

The Blue Envelope Program

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Overview of Presentation



What is the Blue Envelope Program?

- The Blue Envelope Program improves communication between law enforcement and community members with disabilities such as autism spectrum disorders, dementia, or other conditions that may impact communication.
- Drivers with communication barriers.
- Participants store essential documents in a bright blue envelope, signaling the potential need for additional communication accommodations during interactions with law enforcement.
- Participation is voluntary, there's no registry, and the envelopes are free.

Blue Envelope

Contents:

- Copy of Driver's License
- Vehicle Registration
- Insurance

Instructions to First Responder:

(Officer, Firefighter, EMT)

- **Speak calmly and relaxed**
- **Speak in lower volume**
- **Avoid shouting/loud noises**
- **Approach slowly**
- **Do not touch**
- **Turn off bright lights**

Tips for Interacting with Police:

Do:

- Hand the officer your blue envelope
- Take a deep breath and listen to questions
- Keep your hands visible to the officer

Don't:

- Reach for things without permission
- Leave without permission

How to Contact the Police:



Non-Emergency

City of Boulder
303-441-3333

Boulder County
303-441-4444



Emergency Calls

911

Boulder County Sheriff's Office



! This person may...

- Resist help
- Be unaware of danger
- Be non-verbal
- Need additional time to respond
- Not respond to verbal commands
- Wander if unattended
- Appear anxious due to lights/noises

My name is _____

In an emergency, please contact:

Name and Phone Number

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Deaf or hard of hearing | ☐ Autistic |
| ☐ Limited vision | ☐ Tourette Syndrome |
| ☐ Medical Alert: | Tic Dx |
| ☐ Diabetic | ☐ Needs Interpreter |
| ☐ Seizure Disorder | (list below) |
| ☐ Other (list below) | |

Notes about me:

Program Implementation

- Learning about the program
 - First introduced in Connecticut in January 2020
 - At least Nine (9) states have law enforcement agencies using the program
- Ideas
 - Dispatch records for residences/homes in our community
- Input from community members/professionals: are we doing this right?
 - Improved wording
 - Added links to resources
 - Disclosing a Disability on Vehicle Registration
 - Disability Identifier for Driver License/Permit/Identification
 - Discuss local program
- Why – Immediate recognition, reduced stress, enhanced safety



Program Implementation

Policy

Costs

Internal Messaging

Public Messaging

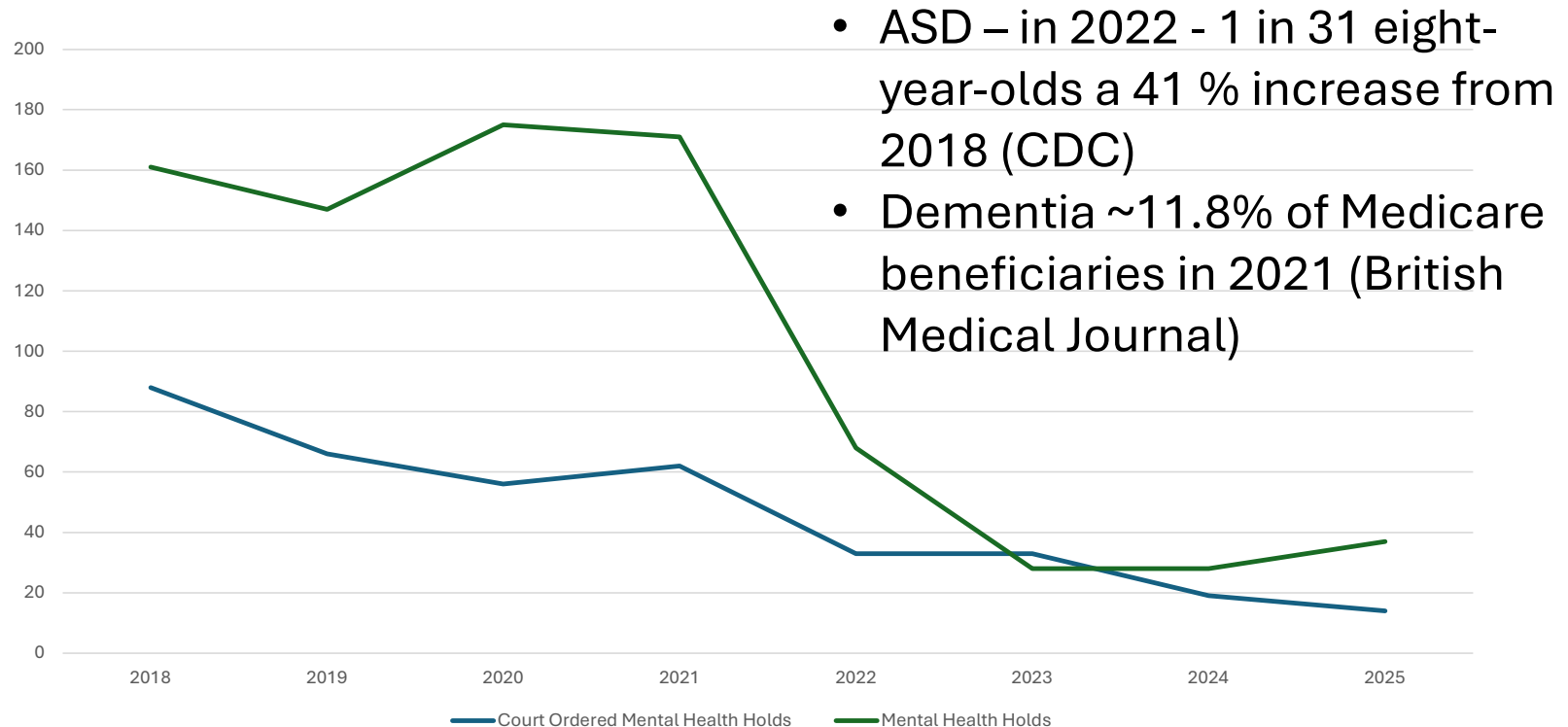
Getting a Blue Envelope

Prior to the Blue Envelope Program

Crisis Intervention training (CIT)
Interacting with People with Disabilities
Alzheimer's Awareness training
Mental Health First Aid

*portions of these courses are used in scenario-based training throughout the year.

Why is this important?



Inmates with diagnosed with a mental health condition: 55%

Questions?

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