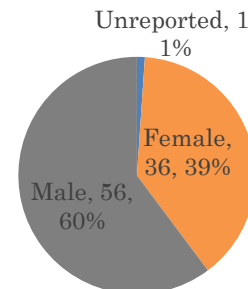


75% of completed encounters in November did not result in an emergency hold. Suicidal ideation, depression, and aggressive/disruptive behavior were the most common reasons the Virtual Crisis Care program has been used.

Outcomes



Gender of Users



For more information, contact Greg Sattizahn, State Court Administrator, at 605-773-3474. Additional information and past updates can be found on the [UJS homepage](#).

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.