

Yolo County Collaborative Courts



Mental Health & Addiction Intervention Court



- ***Re-envisioning*** how the criminal justice system addresses those who commit crimes and who live with mental illness and/or substance use disorders
- Prioritize ***Treatment*** with accountability, not punishment
- State prison or ***something different?***

Mental Health & Addiction Intervention Court



- A treatment approach
- Not one size fits all
- Public safety first
- Thinking long term – Recidivism
- Helping people get better and become successful

What's in the Secret Sauce?



- Collaboration
- District Attorney and Public Defender
- A dedicated judge
- Dedicated staff at probation and HHSA supervising, providing services and supporting participants

Team Collaboration



What cases should we identify



- Felony Conduct
- Serious Mental Illness - SMI (schizophrenia, schizo-affective, or bipolar) ***and/or***
- Substance use disorder – SUD
- Information revealed in police report
- Interactions by counsel with their client

When referrals are made



- Law enforcement identifies and contacts DA contemporaneous to arrest
- DA identifies at charging/intake state at DA's office
- Defense counsel identifies and makes the referral
 - Early is ideal
 - Later in the case is not ideal

Mechanics for a referral



- Official referral must be made by defense counsel
- Defense counsel must get Releases of Information, complete the referral packet, and forward to the treatment team
- Often, DA is not aware of the mental illness
- If DA identifies early, defense counsel will be contacted and invited to make a referral

Mechanics for a referral



- Pending assessment, individuals often remain in custody
 - Easier for treatment team to go to jail to assess
 - Individual may be clean from drugs and stabilize in jail
 - Often, if individual is out and in the community, it's not a good situation

Mental Health Court (MHC/DSH) & Addiction Intervention Court (AIC) ELIGIBILITY



- 18 or older
- US Citizen
- Yolo County resident
- Charged/Convicted of one or more misdemeanors or felonies or currently be on Probation
- Participant must agree to join MHC/AIC and follow the guidelines
- Participant must have the necessary insight and motivation to be successful in the program
- MHC/AIC Teams must all agree on participant's acceptance

Mental Health Court (MHC) & Addiction Intervention Court (AIC)

ELIGIBILITY



MHC/DSH

- Diagnosed with a Serious Mental Illness (SMI)
- Mental State at the time of Offense (MSO) – Participant's SMI must be cause or aggravating factor in the commission of their crime

AIC

- Diagnosed with a Substance Use Disorder (SUD)
- Their SUD was the cause or aggravating factor in the commission of their crime(s)

Common Reasons for unsuitability



- Not SMI
- No causal link between the SUD/SMI and the crime
- Individual no longer wants the program
- Individual will not engage
- Individual is too ill or has none to little insight

- Approximately 2/3 found unsuitable
- Each team member must agree
 - Origin of this rule
 - Defense counsel never disagrees
 - Almost always a consensus once the treatment team makes a recommendation
 - ✦ DA has only exercised a veto once out of hundreds of referrals

Four Phases



- Minimum of 18 months. Participants progress through four phases:
 - Phase I: Orientation and Treatment Plan Development
 - Phase II: Early Recovery
 - Phase III: Active Recovery
 - Phase IV: Sustained Recovery
 - Graduation
 - MHC Alumni Program

AIC Graduations



MHC Graduations



MHC Outcome Measures

Fiscal Year 2021-22



- Jail bed days
decreased by 64.1 %
12 months post-MHC
- **Arrests**
decreased by 75.6
12 months post-
MHC
- Local Hospital Bed
Days decreased by
79% 12 months post-
MHC
- State Hospital Bed
Days decreased by
100% 12 months post-
MHC

AIC Outcome Measures

Fiscal Year 2021-22



➤ 78.4%

Decrease in arrests

➤ 90.2 % decrease
in jail bed days

Options for less severe mental illness



- Mental Health Diversion Program
 - CCP funding for 1001.36 *based* program
 - ✦ PD
 - ✦ DA
 - ✦ Probation Officer
 - ✦ CBO – Case worker, Clinician, Peer Support worker
- Restorative Justice Partnership (formerly NHC) with managed treatment

ELIGIBILITY



- 18 or older
- Charged/Convicted of one or more felonies or misdemeanors and in danger of getting charged with first felony.
- Participant must agree to MH-DIV and follow the guidelines.
- Participant must have the necessary insight and motivation to be successful in the program
- MH-DIV Team must all agree on participant's acceptance

The Program: CommuniCare



- Assessment of new referrals
- Mental Health Care/Mental Health Referrals
- Treatment planning – case by case basis
- Intensive case management
- Peer Support Advocate
- Monitoring
- Accountability
- Coordination

1st MH-Div Meeting



MH-Div Halloween BBQ



1st MH-Div Graduation



1st MH-Div Graduation



rest: HABITATS consists of...

Mental health court celebrates grads

BY ANNE TERNUS-BELLAMY
Enterprise staff writer

Wednesday was a big day for Adrian Rodriguez.

He'd taken time off of work, watched a YouTube video that morning to learn how to tie a tie, and was now sitting in a courtroom at the Yolo County courthouse, wearing that tie with a matching suit jacket and listening as a judge asked him if he had anything to say.

He did.

"I want to, first of all, apologize publicly to my mom," Rodriguez said.

"Sorry it took so long to become me. The real me," he told his mother as she sat in the back of the courtroom, wiping away tears.

"My mom's always done the



COURTESY PHOTO

Adrian Rodriguez receives his certificate of completion from Judge Janet Gaard after a year in Yolo County's Mental Health Diversion Court.

most she could for me," Rodriguez told the court, "and I just couldn't do it."

But in the end, he did.

A year after entering Yolo County's Mental Health Diversion

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Estate Planning

HELP WANTED

RJP-Case Managed



- Target Population: Individuals with mental health (and SUD) issues contributing to their criminal behavior
 - May include Non-Yolo residents getting services through home county resources.
- Case management provided by HHSA, Hope Cooperative, Telecare, Veteran's Affairs or other entity.
- May include trauma-informed care using wraparound services.

RJP-Case Managed



- May include trauma-informed care using wraparound services.
 - Case Manager or Clinician participates in the RJP conference*.
 - Can explain the participant's case plan and limitations
- *Not all CM cases will be participate in RJP conference
- Individuals with private insurance may only have a case plan.
 - Victim Consent is *not* Required)

RJP-CM Referrals & Eligibility



Referral-

1. Defense to Complete Referral Packet w/ ROI and provide to RJP Paralegal to Submit to HHSA
2. Defendant must be receiving treatment/get approved for treatment from HHSA/or other service provider

Eligibility*

INELIGIBLE OFFENSES = DUI, Sex Offense, Stand-alone 14601's,

*The goal of this program is to reduce recidivism and advance the recovery of individuals in this program target populations while maintaining public safety. Incentivizing successful treatment engagement is the guiding force behind eligibility in determination for this programs.

Triumph!



Questions

