Improving Access and Outcomes for High Risk Participants in Your Courts

Commissioner Casey Clevenger

Missouri

Casey. Clevenger @courts.mo.gov

6 Steps to Enhancing Access and Improving Outcomes

- 1. Know your Data
- 2. Multi Track
- 3. Meet with Stakeholders
- 4. Eligibility Criteria
- **5**. Culture of Honesty
- 6. Culturally Competent Treatment

Know your Data



Multi Track

- 2014: Boone County Implemented the RANT screening tool and separated participants into 4 quadrants based on risk and need; special consideration for DWI cases
- Struggled with High Risk / Low Need population
- High Risk / Low Need Quadrant was mostly people of color
- White men and women were graduating at a higher rate than people of color
- Disparities on % of Defendants in the criminal justice system compared to TC

Meet with Stakeholders

- Met with decision makers in the Prosecuting Attorneys Office regarding access and graduation rate
- Met with public defenders regarding data
- Educate team members on disparities
- NADCP justification tool kit
- Missouri Best Practice Standards
- Expanded treatment partners

Eligibility Criteria

- Subjective vs Objective
- Any party may refer for eligibility determination
- Eligibility checklist
- Filed in criminal case and available to all parties
- Prosecuting Attorney can still make argument at sentencing, but conditions of probation are a judicial decision
- 2017: 21%; 2018: 22%; 2019: 30%

Eligibility Criteria

| ELIGIBLE | NOT ELIGIBLE | TC # | |
|-------------------|--------------|------|--|
| Name | Date | TC | |
| Case(s) Referred: | | | |

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA for TREATMENT COURT

Place a checkmark in the box if defendant's circumstances are COMPLIANT with requirements for eligibility. If all boxes are checked, the defendant is eligible for TC.

| | Must be 18 years of age or older. | |
|---|--|--|
| | Must be resident of Boone or Callaway County. | |
| | (TC II must reside in Boone County; TCIII must live in Truman VA catchment.) | |
| | Must not be Designated Sex Offender requiring sex offender supervision, as determined by | |
| | Missouri Board of Probation and Parole. | |
| | Current charge must not be Dangerous Felony as defined by 556.061, RSMo. | |
| | Must be eligible for supervised probation <i>as charged</i> . | |
| TCI and TCIV: Must have Felony charge eligible for supervised probation. | | |
| | TCIII: Must be able to supervise and provide UA collection from county of residence. | |
| | Must have treatment need. | |
| If TC II: must be eligible for CPRC services from a designated MH provider. | | |
| | If TC III: must be eligible for VA services. | |
| | Must not be terminated from TC without a change in circumstances which would include: | |
| | 1) successful completion of institutional treatment or court-ordered detention sanction; | |
| | 2) successful completion of community treatment program; | |
| | 3) change in probation status; | |
| | 4) change in home plan and support network; or | |
| | 5) other significant change deemed appropriate by TC Team. | |
| | | |

Culture of Honesty

- Reviewed NADCP Equity and Inclusion Tool Kit and participated in Equity and Inclusion technical assistance with NADCP
- Modified responses to use in the program

Culturally Competent Treatment

- Peer Support
- No clinical assessment for High Risk / Low Need unless a need arises
- Focus on Cognitive Behavioral Therapy
- BJA Equity and Inclusion pilot with OSCA
- HEAT
- HEAT Facilitator training



HEAT Facilitator training

Improving Outcomes

- 77% of Black males referred to HEAT have graduated from that program
- Court fees waived for heat graduates
- Black males are staying engaged in treatment court longer
- Countless Testimonials including the Story of "BO" in Highway to Justice
- Research is ongoing on recidivism, Treatment Court graduation, etc.