

## RADAR 2020 CITY REPORT: SHORELINE



The North Sound RADAR Program (Response, Awareness, De-escalation And Referral) combines information sharing across law enforcement departments and outreach by Mental Health Professional Navigators. When law enforcement officers encounter someone with behavioral health symptoms or developmental disabilities in the field, RADAR Navigators can provide crisis de-escalation, outreach, and referral to services. Navigators focus on moving people into community-based and long-term systems of care to reduce reliance on the crisis and criminal legal systems and improve people's lives.

### WHO WE SERVED



16% Homeless



54% Report a Disabling Behavioral Health Condition



7% Military Veterans

In 2020, the RADAR Program served 124 people in Shoreline, during a total of 254 meetings with Navigators and Co-Responding Officers. The average engagement was about 30 minutes long. Of the individuals served by the RADAR Program in Shoreline in 2020, 16% were living homeless, 54% reported a disabling behavioral health condition, and 7% were military veterans. Of the veterans served, none were homeless.

The racial demographics of individuals served mirrored the racial makeup of the city, with 79% of individuals served being White, 8% Black or African American, 7% Asian, and 3% Hispanic.

### WHAT WE DO – RADAR STORIES

In 2020 RADAR Navigators and Deputies encountered many people who have suffered from the socio-economic or mental health consequences of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Navigators helped multiple Shoreline residents connect with appropriate mental health resources regardless of their ability to pay. They also provided referrals to basic needs support from food and shelter to utility assistance.

*Because the Navigator is not a police officer, she was able to approach our neighbor from a different perspective... I simply can't overstate how important the Navigator's role has been in our lives, and this seems an important moment in history to let you know how successful we consider this program.*

RADAR Navigators found that young people, now learning from home, often had increased behavioral health symptoms, with little access to their usual supports. Navigators have provided support, education and tips for parents and have worked with families to access remote mental health services.

In other cases, the Navigator helped people with serious mental health challenges access community care. A Navigator visited one

individual multiple times after they were released from a psychiatric hold, helping their family get services and ensuring that their firearm was turned over to Shoreline Police for safe keeping. For another individual living in a group home in Shoreline, Navigators advocated over the course of the year with multiple different providers to get him the care he needed. Also over the course of many contacts, Navigators worked with an individual who was legally blind and suffering from multiple medical conditions to get in to supported housing.