

## Archways

During this reporting period Archways served 388 participant's total. Of our total participant base for the period, Archways served 62 participants in our Legal System Involved programming, 22 youth in our Youth Programming, representing 21.39% of all participants served.

- Our Alternative Peer Group Leaders held 50 groups during this time period, with 20 unique individuals. The 20 youth attended APG groups a combined total of 119 times.
  - Our Seven Challenges youth counseling program held 26 sessions with the two youth served.
  - Our Legal System Involved programming served 61 unique individuals, across a total of 295 individual sessions with these individuals.
- Please provide aggregated and de-identified demographic information for individuals served.

### Youth Programming demographics

Gender	Race	Ethnicity	Sexual Orientation	Age
Male	White	Not Hispanic	Heterosexua	15
Female	White	Not Hispanic	Heterosexua	17
Male	White	Not Hispanic	Heterosexua	15
Female	White	LatinX	Heterosexua	15
Female	White	Not Hispanic	Heterosexua	17
Male	White	Not Hispanic	Heterosexua	17
Male	White	Not Hispanic	Heterosexua	16
Male	Refused	Refused	Heterosexua	16
Not listed	White	Not Hispanic	Not listed	16
Male	White	Not Hispanic	Heterosexua	17
Male	White	Not Hispanic	Heterosexua	15
Male	White	Other Hispanic or LatinX	Bisexual	17
Male	White	Not Hispanic	Heterosexua	16
Male	White	Not Hispanic	Heterosexua	16
Male	American Indian	Not Hispanic	Heterosexua	19
Not listed	Black	Refused	Not listed	18
Male	White	Not Hispanic	Heterosexua	15
Female	White	Not Hispanic	Heterosexua	20
Female	White	Not Hispanic	Heterosexua	17
Male	White	Not Hispanic	Heterosexua	16
Male	Black	Other	Heterosexua	19
Male	White	Not Hispanic	Heterosexua	15

*Note: no color fill indicates enrollment in APG. Beige color fill indicates enrollment in Seven Challenges.*

*Also, although Archways served 20 youth in APG, only 18 are accounted for on the demographics table due to NH Survey Law (RSA 186:11, IX-d), which prohibits non- academic survey administration within schools without parental consent.*

## Justice Involved Programming

Justice Involved Demographics					
Gender	Frequency	Rate	Ethnicity	Frequency	Rate
Male	39	63.90%	Non-Hispanic	55	90.20%
Female	21	34.40%	Hispanic	5	8.20%
Transgender	1	1.60%	DONT KNOW	0	0.00%
Other	0	0.00%	MISSING DATA	0	0.00%
DONT KNOW	0	0.00%	REFUSED	1	1.60%
MISSING DATA	0	0.00%	<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>100%</b>
REFUSED	0	0.00%			
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>100%</b>			
Race	Frequency	Rate	Age	Frequency	Rate
White	57	93.40%	10-12y	0	0.00%
Black or African American	1	1.60%	13-17	9	14.80%
Other	1	1.60%	18-24	0	0.00%
Alaska Native	0	0.00%	25-34	18	29.50%
American Indian	0	0.00%	35-44	26	42.60%
Asian	0	0.00%	45-54	2	3.30%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0.00%	55-64	5	8.20%
Multiracial	0	0.00%	65+	1	1.60%
None of the above	0	0.00%	MISSING DATA	0	0.00%
DONT KNOW	0	0.00%	REFUSED	0	0.00%
MISSING DATA	0	0.00%	<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>100%</b>
REFUSED	2	3.30%			
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>100%</b>			

An analysis of the impact(s), successes and challenges of the project(s), program(s), and/or service(s) funded.

- *Youth programs (APG and Seven Challenges):*

**Youth programming Impact:**

Archways' Alternative Peer Group program continued to expand in FY '24. Since the launch of Archways' Alternative Peer Group program, we have served 34 unique youth from multiple towns in our catchment area. 20 of these youth were served during this reporting period. Due to NH Youth Survey Legislation (RSA 186:11, IX-d),

we were unable to capture data for 2 of the 20 youth we served since we could not conduct any surveys within the school for these youth.

Archways is now facilitating APGs in three different schools: Franklin High School, Franklin Middle School, and Newfound Regional High school. Franklin High School and Franklin Middle School continued this fiscal year, while Newfound was added this year. The Newfound School District is composed of many smaller towns such as Alexandria, Bridgewater, Bristol, Danbury, Groton, Hebron, Hill, and New Hampton, which has allowed us to reach many more youth from areas where such services are not as readily available.

Seven Challenges Youth Counseling continued during this reporting period with two youth, who attended Seven Challenges Individual Counseling sessions a combined total 26 times. The impact of having a caring adult for these youth to turn to, without fear of discipline, has been recognized both by the youth and the school district staff. The impact of the relationship between the APG leaders and student has increased the young people's abilities to make informed, motivated, thoughtful decisions that will help them attain their goals. Tools have been shared to make their own decisions and look at the pros and cons of their choices. Facilitators have helped young people discern where their responsibilities lie as well as how they are impacted by events and attitudes for which they are not responsible. The focus has been on the issues that are important to young people, including substance use, parental stress, hopes, dreams, and goals for the future. In one case, concrete resources assisted in paying for driver's education, in supporting such student goals.

### **Youth Programming Successes:**

APGs:

As an alternative to suspension, APGs were also piloted this year in Newfound School District with tremendous positive response. Depending on the nature of an incident, when youth in the school are involved in disciplinary action, the school will give the option to the student and the parents of the student to enroll the youth in six APG sessions to avoid suspension. This gives the youth an opportunity to explore their behavior and the circumstances around it with Archways staff and other youth in the group in a safe environment. Feedback from the youth has been overwhelmingly positive, and six youth have chosen to remain in group even after their six-session requirement from the school had been met. Multiple youth have expressed that our APG facilitators have become their trusted adults in their lives

and they feel comfortable speaking honestly while in group. Family Support Evidence Based Practice informs us, that one caring adult in the life of a child can improve life course trajectory.

#### Seven Challenges:

One of the youth was having considerable difficulty with substance use, school, and being apart from her family. Through working with our peer counselor and completing the Seven Challenges, this youth reports that she is now able to “see herself and the world around her differently.” She has reunited with her family, graduated high school, is working two jobs and is saving for a vehicle of her own.

Additionally, the youth’s parents have also participated in some of their youth’s counseling sessions, allowing a whole-family approach to supporting the youth.

Additionally, Archways Seven Challenges program has seen increased community engagement, growing demand, and collaborative partnerships with local area resources. Currently we are in communication with Merrimack County Juvenile Probation as well as other local schools to integrate our programming into their support services. The Belknap School District has also reached out to Archways in an effort to collaborate and bring the Seven Challenges to their district, and we are working with external agencies, social workers, and probation officers to facilitate incorporation of the Seven Challenges into Juvenile Diversion programs. A second request has come from the Plymouth Area, as the Superintendent and new Principal of the Plymouth Regional High School is interested in the alternative-to-suspension model. Plymouth State University and Franklin Pierce Law School have also expressed interest in the programming, though Franklin Pierce is unable to provide resources to sustain or subsidize any efforts for Collegiate Recovery at this time.

#### **Youth Programming Challenges:**

The New Hampshire Youth Survey Law (RSA 186:11, IX-d) remains a difficult aspect in Franklin High School and Franklin Middle School from a data collection standpoint. Newfound has chosen to implement APGs as an alternative to suspension and has seen high attendance rates. Since alternative to suspension based programming involves parents in the process of choosing APG as opposed to suspension, parental consent is required by the school. Franklin’s APGs are completely voluntary and youth are not given the option to attend as an alternative to suspension, resulting in lower overall attendance as well as lower data capture. Both Seven Challenges participants in this reporting period had parents/guardians

that were very much in support of helping their youth with their substance use concerns, and therefore have granted consent for services and data collection.

One of the largest challenges we have faced while launching the Seven Challenges programming has been that the level of interest in a counseling program appears to be lower than interest in Alternative Peer Groups. Many of the youth we have served have made the choice to not participate in the Seven Challenges counseling program. Another challenge has been that we are not funded by the Seven Challenges in the implementation of this program. We currently employ one staff member authorized to work as a counselor working toward licensure, and her current workload prevents the ability for her to lead many more groups. This initiative was only funded 50% of what had been asked for to implement both the youth and justice involved programs, and we are now STRONGLY feeling the need for additional funding for staff.

An analysis of the impact(s), successes and challenges of the project(s), program(s), and/or service(s) funded.

- *Legal System Involved Programming:*

**Legal System Involved Programming Impact:**

Our Legal System Involved programming has expanded exponentially this past year. Under our Legal System umbrella are four programs which are allowing us to reach a wide array of participants.

The programs are:

**Community Corrections**, which is designed for participants who have recent arrests, are awaiting criminal charge resolutions such as upcoming court dates, trials, or sentencing; and individuals who come to us already on probation or parole.

**Peer Recovery Inside and Out**, which is designed for participants who are currently residing in a Department of Corrections (DOC) facility such as jail, prison, and halfway houses. This program aims to build relationships with individuals who are currently or soon will be reintegrating into society so they have support beginning on the inside which carries forward to the outside.

**Peer Recovery Response Team (PRRT)**, which is for participants who are referred by local law enforcement to our programming in lieu of being arrested for substance use related charges when the PD determines this is an appropriate intervention.

**RESET** is a program developed by Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center staff and is designed to reach participants who are residing at a DOC halfway house. This project's aim is to help participants with medical needs who are soon being released to have healthy connections with multiple service providing agencies such as primary care doctors, mental health providers, recovery support and more. We have received a number of referrals from Dartmouth since our partnership formed last year.

**Legal System Involved Programming Successes:**

Multiple staff at this time have applied and been accepted to enter the DOC facilities to begin Peer Recovery support work with participants who are currently incarcerated. All have gone through the DOC orientation and training. A tour has been completed of the Women's Facility. Finalization of Ops Bulletin notifications for paperwork coming in and out are in process for the first sessions in the Women's Facility. Peer Recovery Inside and Out is currently operational in the Transitional Living Facility of Shea Farm. Scheduling of visit days and times will coincide with Attorney visits for privacy for the Women's Facility and the first participants have been identified by DOC staff.

Currently four staff are working on the various corrections programs, and we have been able to build relationships with both the DOC and Dartmouth through this work. It has been a pleasure working with Lori Foster and her team at DOC and the Dartmouth medical providers.

Archways is already seeing tremendous support of our Legal System Involved programming from the DOC, halfway houses, and local police departments. Our PRRT specialist has received multiple referrals from law enforcement and recently assisted one individual and law enforcement secure treatment and aftercare for a participant who otherwise would have faced criminal penalties. The RESET program recently assisted its first participant who has been released from incarceration. For many months this participant attended virtual and in person meetings with Archways and even came straight to our center the day he was released reflecting the community connection from inside to outside of DOC is working. We have also been working very closely with the case managers inside the DOC on our Peer Recovery Inside and Out Program in helping to establish housing, treatment, healthcare and insurance and other recovery-based goals tailored to each participant's individual needs. Connection to additional concrete resources, such as transportation, food pantry, and other essential needs is ongoing upon release.

**Legal System Involved Programming Challenges:**

Most challenging regarding the Legal System Involved Programming has been the length of time that it takes to collaborate with the DOC. It has been much more of a

process than expected with the background checks, orientations and trainings, determining processes to be compliant with HIPAA and 42 CFR Part 2, obtaining approval of documents that will need to be brought in with us, and more. Of course it is all perfectly understandable processes and procedures a secure facility needs to take, it just takes time and patience. That being said, implementation is being done with necessary precision, precautions, and meeting the standards of excellence set forth by our President/CEO and VP/COO and the DOC leadership with training and communication between partners.

The second most challenging aspect is staffing. In a recent SAMHSA meeting, concerns that peers are being inserted into the system of care in clinical venues, not allowing for peer services to occur as clinical guidelines trump the core values of recovery, thus negating the effectiveness of peer support. We are very proud that our NH DOC has opted to work with us as a community based organization, recognizing the value of community-based services. As this program was funded at half the requested budget for OAC, our agency is diligently working to expand and diversify funding streams. Ideally, we would add one more f/t staff person to the youth and one more f/t staff for the justice involved programming. In lieu of this, we have continued to increase the knowledge base of all peer support staff to be trained to work with youth and justice involved participants to ensure no one falls through the cracks who reaches out for our services. Expansion may be stifled for the near future, as we do not want to expand beyond our staff capacity and end up diluting the support that is so successful.