



Treatment Court Subcommittee Minutes May 2, 2016

Committee Members

Present

Judge Lloyd Carter- Chair
Sue Opper
Eric Severson

Sam Benedict
Judge Kathryn Foster

Joan Sternweis
Lou Hernandez

Sara Carpenter
Marla Bell

Committee Members Absent

Kathy Madden

John Wirkus

Others Present

Andrea Will
Janelle McClain

Rebecca Luczaj

Kristy Gusse

Jorge Fragoso

Judge Foster called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

Committee Membership Updates

The Executive Committee has approved Lou Hernandez to replace Dick Manke as the citizen member on the subcommittee. Marla Bell is replacing Dan Lomen from the Division of Community Corrections.

Approve Minutes from February 23, 2016

Motion: Opper moved, seconded by Benedict, to approve the minutes of February 23, 2016. The motion carried unanimously.

Review Year to Date Treatment Court Program Outcomes

Carpenter distributed and reviewed handouts titled "Waukesha County Alcohol Treatment Court Program" for March 2016, 3rd and 4th OWI offenses and "Waukesha County Drug Treatment Court Program" for March 2016.

Alcohol Treatment Court (ATC)

Foster commented that the team is keeping better track of sanctions and incentives. There has been improvement in informing Gusse if something needs to be tracked as an incentive. Foster commented that there should be 4 positives to every 1 negative.

Foster would like to see more statistics on reoffending. Carpenter responded that tracking reoffending after supervision is difficult with their limited staffing. In the past, the judges have worked with the Sheriff's Department to check recidivism periodically in the NCIC database. This will be discussed further at the retreat.

Foster commented that the evaluators said people are waiting too long to be enrolled in the program. Benedict would like to see the model changed to more of a probation-based model, and encourage people to get in sooner.

There was a recommendation from the national consultants that some ATC participants (drugged drivers) should actually be in the DTC, but capacity is an issue.

Drug Treatment Court (DTC)

When reviewing the number of people screened and deemed ineligible, 1 client chose not to participate, 1 was ineligible, and 1 was removed due to death. The report states there are 21 people on the waitlist; however, that is now down to 17.

Luczaj recently learned that 10 people have been accepted into DTC since its inception in March 2012 who were not high-risk, high-need. We do not want to mix low and high risk populations. This should be reviewed. WCS screens individuals using the tools (RANT and TCU Drug Screen) and then creates a report for the staffing team to review in order to make the final eligibility/enrollment determination.

Overview of Computerized Random Drug Testing System

Carpenter distributed information on the new randomized web-based drug testing system, Sentry, developed by Norchem. Norchem has been 100% responsive to any concerns regarding the new system.

All participants will continue to call daily to find out if they are required to test, and the notification is in both English and Spanish. Although the system can allow for 7 days/week testing, WCS only has the staffing for Monday through Saturday. The groups will still be labeled by color, but the participant is going to listen for their name when they call.

Case managers enter the clients into the system, change how often their name will be pulled, and switch them in/out of groups. There are no limits regarding how many clients can be entered into the system. Case managers can also view the time of day clients called the system, as well as what phone number they called from.

The Sentry system began to be utilized in Jefferson County on May 1st. Waukesha County will begin using it on May 10th. Clients in Phase 1 of the program are tested at least 3 times a week. WCS will continue to follow current program guidelines for the frequency of testing.

Foster said there was concern about clients figuring out the system. Carpenter reviewed statistics on the first location to utilize the Sentry system. Due to the system's randomization, people thought that they were being tested more, when they were actually being tested less often.

WCS was recently asked to look at the current drug court graduates who are pending sentencing and supervise them, including drug testing, until their date of sentencing. Carter commented that clients have been surprised that, even though they have graduated, they are still subject to bail conditions. Part of graduation includes reminding the client about their bail conditions. The Pretrial Supervision program is now monitoring them until their sentencing date. Will was concerned that the sentencing judge will think the person did not do well in the program if the case gets pushed back. The handbook will be updated to inform clients that they are still subject to bail conditions post-graduation.

Discuss Drug Court Waitlist

Will reported that as of Friday, April 29th, there were 17 participants on the waitlist; 2 of them entered their contracts today, and 1 is entering their contract on Wednesday. Applications for drug court are currently closed due to the lengthy waitlist.

Will would like WCS to be more involved with who is coming into the program, as those in-custody should be given priority. WCS is currently assisting in making the decisions, but she would like to see them have a more prominent role.

Sternweis commented that for treatment, a number of factors are looked at in regards to voluntary sobriety verses forced sobriety. She was curious how WCS makes the decision at the pretrial stage. Will responded that there was a decision tree developed by the DA's Office, which is based on custody status and how the client is performing on WCS monitoring. It is a point system. Will also asks WCS staff for their input based on pretrial performance.

The committee would like to add the following topics/concerns to the May 13th retreat agenda:

- How to get people through faster so that others are not on the waitlist for months at a time.
- Putting more weight on those who are refusals and no-shows for WCS pretrial drug testing.
- Helping the County Board to see that there are people from all socioeconomic backgrounds enrolled in these programs. This stems both from an e-mail sent to Paul Decker from a parent who was critical of the process, and a drug overdose death.

Overview of May 13th Staffing Team Retreat Agenda

Luczaj distributed a draft agenda and memo from the American University consultants. She spoke to the consultants, as well as the ATC and DTC staffing teams to get feedback on the agenda. Luczaj has requested that the consultants review their recommendations at the retreat.

The Staffing Team Retreat will begin at 8 a.m. instead of 8:30 a.m. as previously set.

Discuss National Drug Court Month (May) Celebrations/Graduation Ceremonies

The DTC Graduation is on May 25th, and the ATC Graduation is on May 26th. Luczaj would like to do something to highlight the treatment courts. She has a flyer that she can get out today. There will be a big celebration for the ATC since it is also the 10-year anniversary of the program.

Severson suggested getting the flyer to the new County Executive's PR staff member. Opper also mentioned letting the police chiefs and state legislators know. Former graduates that are doing well will hopefully attend as well.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m. Luczaj will send out a Doodle survey to schedule the next meeting.