Before the recent announcement of ThriveNYC, the de Blasio Administration’s initiatives to improve access to mental health programs for youth, adults, and seniors, the Mayor had previously launched measures to boost behavioral health programs for the city’s inmate population. With an increasing share of inmates in the city’s jails struggling with behavioral health issues—from about 30 percent in 2010 to nearly 40 percent in 2014—the Mayor appointed a task force in June 2014 to develop a plan to improve the way the criminal justice system addresses the needs of this population. Six months later, the task force issued a plan with five key components and a price tag of $134 million over four years, all but $40 million of it is funded by the city itself. While the task force report identified the total amount of spending, there was no breakdown of the spending for each initiative. IBO has obtained detailed spending plans from the Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice, which are shown below.

$134 million over four years
(includes $40 million in assets forfeiture funds from the Manhattan District Attorney)

On the Street $16.5 million
- Expanded police training
- Diversion drop-off centers

Arrest to Disposition $16.8 million
- Matching people to services
- Pre-arraignment screening for mental health problems

In Jail $46.5 million
- Specialized services for adolescents
- Crisis Intervention training

Release and Re-entry $38.2 million
- Connecting Inmates to Medicaid
- Improve and expand discharge planning from jail

Back in the Community $16.1 million
- Probation behavioral health services team
- Permanent supportive housing

Where Are Funds Going Under the Mayor’s Task Force on Behavioral Health and Criminal Justice Plan?
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