Mason County Criminal Justice Treatment Account Plan

2014 - 2016
This plan has been prepared in response to DSHS, Behavioral Health and Service Integration Administration, Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) and County guidelines for submittal of Criminal Justice Treatment Account (CJTA) plans and services. Additionally, the Statewide Criminal Justice Treatment Account Panel has some oversight of the plans and sets the funding formula for counties.

The CJTA funding formula takes into account a number of variables utilizing data, including Washington State Research Data Analysis (RDA) and Treatment and Assessment Report Generation Tool (TARGET) data entry.

Based on these data sources there were a total of 1,191 non-violent felony or non traffic misdemeanor charges filed by the Mason County Prosecutor in FY2012. Of these, 516 qualified for Medicaid services and 236 or 46% were estimated to be in need of substance use treatment. Mason County Felony Drug Court serves individuals charged with a felony that meet the need for this level of service. When legal charges do not meet the severity for entry into the Drug Court Program, individuals are referred, assessed, and treated for their substance use disorder(s) outside of the Drug Court Program. ¹

I. Criminal Justice Treatment Account (CJTA) Funds 2014-2016

Mason County receives approximately $65,000 per year which is contracted to Northwest Resources II for Mason County Drug Court treatment services. These funds will continue to provide Adult Felony Drug Court services. The rationale for building and providing problem solving court services in Mason County is based on the recommendation of the Mason County Drug Court Team. The Team has been working together for 13 years and has established an effective process that ensures that the operational accountability and treatment structure is sound. The current CJTA Planning members include: the Alcohol/Drug Coordinator and a representative from the following offices: Mason County Prosecutor, Mason County Sheriff or Shelton Police, a Mason County Drug Court Program Manager, Substance Use Treatment provider, a member of the Office of Public Defense.

II. Criminal Justice Treatment Account Innovative Project Plan 2014-2016

Each program that utilizes CJTA funding must use a portion of those funds to go toward an Innovative project, a Best Practice project, or a Regional project. Mason County will utilize CJTA Innovative funds to provide Moral Reconciliation Therapy as a core piece of the therapeutic intervention.

Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT) is a highly structured cognitive-behavioral treatment strategy that focuses on changing the thinking (beliefs) and behaviors that lead to problems of drug abuse, relationship difficulties, and negative (crime-related) lifestyles. MRT significantly raises moral reasoning levels, helps the participant set goals, and develops positive personal qualities. MRT helps redirect decision-making to “do the right thing because it is the right thing to do.” MRT creates a language the

¹ Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR)
entire team can use when working with an individual, building strength of the therapeutic interventions of the problem solving court.\textsuperscript{2}

III. Other, Non CJTA Problem Solving Court Programs

Mason County established the Family Recovery Court in late 2013. The correlation between parental substance use disorder and child maltreatment is well-documented. A number of courts across the nation are successfully applying the drug court model to child welfare cases that involve an allegation of child abuse or neglect related to substance use disorder. Family Recovery Courts or “Family Dependency Treatment Courts” (FDTC) seek to do what is in the best interest of the family by providing a safe and secure environment for the child (ren) while intensively intervening and treating the parent’s substance use disorder and other co-morbidity issues. The FDTC approach has resulted in better collaboration between agencies and better compliance with treatment and other court orders necessary to improve child protection case outcomes. No CJTA funds are being used for the Mason County Family Recovery Court.\textsuperscript{3}

IV. Drug Court Program Description

The Mason County Adult Felony Drug Court program is a voluntary post-plea, court-supervised, comprehensive treatment program for non-violent, adult felony drug charges and a nexus to the individual experiencing moderate to severe substance use disorder. Successful completion from the program results in the felony charge(s) being dismissed.

This program includes regular court appearances before the Drug Court Judge and the Drug Court Team members.

The primary goal of the program is to support the client in achieving a healthy, positive, and satisfying lifestyle through total abstinence from all non-prescribed mind/mood altering substances. The mission of the Drug Court Program is to break the revolving door cycle of substance use disorder and crime.

A. Treatment Services

The client is expected to be involved in some form of treatment on a daily basis. Treatment services are comprised of five separate parts:

1) Individual counseling
2) Group counseling
3) Substance abuse education
4) Sober support meetings
5) Referral(s) for services in the community

\textsuperscript{2} https://www.ccimrt.com
\textsuperscript{3} https://www.ncsacw.samhsa.gov/resources/resources-drug-courts.aspx
Mason County Drug Court Substance Use Treatment services shall include:

1) Biopsychosocial substance use assessments
2) Individualized treatment plans that include the appropriate level of treatment
3) Components of cognitive/behavioral therapies
4) Moral Reconciliation Therapy
5) Required participation in sober support groups
6) Relapse prevention education
7) Random urinalysis collection including gender specific verification

The primary counselor assigned to the drug court participant provides individual and group counseling, case management, and monitoring of participant progress. Progress reports are submitted to the court prior to every court appearance.

During open court, the Judge discusses the progress with the client and the other team members. Accomplishments and problems are addressed. Failure to appear in court or attend any other program sessions may result in sanctions being imposed. Bench warrants may be issued for arrest and in some cases participants may be terminated from the program.

B. Intake/Assessment and Initial Treatment Plan

Following the Intake/Assessment, an initial individualized treatment plan is developed between the client and counselor. The treatment plan addresses specific problems or behaviors requiring services, short and long-term goals and includes everything necessary to assist the client in being successful in this program.

The treatment plan is reviewed, revised, and updated on an ongoing basis as goals are accomplished. The treatment plan is specific, detailed, and individualized with timelines and outcomes that are realistic and measurable.

The pace of treatment and the content of the treatment plan is reviewed and accepted by the Drug Court Team. The accomplishment of the goals (or lack thereof) is included in the court progress reports for the Judge and the Drug Court Team to review.

C. Treatment Phases

The Drug Court Program lasts a minimum of 12 months to a maximum of 18 months.

1) Phase I Orientation/Intake: 3–4 months
   a. Intake/Assessment/Treatment Plan
   b. Drug and Alcohol Education
   c. Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT)
   d. Individual and Group Counseling
In order to advance from Phase I to Phase II, the participant must meet all of these requirements.

2) **Phase II Intensive Counseling: 5-8 months**
   a. Same services as Phase I
   b. Relapse prevention sessions
   c. Referral to community resources/services
   d. Vocational/Educational service referrals

In order to advance from Phase II to Phase III, the participant must meet all of these requirements.

3) **Phase III Referral/Monitoring: 4-6 months**
   a. Individual and group counseling
   b. Complete Individual Needs workbooks
   c. Complete Personal Recovery Plan
   d. Community Linkages/Personal Recovery Plan

4) **Included in all phases**
   a. Random drug/breathalyzer testing
   b. Court progress reviews
   c. Payment of treatment fees
   d. Weekly 12-Step meetings

D. Graduation Requirements

1) Completion of all phase requirements
2) Six (6) months of drug/alcohol abstinence
3) Full payment of all fees
4) Four (4) months of full time job/school
5) Obtain or show meaningful work toward GED or high school diploma
E. Referral to Community Services

Ancillary services that may be needed for participants are referred with the assistance of the participant's counselor. Some of these services may include, but are not limited to:

1) Education and employment information and assistance/WorkFirst
2) Mental health, medical and dental care
3) Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, Veterans Administration
4) Medical and dental care
5) Transportation and housing needs/emergency shelter
6) Support groups
7) Emergency needs (food, clothing)
8) Ethnic/gender/cultural services and assistance
9) Anger management and/or domestic violence classes
10) Legal/consumer assistance and support, Victims Impact Panel
11) Children/youth/teen services

F. Detoxification/Inpatient Treatment

A Chemical Dependency Professional (CDP)(T) makes a referral if a participant is in need of detoxification services. If the participant is pregnant, special arrangements are made to address both needs. The counselor also determines if the participant could benefit from going to an inpatient treatment program.

G. Educational Requirement

As a condition of graduation from the Drug Court, all participants must show proof of meaningful work on their GED or High School Diploma to the court.

H. Graduation

Once the participant has successfully completed all phases of the program, written documentation must confirm that all of the goals in the treatment plan and phase requirements have been accomplished. Then the Judge, with the recommendations from the other Drug Court Team members, determines if the client is eligible for graduation.
I. Law Enforcement/Drug Court Program Partnership

Partnership in Mason County has been made between the Drug Court Program and all of the law enforcement agencies based upon the concepts and philosophies of “Community-Oriented Policing.”

Law enforcement participation plays an important role in how the court handles each Drug Court case. Law enforcement provides feedback to the Judge in determining the appropriateness of placing participants in the program. They also provide information about participant progress once they have entered the program and/or how to respond to their behavior.

Officers and deputies assist the court by conducting random home contacts. The officer’s professional observations, opinions, and written reports, as experienced community policing officers, plays an important role in determining how well the participant is doing in the program. 4

V. Measurable Goals and Objectives

a. Demonstrate the cost-efficiency of drug court program (mean cost for 12 months of service, per client, from date of admission to date of discharge). Cost efficiency is measured by comparing the mean cost referenced above with the cost of maintaining an offender who is incarcerated and/or on extended supervision who has not experienced drug court.

b. Maximize the use of the drug court program by maintaining an 80% utilization rate in the program

c. Identify eligible offenders suitable for drug court

d. Provide judicial oversight services to drug court participants

e. Reduce recidivism of criminal offenses by 20%

f. Reduce incidence and prevalence of drug use

g. Increase treatment retention/completion

h. Reduce relapse

i. Increase jail space

VI. Evaluation Strategy

a. Treatment and Assessment Report Generation Tool (TARGET) data and The System for Communicating Outcomes, Performance & Evaluation (SCOPE) data to document treatment retention rates

b. Client satisfaction surveys administered at the end of each phase

c. Measure criminal activity involvement through the number of arrests reported through county law enforcement

4 Mason County Drug Court Program Participant Handbook
VII. Final Notes

Legislation being proposed for the 2015 session has potential to alter the framework of CJTA in the future. The proposals include:

- To remove the sunset date on the use of CJTA funds for drug court administrative costs. However, the Washington State Drug Court Professionals Association has requested the state allow the sunset to happen, and administrative permissions be removed from the CJTA funds.

- To expand the scope of services that can be purchased with CJTA funds to include recovery support services.

- To amend current legislation so CJTA funds can be used for the state portion of Medicaid match.

- Conversation continues between State and County/Potential Behavioral Health Organizations (BHO)s to determine where CJTA funds will be managed when full integration occurs in 2016. The funds will continue to be regulated by RCW 70.96A.  

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5 Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR)