



Minutes Treatment Court Subcommittee February 23, 2016

Committee Members

Present

Judge Lloyd Carter- Chair	Sam Benedict	Joan Sternweis	Sara Carpenter
Sue Oppen	Dick Manke	John Wirkus	Dan Lomen
Eric Severson	Judge Kathryn Foster		

Committee Members Absent

Kathy Madden

Others Present

Andrea Will	Rebecca Luczaj	John Kettler	Corina VanDuser
Katie Bricco	Jorge Fragoso	Janelle McClain	

Judge Carter called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

Approve Minutes from October 26, 2015 Meeting

Motion: Foster moved, seconded by Benedict, to approve the minutes of October 26, 2015. The motion carried unanimously.

Review 2015 & Year-to-Date Treatment Court Program Outcomes

Carpenter distributed and reviewed handouts titled "Waukesha County Alcohol Treatment Court Program" for January – December 2015, and January 2016, 3rd and 4th offenses and "Waukesha County Drug Treatment Court Program" for January – December 2015 and January, 2016.

Alcohol Treatment Court

Carpenter discussed the current case load is 37, and they have 10 new participants. Suggestions were made that this program has the potential to increase the number of participants they serve. Carpenter stated they found the vast majority of participants to be male, Caucasian, and between the ages of 33 to 50 years old. Overall, it was noted that the average length of stay has increased. Carpenter and WCS are moving to a randomized method of testing which involves a computer system and she will let Luczaj know when it is implemented.

Some issues were discussed regarding collecting comparative data, such as OWI populations, arrests made, and demographics. Best practices were discussed such as better identifying incentives versus sanctions and developing a tracking method. Luczaj stated that more sanctions are given out than incentives. It should be more clearly determined what an incentive is and what a sanction is. There was a discussion as to what was deemed an incentive versus a sanction, and it was determined that further consistency will be needed.

Drug Court

Carpenter discussed Drug Treatment Court statistics from 2015 and January 2016. There was a wait list of 59 participants over the whole year. There are two full time staff providing case management services to drug treatment court participants. This is a very high risk, high need population, which makes it difficult to supervise 50 participants. New technology has allowed for better supervision. WCS started using a new drug testing device called "Helping Hands" for females, which decreases the chances of the participant tampering with the cup. Just recently, the device assisted in stopping three individuals from tampering with the cup.

There was a discussion about the current increases in overdoses. Carpenter commented that they have seen a significant increase in overdoses. Lomen stated there are approximately 6-10 overdoses a month

with probationers. Overdoses are most likely underreported, as those tracked are mostly reported through law enforcement, and it does not account for the other reports. Another issue discussed was the length of sobriety that should be required for graduation. Luczaj commented that the graduation rate has improved and is close to the national average. A positive outcome of this program is the Judges' involvement with the participants. Carpenter would like to know what others want to see on future reports, that isn't already included.

Update on Implementation of Drug Court Referral Form

Will distributed and gave an update on the Drug Court Referral Form. The total number of applications they had were 18, which were primarily done electronically. The District Attorney's office has approved 13 and declined 5 participants. There has not been much feedback on the form; however, possible suggestions made were for a fillable or more electronic form. The backside of the application gives the reason as to why the individual has been declined. Benedict posed the question of what determines the declined applications, and the response was that violent offenses or possession of fire arms are a primary reason. There was discussion regarding the turnaround time, which is about 48 hours from when the District Attorney's office receives the referral, reviews it, and forwards it. Typically, the form is reviewed and forwarded on within the same day.

There was discussion in regards to the number of people on the wait list, as it was close to 20 people. They need to be focusing on high risk, high need defendants. Will gave the example that if you are on the waitlist and overdose, then you are more likely to get into the program. The issues with the wait list should be resolved during the May retreat. If additional grant dollars are not obtained, existing CJCC programs will need to be looked at, prioritizing the programs that are most impactful.

Update on Progress of Recovery Coach Service Implementation

Sternweis distributed a handout and gave an update on the progress of recovery coach service implementation. This service would allow peer specialists, recovery coaches, and peer mentors to support participants in the program. The state of Wisconsin has been using mental health peer specialists since 2006, and are now looking at having integrated peer specialists (both substance abuse and mental health). The contracts have been sent out, and they should be identifying agencies to provide these services as soon as caregiver background checks are completed. Recovery coaching services for participants would be set up through John Kettler or Susan Andrews, as part of the treatment plan.

Update on American University's Site Visit Report and May 13th Staffing Team Retreat

Luczaj informed the committee that the site visits were conducted by American University consultants on December 16 – 17, 2015 to observe Alcohol Treatment Court (ATC) and Drug Treatment Court (DTC) staffings and court.

The consultants will return for the May 13th staffing team retreat, where they will be reviewing their findings and recommendations. Suggestions were made to go through the report before the retreat. Luczaj stated she will set up meetings with each staffing team to discuss agenda items for the retreat.

Discuss Upcoming WI Association of Treatment Court Professionals Conference

Luczaj informed the committee that this conference is coming up on March 21 – 23, 2016 in Madison. So far, there are six staff from Waukesha who are attending and they are waiting to hear if others are going.

Future Agenda Items/Other Business - All

There was discussion about celebrating the 10th anniversary of Alcohol Treatment Court in May. It was suggested to invite the program graduates to come back for the celebration. Will commented that she will get more information, and Carpenter stated WCS will help out.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 1:13 p.m. Luczaj will send out a Doodle survey to schedule the next meeting, preferably before the May 13 retreat.