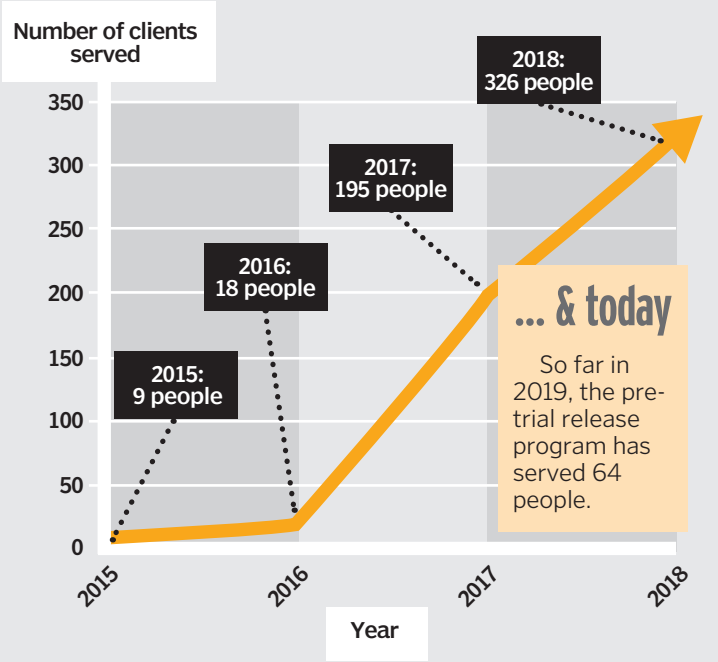


Pretrial release going up

When the county's pretrial release program started in 2015, it had only nine clients. The next year, that doubled to 18, but in subsequent years, it ballooned into the hundreds.



The cost of alternatives

In 2018, the costs of staffing and operations for pretrial release, house arrest and the behavioral health court added up to \$459,446.12, according to a report from Douglas County Criminal Justice Services.

The report also estimated what it would cost to keep those people in jail for the same amount of time they spent in the alternative programs, using an estimated cost of \$86.39 per person per day. The result: a cost about ten times higher than the cost of the alternative programs.

