

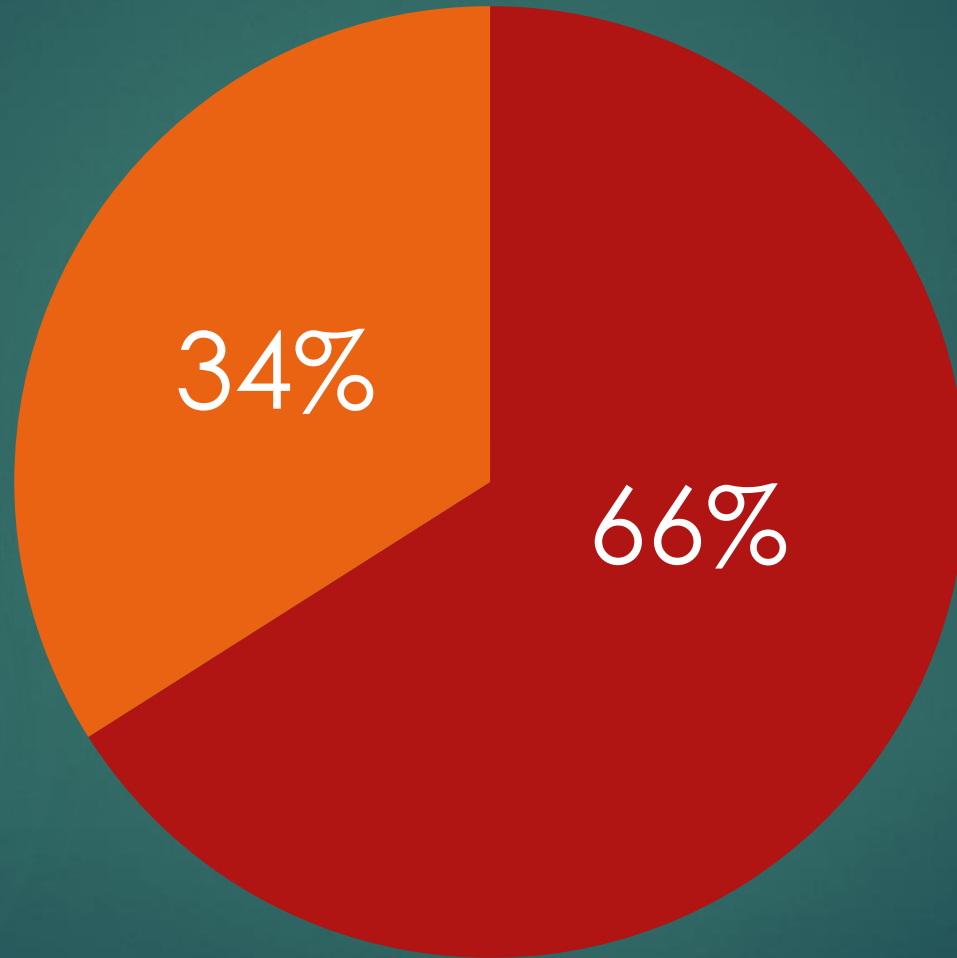


Alameda County Behavioral Health Court

Behavioral Health Court

- ▶ Began in 2009
- ▶ Started with:
 - ▶ only misdemeanors
 - ▶ 20 participants
- ▶ Currently in BHC: 45 participants
- ▶ Total number: 229 participants

Types of Cases



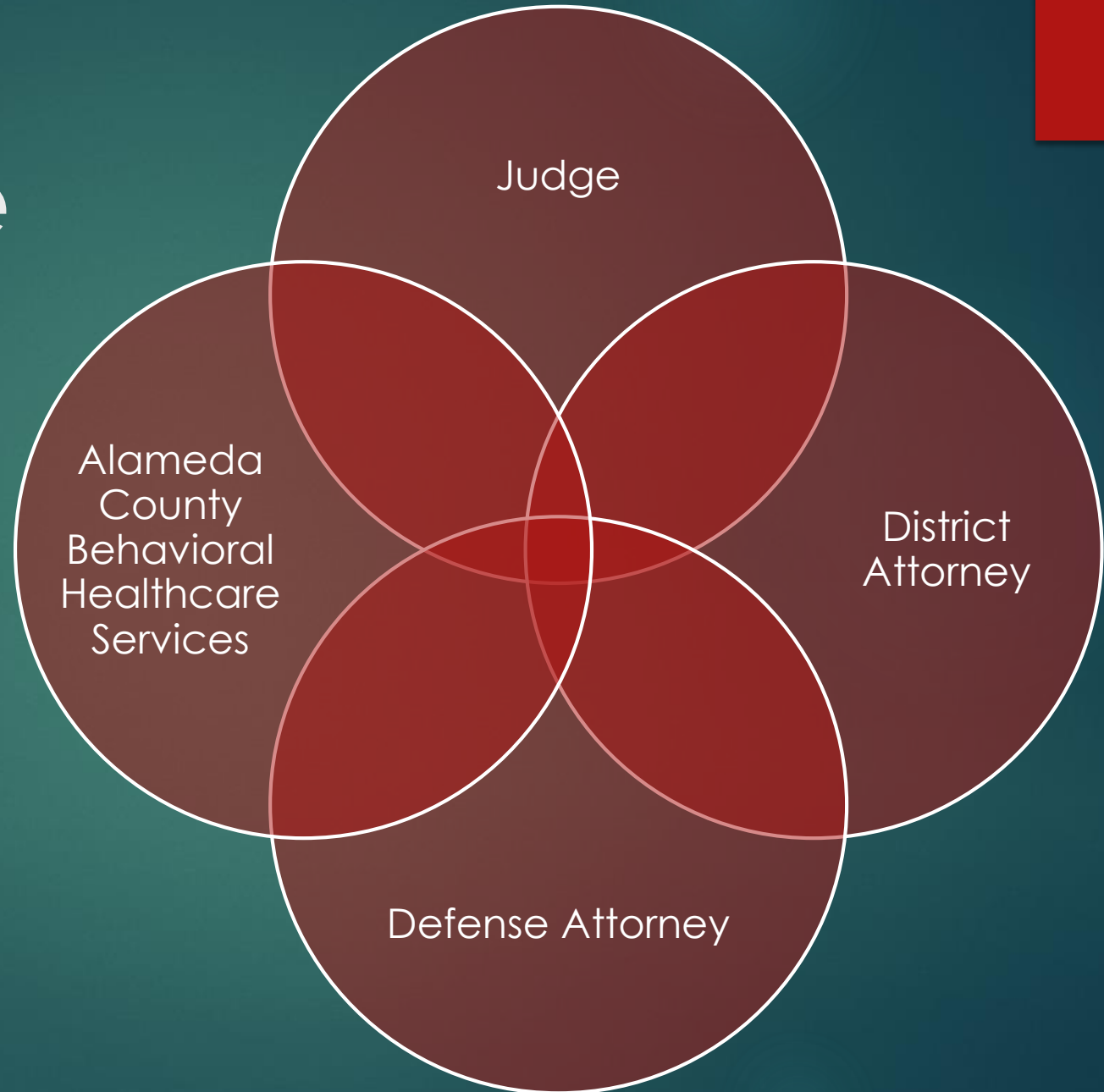
■ Misdemeanor ■ Felony

Types of Mental Illness

PRIMARILY:

- ▶ Mood Disorders
(major depression, bipolar disorder, etc.)
- ▶ Psychotic Disorders
 - ▶ Schizophrenia, Schizoaffective Disorder

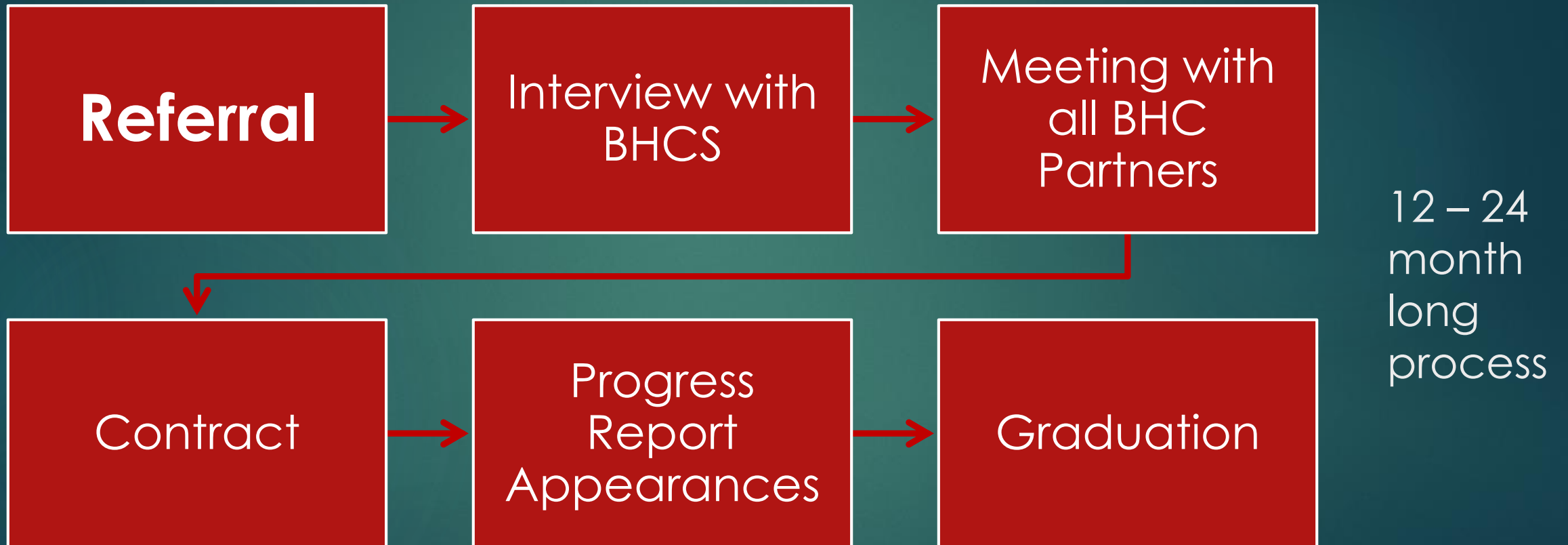
Collaborative Court Model



Treatments / Services

- ▶ Housing support / assistance
- ▶ Psychiatric care referrals
- ▶ Psychiatric medications
- ▶ Substance abuse counseling

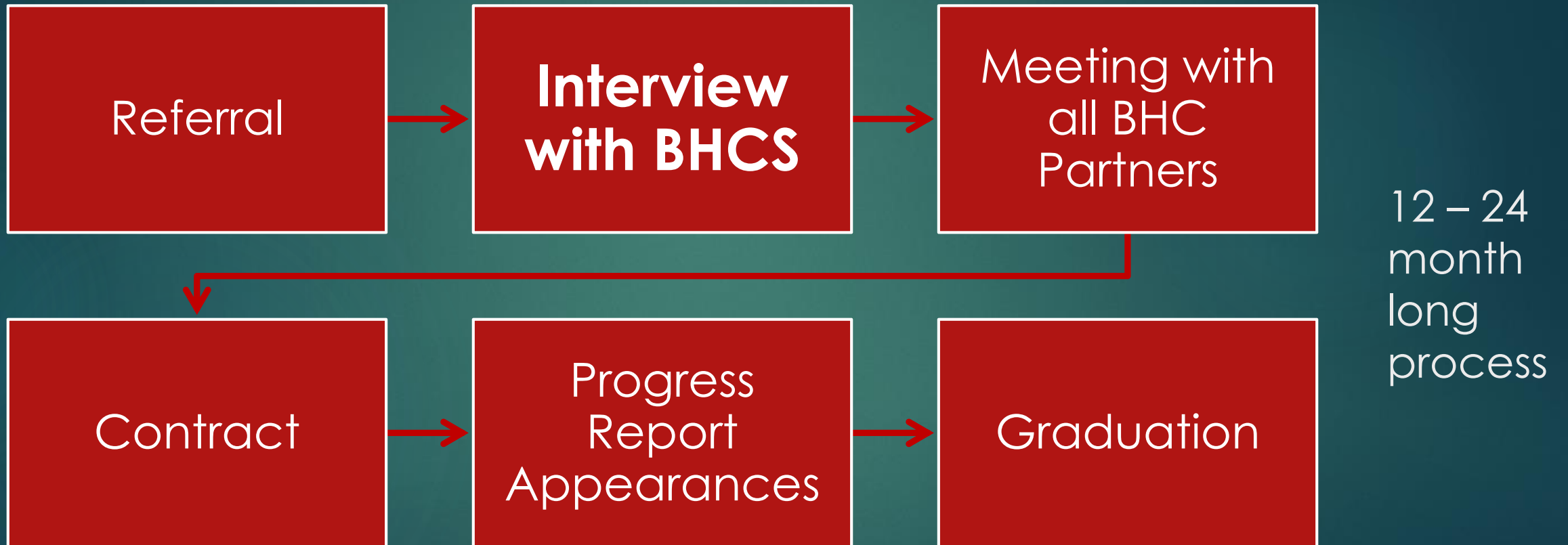
Behavioral Health Court



Referral

- ▶ Each referral submits worksheet listing the crime committed and basic information about the proposed candidate
 - ▶ Referrals come from:
 - ▶ largely from the Defense and District Attorney
 - ▶ sometimes the court, in combination with the above

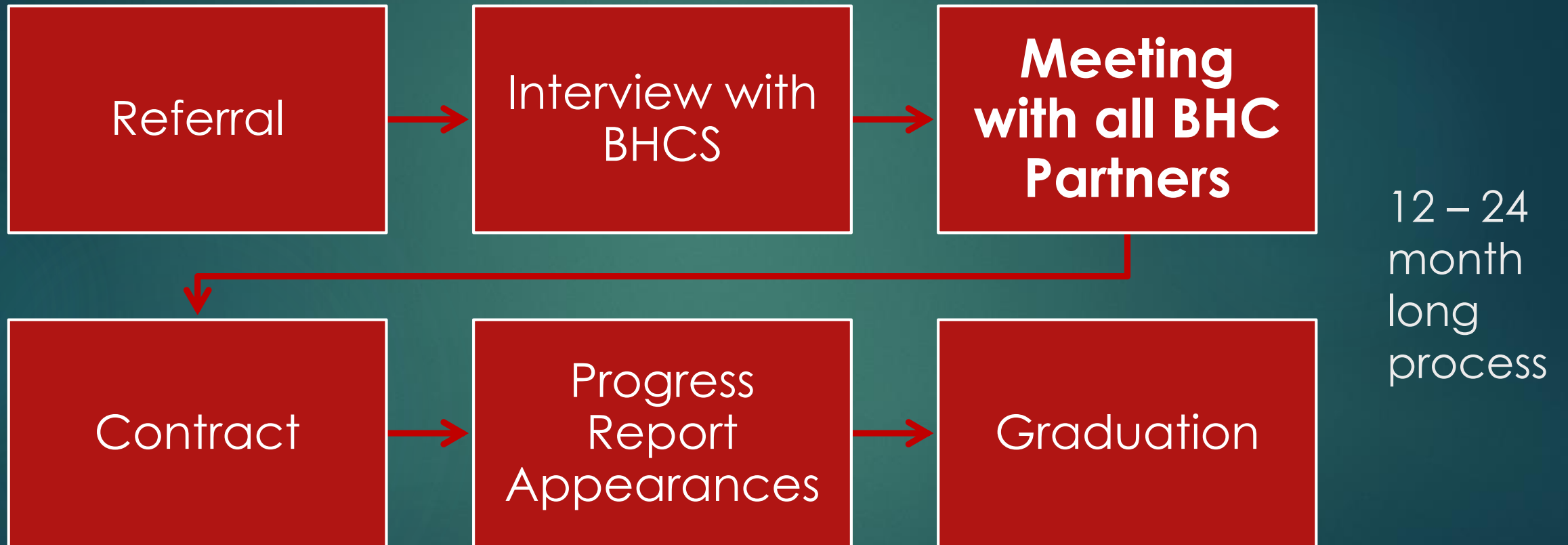
Behavioral Health Court



Interview

- ▶ Assessment of referral to determine suitability:
 - ▶ Alameda County resident
 - ▶ Private insurance?
 - ▶ Amenability to Treatment
 - ▶ Documented mental health problem
 - ▶ Prior John George Referrals?
 - ▶ Prior history of psychiatric treatment

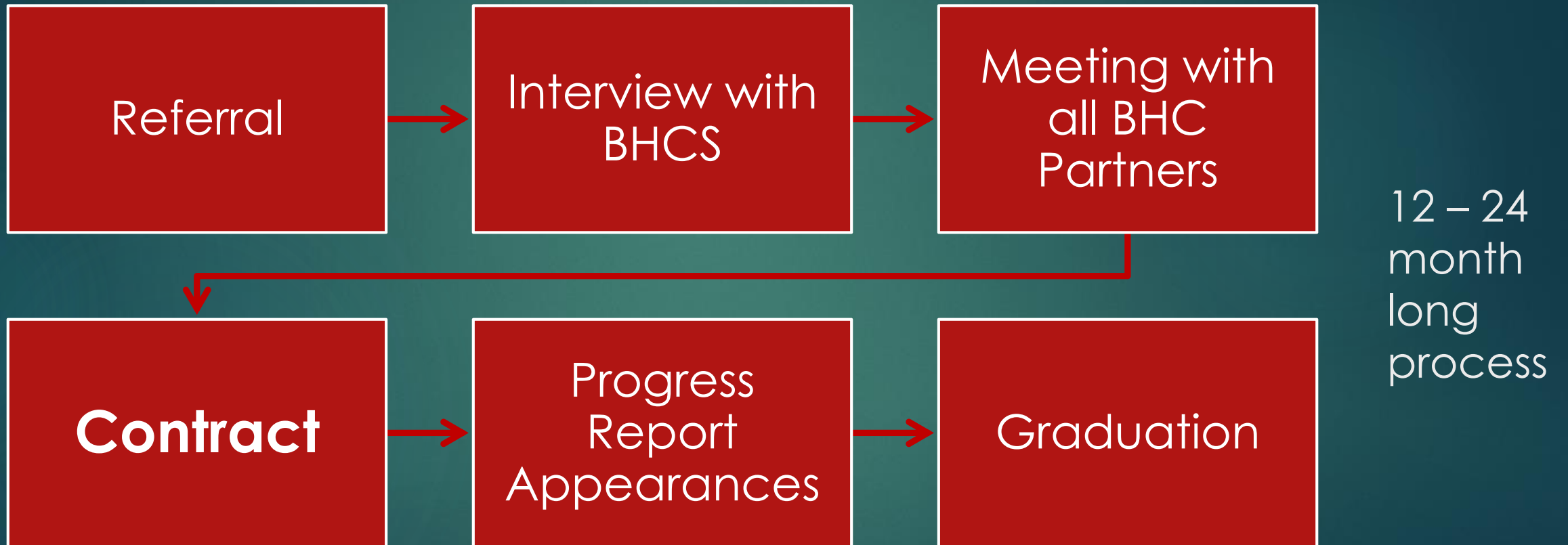
Behavioral Health Court



Collaborative Meeting

- ▶ Likelihood of success?
- ▶ How to structure the program for the individual?
- ▶ Seriousness of offense and crime?
 - ▶ No domestic violence offenses
 - ▶ No driving under the influence offenses
 - ▶ No violent crimes
 - ▶ No sex crimes
 - ▶ No crimes involving guns

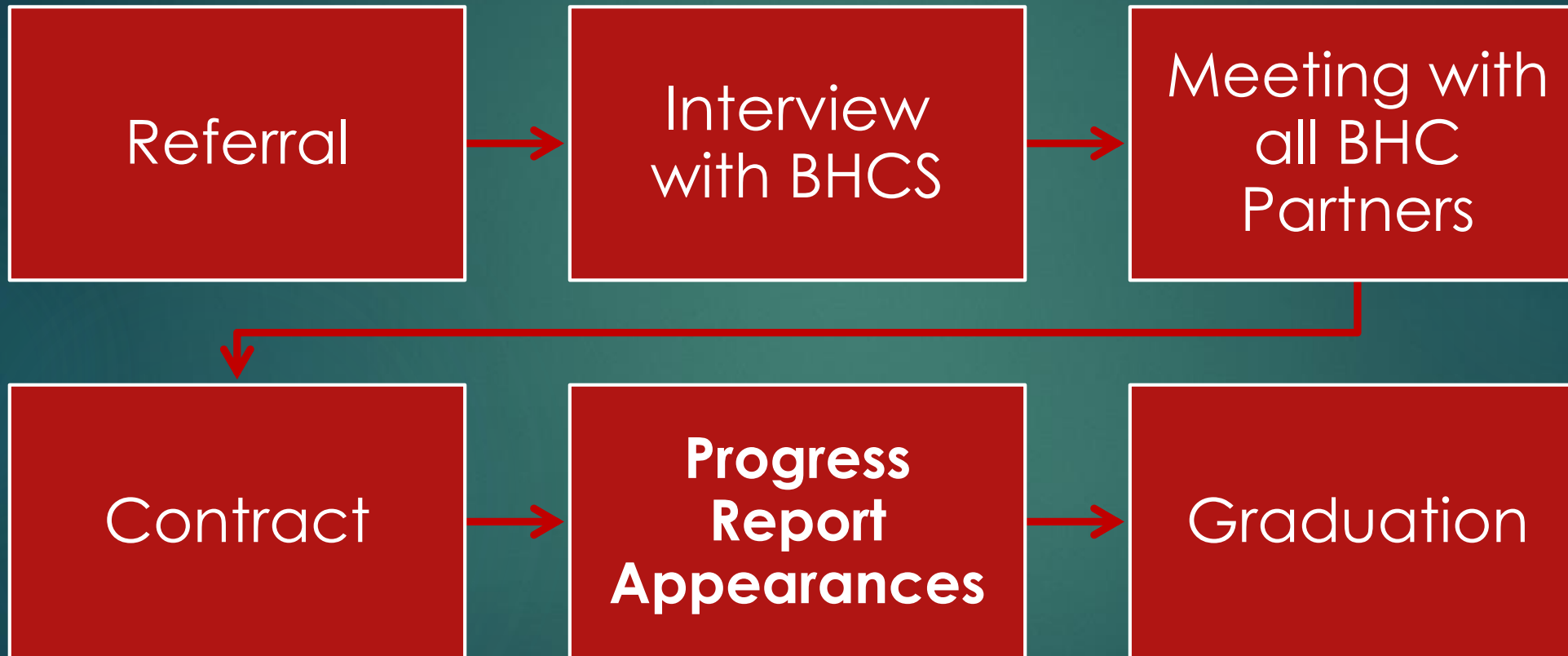
Behavioral Health Court



Contract

- ▶ Participate and attend meetings
- ▶ Do not use drugs
- ▶ Cooperate with Behavioral Health Court Team

Behavioral Health Court

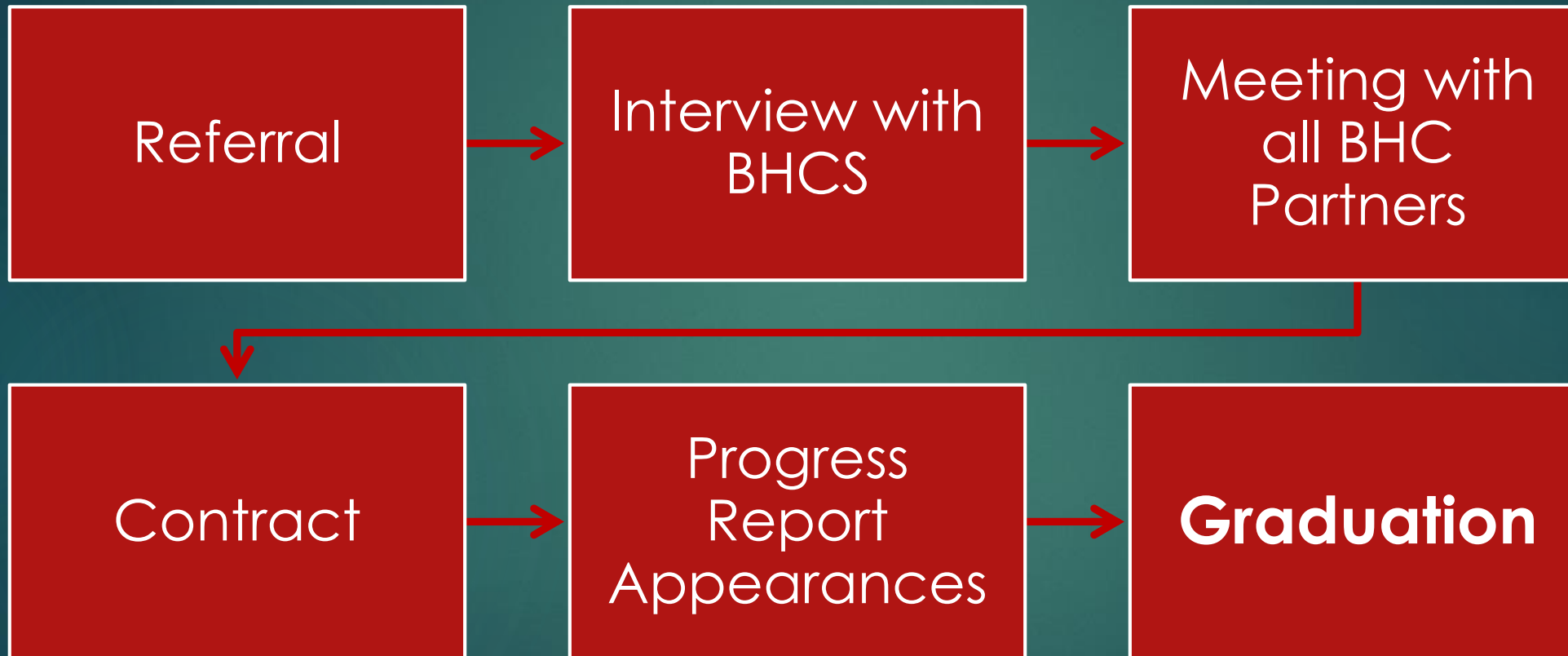


12 – 24
month
long
process

Progress Report

- ▶ Court meeting every Thursday to:
 - ▶ discuss progress
 - ▶ determine how to address shortcomings and praise progress
- ▶ Meet with clients every two weeks at the beginning of the process
 - ▶ If doing well, lengthen time between check-ins

Behavioral Health Court



12 – 24
month
long
process

Graduation



- ▶ Full graduation ceremony at Behavioral Health Court
- ▶ Encouragement by the Court, District Attorney, Defense, and Behavioral Health Team
- ▶ Dismissal of pending criminal case



NANCY E. O'MALLEY
DISTRICT ATTORNEY, ALAMEDA COUNTY