

American Rescue Plan Act Funds for Violence Prevention Initiatives

November 9, 2021

Agenda

- 1) Grounding in Values
Dr Raj- Community Member

- 2) Background
Kathy Hedin, Deputy County Manager H&W
Scott Williams, Deputy County Manager S&J

- 3) Appropriate Responses
Nancie Pass, Emergency Communications
Center (ECC) Director
Laura Espy, Emergency Communications Manager
Sophia Thompson, Human Services Manager
Sara Hollie, Public Health Director
Kee Vang, Public Health Division Manager
Zachary Hylton, Senior Policy Analyst
Jenn Hamrick, Planning Specialist

- 4) Healing Streets
Mark Campbell, Interim Healing Streets Director

- 5) Budget
Kathy Hedin Deputy County Manager H&W
Scott Williams Deputy County Manager S&J

- 6) Discussion
All

- 7) Next steps
Kathy Hedin, Deputy County Manager H&W
Scott Williams, Deputy County Manager S&J

Values

To ensure decisions are made based on values rather than fear

- **Community-centered**
 - Inclusion, power sharing and valuing of impacted communities' lived experience and expertise to drive solutions.
- **My Family Standard**
 - Embracing all communities as our family, eliminating the “othering”, and being accountable for ensuring equitable outcomes that achieve well-being.
- **Lead With Love**
 - Deconstruct and reconstruct our public safety system to
 - Acknowledge the dignity of everyone's humanity and value;
 - Recognize and repair harm;
 - Restore and strengthen relationships and connections; and
 - Challenge institutional and structural racism.

Goals For Today

1. Discuss proposed American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) investments in violence prevention
2. Provide overview of Appropriate Responses Initiative
3. Provide overview of Healing Streets enhancements

Long Term Outcomes

Intentional focus of all outcomes is on Black and American Indian communities

1. Improve wellness of community
2. Less people engaged with the justice system
3. Less people incarcerated
4. Less people financially obligated to the justice system

Co Design Definition

“Codesign prioritizes collaboration between community members and system stakeholders to jointly create, improve, implement and evaluate policies, practices and service delivery in a way that centers the experience of those who will use the services or be impacted by the particular system(s) at issue.

Central to this work is participation, inclusion, collaboration, and a broad representation from community across Ramsey County, including those who have been impacted by the systems in focus for transformation. Ramsey County uses the guiding principles of sharing power, prioritizing relationships, building capacity, and using participatory means.”

Violence Prevention Priority Projects

- 1) **Appropriate Responses-** development of new response types and enhancements to dispatch countywide resources
 - Expanding Social Services and Public Health responses
 - Creating Community Based response capability
 - Enhancing 9-1-1 protocols so new response options can be fully and appropriately utilized

- 2) **Healing Streets-** Community-centered healing-based approach to Violence Prevention
 - Creating a dedicated resource pool to meet participant needs in the moment
 - Additional and intentional outreach to individuals who have caused harm

Public Safety Transformation to Community Well-being

Prevention

- *Upstream well-being investments before any crisis, engagement with crime or engagement with the public safety system*

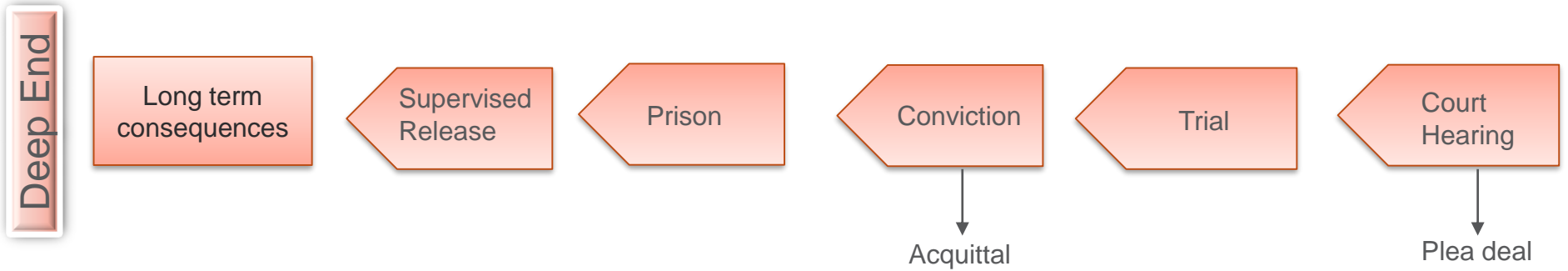
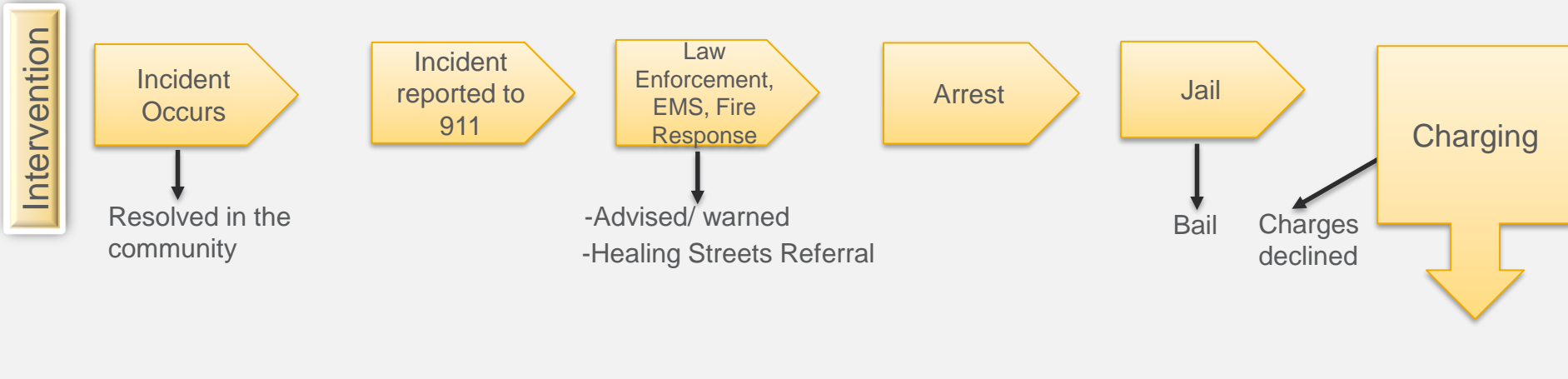
Intervention

- *Engaging at the point of crisis or emergency to offer alternatives to traditional public safety response intending to prevent engagement with the public safety system*

Deep End

- *Services and system transformation which diverts individuals already engaged with the public safety system from additional involvement and harmful punitive responses and barriers*

Path to Criminal Record



Where Existing Initiatives Fit

Intervention

Incident Occurs

Rapid Response Unit ★

Incident reported to 911

- Mental Health Co-Responder
- Child Protection Co-Responder
- COAST Unit

Law Enforcement, EMS, Fire Response

- SEY Protocol
- Healing Streets

Arrest

Jail

Bail Reform ★

Charging

- ETHOS ★
- JDAI ★
- Reimagining Youth ★
- Crossover Youth
- Pretrial Justice Committee
- Warrant Resolution ★
- Precharge diversion
- Pretrial diversion

Deep End

Long term consequences

Supervised Release

- Fines and fees
- Healing Streets

Prison

Conviction

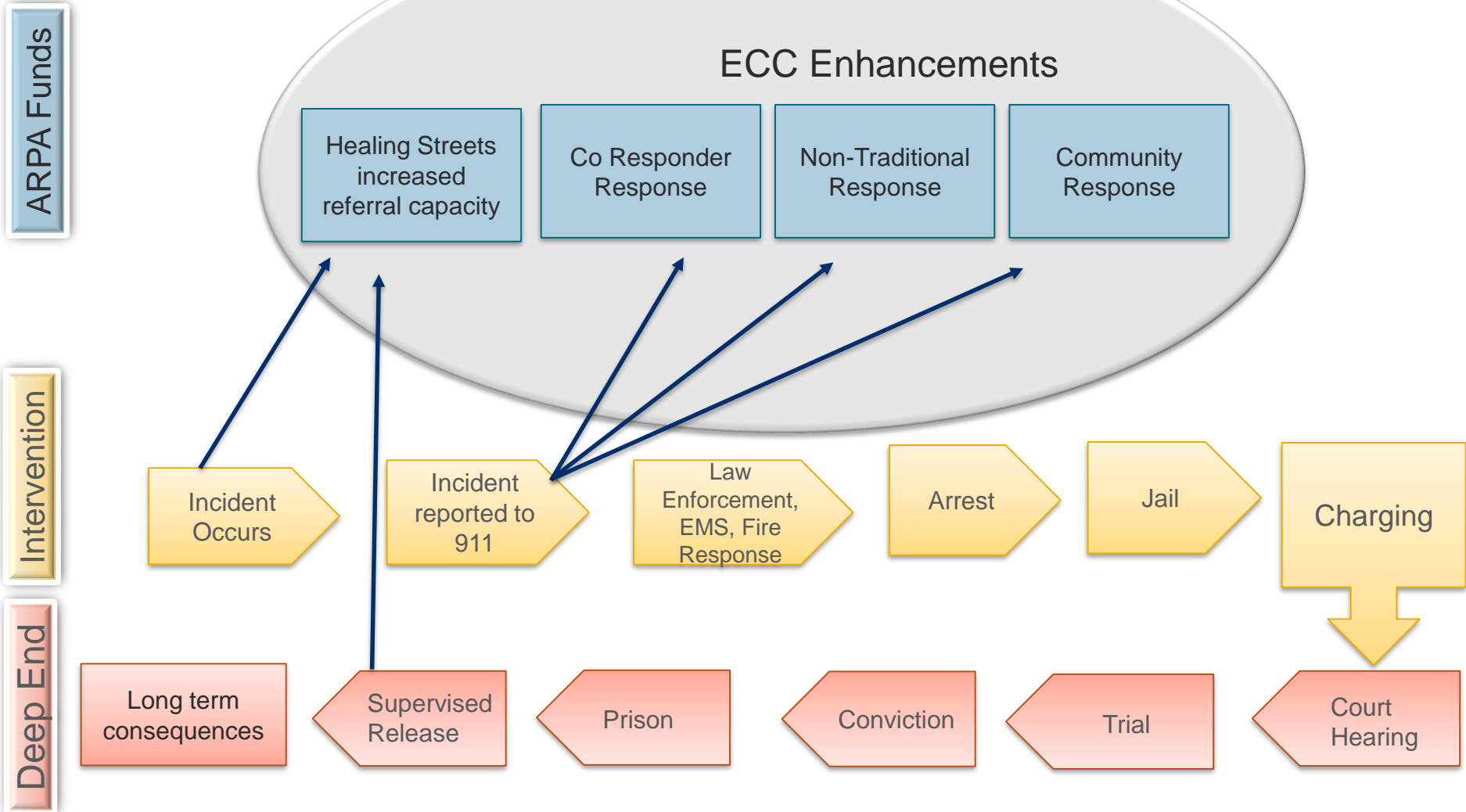
Trial

Court Hearing

- Competency and commitment (rule 20)
- Treatment courts

★ Community actively involved

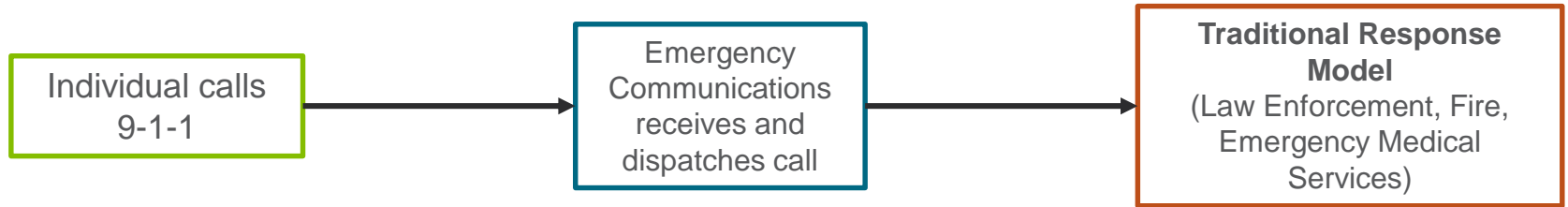
Path to Community Wellbeing



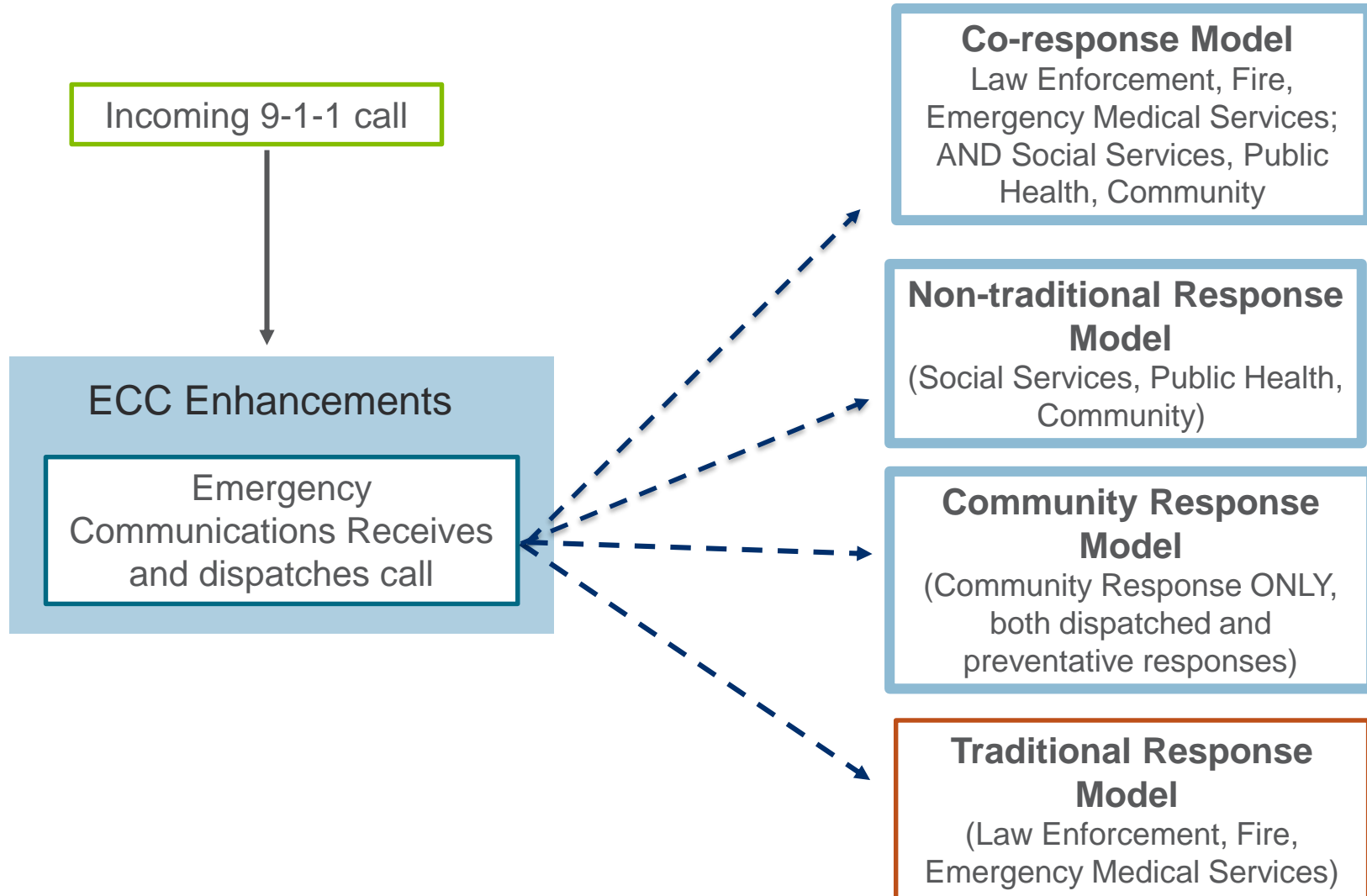
Why Appropriate Responses Initiative?

1. Transforming Systems Together (TST) and Community First Public Safety Commission have paved the way for creative solutions to meet needs in the community.
2. A disproportionate number of Black and American Indian individuals are engaged with criminal justice. These initiatives divert people from entering the criminal justice system and provide prevention programming, thereby reducing risk of harm and long-term collateral consequences.
3. The current system lacks enough tools/responses to be effective for many of the call types that are handle by the Emergency Communications Center (ECC).

Current Response Structure



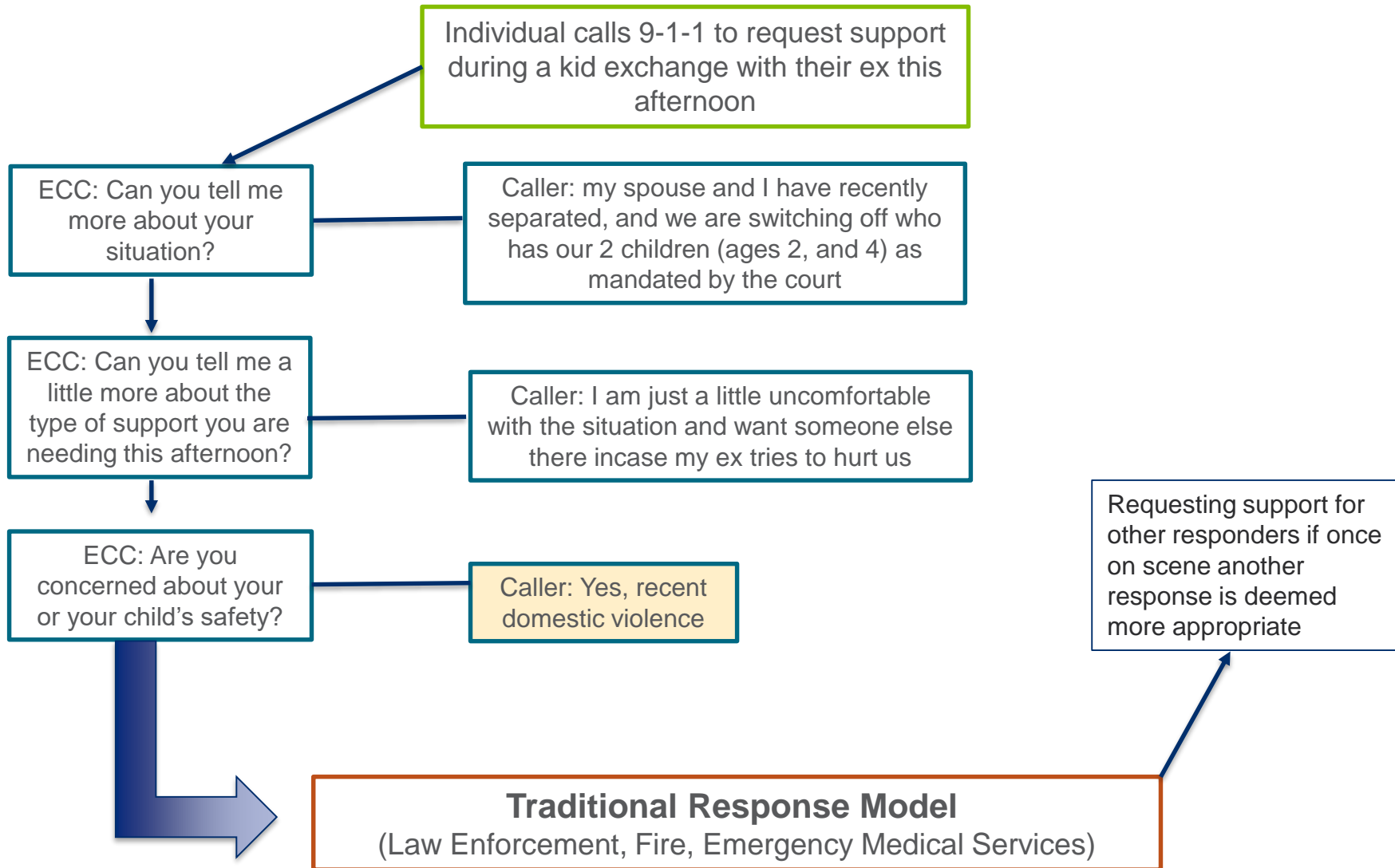
Appropriate Responses Initiative



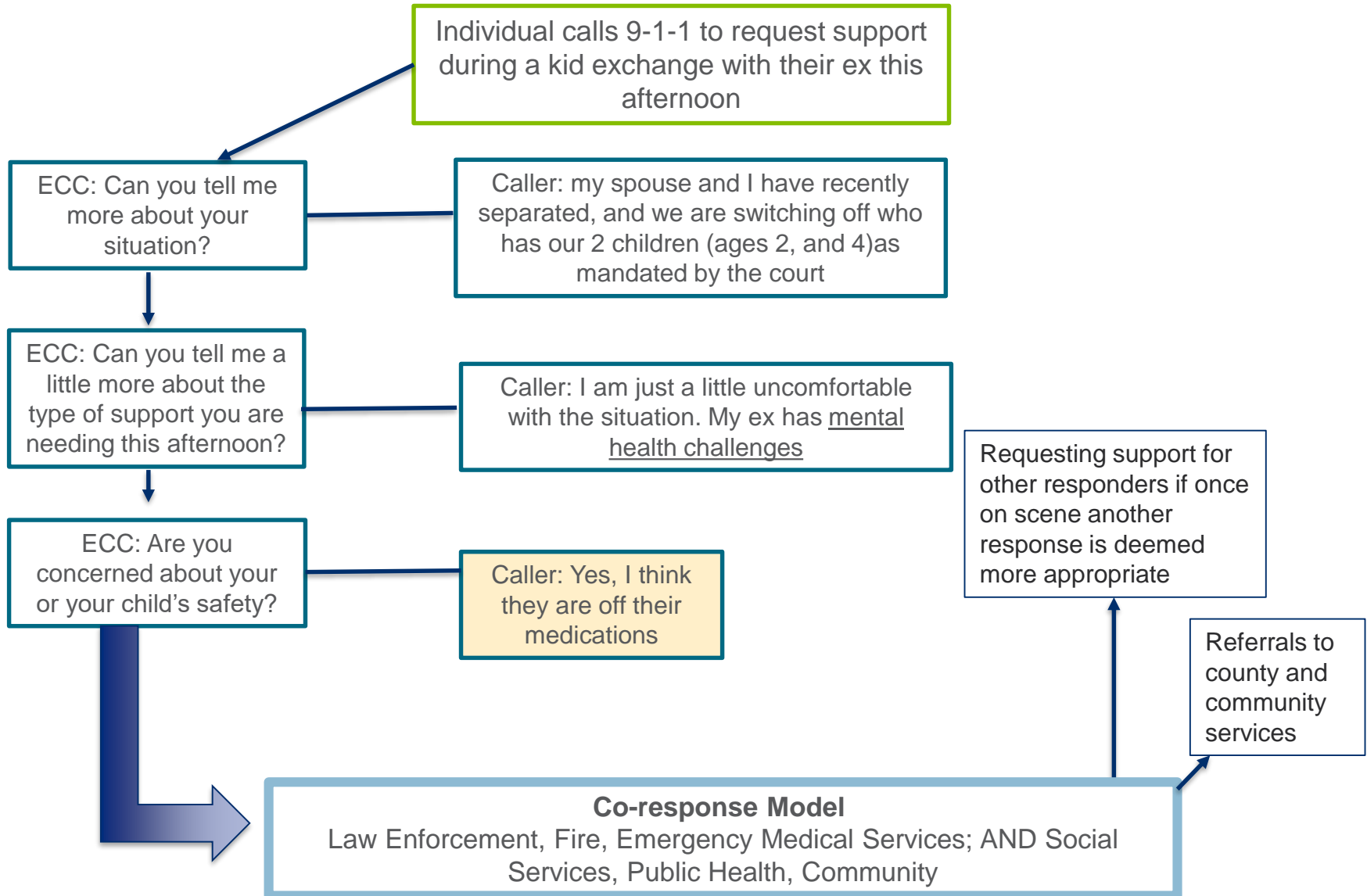
Co-Responder (Law Enforcement, Fire, Emergency Medical Services; AND Social Services, Public Health, Community)	Non-traditional response (Social Services, Public Health, Community)	Community Response (Community Response ONLY, both dispatched and preventative responses)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Person is attempting suicide • Argument with an established domestic relationship – parent calling, speaking with adult child, they are arguing with their partner. No longer answering the phone, check welfare • Passerby reporting person “passed out” on sidewalk, unknown situation • Juvenile with weapon in a group home setting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Person at intersection soliciting money and/or goods • A person appears to be living in their vehicle • Individual requesting help from a substance abuse counselor • Welfare check on a juvenile - parent unable to reach child that is staying with the other parent • Frequent callers to 9-1-1 reporting hearing voices coming from their walls, talking usually; the television is talking to them 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighbor blowing leaves, snow or grass onto their driveway • Kids playing basketball too loud • People playing music too loud at a community BBQ • Solicitor’s complaint – young male asking for monetary donations for his basketball team • Caretaker of a complex calls – unhoused person sleeping in the hallway, want them removed

These call examples are hypothetical. System and community stakeholders will codesign responses and determine which 9-1-1 call types are most appropriate for which types of responses.

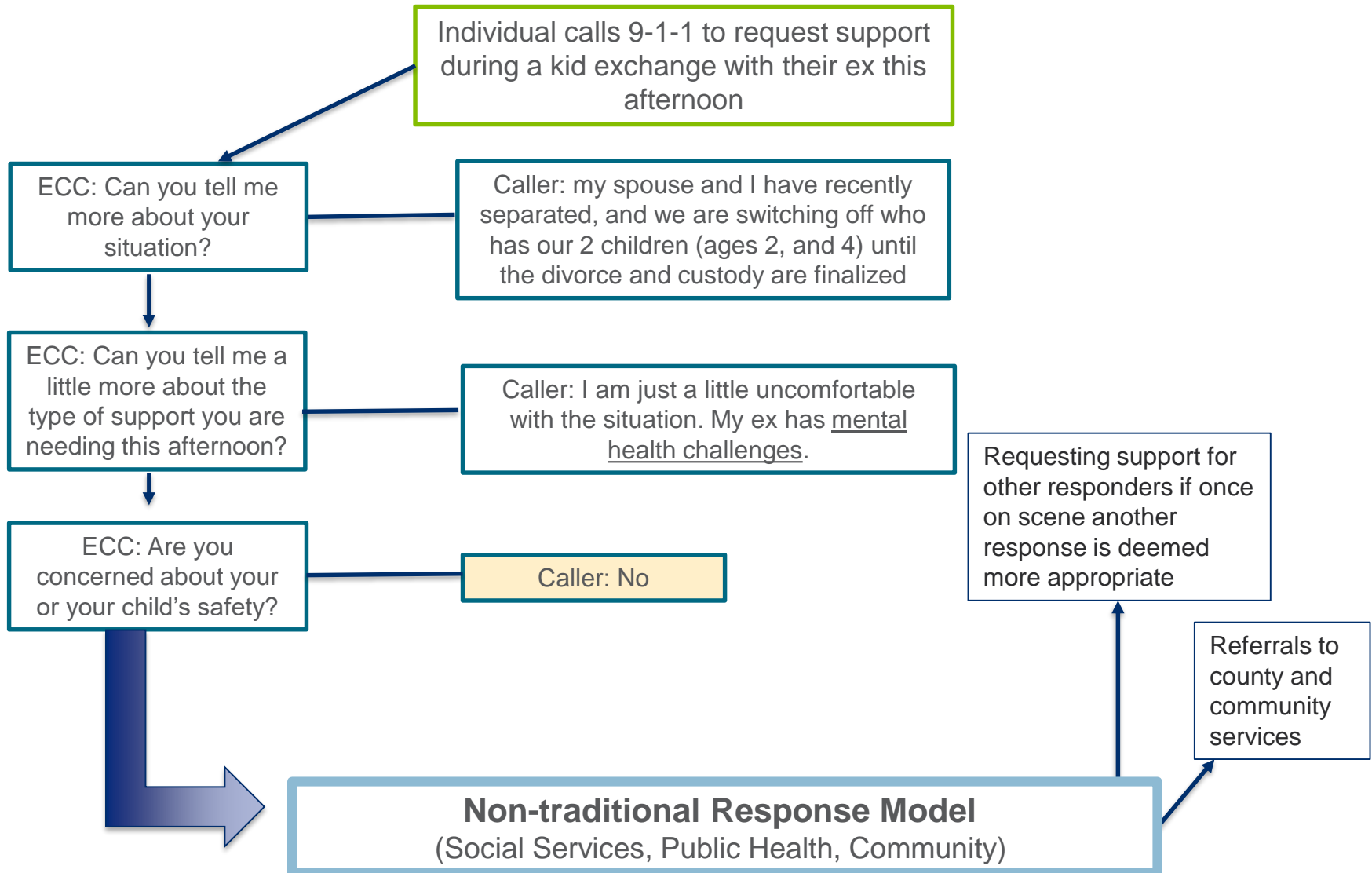
New ECC and Response Structure



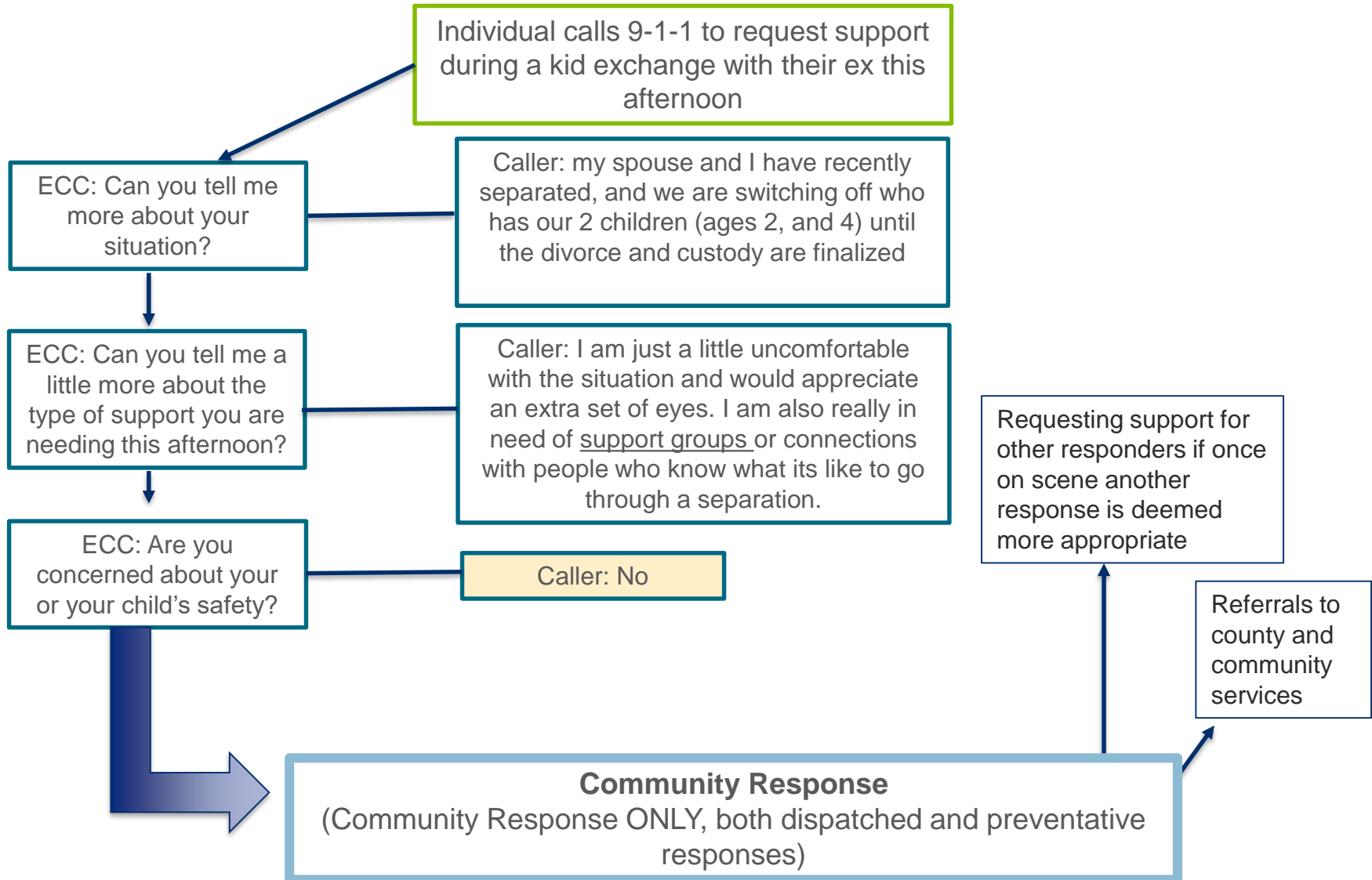
New ECC and Response Structure



New ECC and Response Structure



New ECC and Response Structure



Suicide Prevention Hotline 9-8-8

- Current suicide prevention lines are being consolidated into 9-8-8, which will be a resource for depression, anxiety or mental health crisis referral
 - Led by Federal Communications Commission, Minnesota Department of Health is lead for Minnesota
 - Large public marketing campaign planned for 2022 so that callers know of mental health alternative
 - Implementation late 2022/23
- Does not interfere with Appropriate Responses and can be complimentary
 - 988 will harm warm handoffs from 911
 - 9-8-8 is only a referral resource, alternative responses goes directly to crisis to respond to crisis

Programs Across the Country

Program	Location	Responder Type	Calls Responded to
CAHOOTS	Eugene, Oregon	Teams of EMT and trained mental health crisis worker	noncriminal crisis, homelessness, intoxication, disorientation, substance abuse, mental illness, transportation services, basic medical care, welfare checks, family, dispute mediation
Support Team Assisted Response (STAR)	Denver, Colorado	Emergency Response Teams that include Emergency Medical Technicians and Behavioral Health Clinicians	mental health issues, poverty, homelessness, substance abuse, trespassing
Crisis Call Diversion (CCD)	Houston, Texas	Mental Health Workers	suicide, Welfare check, disturbance, trespasser, mental health
Community Responder Unit (CRU)	Olympia, Washington	Community responders	conflict resolution and mediation, grief and loss, substance abuse, housing crisis, harm reduction, first aid and non-emergency medical care/connections, resource connections and referrals, transportation to services

Learning From Across the Country

- Potential for cost savings across systems
- Partnerships are critical
 - Community
 - System stakeholders
 - Police
- An opportunity for Ramsey County to be leaders in both co designing with community and being a county leading this type of initiative
- Appropriate responses create added capacity for police to focus on what they were trained for and other professionals and community members to contribute their skills, training, and expertise

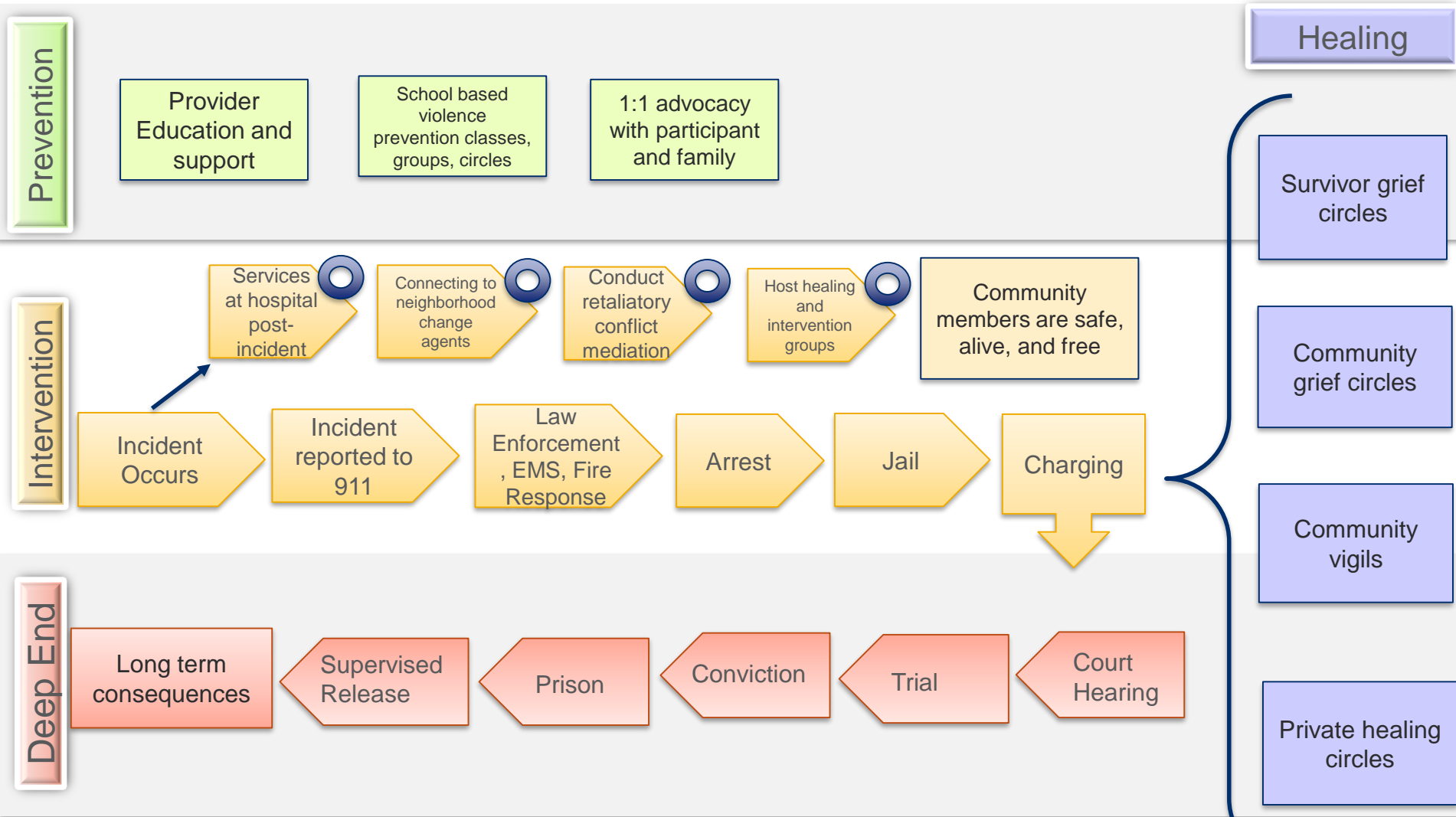
Healing Streets

Community-centered Healing based approach to Violence Prevention, Intervention, & Healing group/gun violence in Ramsey County. Centered in the narratives and lived experiences of those most impacted by group/gun violence.

Reduce group/gun violence through 4 key direct service areas of

- Community Based Violence Prevention and Intervention
- Healing/Grief Services for Survivors of Group/gun Violence
- Hospital-based Violence Prevention
- School Based intervention and Impacted Peer Advocacy

Path to Community Wellness- Healing Streets



Indicates added capacity with ARPA funds

Healing Streets-Prevention

We collaborate on advocacy training so community groups can support people and communities impacted by gun and group violence and provide immediate support after an incidence of violence to prevent further violence. A key component of this work is the paid Community Mediators (Credible Community Members) to provide community de-escalation, resource support and peaceful gatherings to be supported at any time of day. In addition, Community Mediators will serve as a resource within the community providing trusted support, real time response to incidents involving group/gun violence, connection to community grief supportive services and government resources, and logistical support to Ramsey County residents impacted by group/gun violence.

The key outcomes for this prevention work are:

- Youth and adults see themselves as positive leaders
- Youth and adults are not engaged in gun or group violence
- Increased awareness of the impacts of gun and group violence among community groups and partners

Healing Streets- Intervention

Community Mediators and Community Health Responders aid people moving to a physically safe space, rental assistance if needed to relocate, referrals to services that support long-term positive choices such as employment assistance, job training, education, grief supportive services, and/or health and mental health care. Community Mediators will also focus on helping participants make positive, supportive social networks; rebuild trust in the family; and prosocial recreational activities.

Focusing on those who have caused harm and victims of gun violence and their families, the key outcomes of this work are:

- Households and families are physically safe
- Participants do not engage in retaliatory violence
- Participants have positive support networks

Healing Streets- Healing

Healing Streets is contracting with Grief Workers who will provide grief groups specific to gun and group violence for victims, their families, and communities. As a part of regular work, Healing Streets Project will develop a healing map, which is a concrete tool for identifying how grief impacts the body and provides a map for dealing with grief. Groups will focus on building natural support networks and community connections.

- The key outcomes of this work are:
 - Communities engage in healing and have positive support networks during this extremely stressful time
 - Participants develop resiliency within themselves and their communities
 - Communities have protected spaces for healing

Funding

ARPA funding request for \$16 million (through 2024)

2021-2024	
ECC Enhancements	\$2,494,397
Community Response	\$6,709,971
System Responses	\$2,987,055
Infrastructure	\$1,036,407
Healing Streets	\$2,772,168
Total	16 million

Key Considerations:

- Sustainability beyond ARPA systems transformations
- Partnerships with other jurisdictions

Next Steps

- December workshop on broader system transformation ecosystem, and learning from Burns Institute
- Future workshop series on justice transformation initiatives

Discussion & Questions