Summary of Current Gaps and Future Recommendations for Co-Response Research

1. **Cost-Effectiveness:** Evaluate the cost-effectiveness of co-response models to determine their economic feasibility and identify potential cost savings compared to traditional response methods. This includes comparative cost analyses to understand the financial implications of different co-response models and traditional policing methods.

2. **Rigorous Evaluation Methods**: Future research should prioritize rigorous evaluation methods to assess the effectiveness of co-response programs comprehensively. This includes using randomized controlled trials and other robust research designs.

3. **Longitudinal Studies**: Conduct long-term studies to understand the sustained impact of co-response models over time. Longitudinal research can provide insights into the long-term benefits and challenges of these programs.

4. **Comparative Studies**: Future research should include comparative studies to evaluate different co-response models and their outcomes compared to traditional police responses, CIT responses, and community-based responses. This will help identify the most effective approaches.

5. **Professional Activities and Interventions**: Understand the specific professional activities and interventions used by co-response teams and how these contribute to program outcomes.
    1. This should include the development of measurement and data collection approaches that can capture the full range of services and interactions provided by co-response programs.

6. **Theory-Driven Evaluations**: Incorporate theoretical frameworks into evaluations to better understand the underlying mechanisms of co-response programs. This will help in identifying which components are most effective.

7. **Engagement with Treatment Services**: Investigate how co-response programs facilitate engagement with stabilizing treatment services and the long-term outcomes of such engagement.

8. **Client Level of Need**: Developing measurement and data collection approaches that can establish the level of need, severity of MH concerns, and other individual factors that might impact program outcomes.

9. **Client Satisfaction:** Broader exploration of consumer satisfaction with co-response programs is needed. Understanding the perspectives of those who receive these services can inform improvements and ensure the programs meet their needs.
    1. This should include measurement of procedural justice which measures whether individuals feel they are treated fairly and respectfully during interventions.

10. **Officer Perception and Attitudes**: Measure police officers' perceptions and attitudes towards individuals with mental illness and the co-response model.

11. **Reduction in Police Interactions**: Identify and measure the effects of reducing unnecessary police interactions with individuals experiencing mental health crises.
    1. Reductions in arrests, arrests, citations, and jail should also be considered.
    2. Reductions in unnecessary emergency services in general, including fire, EMS, emergency rooms should be considered as well.

12. **Use of Force and Injury**: Investigate the impact of co-response models on police use of force and injury rates. Research should explore whether these programs lead to safer outcomes for both officers and individuals in crisis.

13. **Program Adaptability**: Evaluate the adaptability of co-response programs in different contexts and communities. Research should explore how these programs can be tailored to meet the specific needs of diverse populations.

14. **Training Programs**: Assess the effectiveness of training programs for police officers and mental health professionals involved in co-response teams. This includes evaluating the impact of training on their skills, knowledge, and attitudes.

15. **Implementation and Fidelity**: Conduct implementation and fidelity studies to ensure that co-response programs are being delivered as intended. This includes identifying barriers to implementation and strategies to overcome them.

16. **Partnerships and Collaboration**: Explore further partnerships between police, mental health services, and other community organizations. Research should examine how these collaborations impact the effectiveness of co-response models.