Subject: Medical Bracelet Pilot
Related Department: SRF

FY 2027 Proposed Budget
Budget Work Session Follow-up

4/13/2026

The following information is provided in response to a request made by Ms. Cunningham received by email on April 3, 2026, regarding the following question:

What were the investments and outcomes of the multi-year medical bracelet investment? How has this informed ACSO operations?

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Investments ACSO possesses 18 wristbands. The cost of this investment was $310,000 in original funding. The devices provide vital signs data that allow monitoring of the inmates housed in the Arlington County Detention Facility (ACDF) infirmary. The County also invested in building infrastructure, hardware, and software to monitor the devices in all housing units.

Outcomes The jail's most sickly inmates are monitored. On average, 5-6 inmates are monitored daily. As a result, ACDF medical personnel are constantly aware of potential inmate decompensation. Because changes in vital signs are met with immediate intervention, it is difficult to attribute changes in clinical outcomes directly to the devices. In conjunction with a new jail-based medical team, new policies, and new personnel, the devices have resulted in a 50% reduction in emergency room visits (from an average of 9.1 per month [Jan - Oct 2025] to 4.6 per month [Nov 2025 - Feb 2026]).

Future ACSO operations ACSO's goal is to expand the device's use to the ACDF intake unit (5A and 5B) to provide instantaneous vital signs data on newly incarcerated intoxicated or withdrawing inmates. These inmates are at high risk of adverse outcomes and can decompensate quickly. Adding a layer of technology to the procedures already in place to monitor undeclared and newly incarcerated inmates offers an intuitive intervention to the understaffed ACDF.