

PROGRAM INFORMATION:

Program Title:	Adult Criminal Drug Court	Provider:	Fresno Superior Court
Program Description:	A multidisciplinary team that coordinates judicial and probationary supervision; outpatient or inpatient substance abuse treatment, depending on participant need; drug screens; and ancillary services. This team also provides case management that responds to the participants' individual recovery needs and life goals. The Service Coordinator assists in linking participants with social and mental health services that contribute to participant recovery.	MHP Work Plan:	1-Behavioral Health Integrated Access
Age Group Served 1:	ADULT	Dates Of Operation:	October 2015 - Present
Age Group Served 2:	Choose an item.	Reporting Period:	July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016
Funding Source 1:	Com Services & Supports (MHSA)	Funding Source 3:	Choose an item.
Funding Source 2:	Choose an item.	Other Funding:	Click here to enter text.

FISCAL INFORMATION:

Program Budget Amount:	\$70,000 Program budget amount consists of the budget for Service Coordinators of the Adult and Family Behavioral Health Courts as well as Adult Criminal Drug Court.	Program Actual Amount:	\$36,675 This is the program actual amount specifically for the Adult Criminal Drug Court. The remaining program actual cost of \$10,887.50 is incurred by the Family and Adult Behavioral Health Courts.
Number of Unique Clients Served During Time Period:	697		
Number of Services Rendered During Time Period:	295		
Actual Cost Per Client:	\$52.62		

CONTRACT INFORMATION:

Program Type:	Contract-Operated	Type of Program:	Other, please specify below
Contract Term:	July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2018	For Other:	Coordination of court and community services to client.
	This is a one-year base contract with 2	Renewal Date:	July 1, 2018

additional 12-month periods.

Level of Care Information Age 18 & Over: Choose an item.

Level of Care Information Age 0- 17: Choose an item.

This contract does not provide direct client service, instead, the Service Coordinator for the Adult Criminal Drug Court provides service and program activity coordination for participating adults.

TARGET POPULATION INFORMATION:

Target Population: Adult misdemeanor defendants of both sexes, all ages, all races and any ethnicity with drug charges and equally diverse nonviolent felony defendants with property crime charges whose substance use is driving the criminal behavior.

MHSA CORE CONCEPTS:

Please select MHSA core concepts embedded in services/ program:
(May select more than one)

- Recovery/Resiliency Orientation
- Community Collaboration
- Integrated Service Experience

Choose an item.

Please describe how the selected concept (s) embedded :

Participants are linked with programs and services in the justice system as well as in the community to reach recovery.

PROGRAM OUTCOME GOALS:

The program goals are to improve public safety, reduce recidivism, and improve mental health access and treatment for those in the justice system. More specifically, 35% of participants in the adult criminal drug court will successfully complete their treatment programs.

PROGRAM OUTCOME DATA/INDICATORS:

Starting a new drug court is the most significant outcome in this reporting period. A new treatment court program was implemented in September 2015 after Proposition 47 dissolved the previous drug court model. While a few drug court participants chose to remain in recovery after the passage of Prop 47, the referendum took away the incentive for the majority of new participants to enter drug court and reduced most drug charges from felonies that carried two or more year sentences in state prison to misdemeanors with short or no local jail time. Faced with

the choice of minor sentences or 12 to 18 month court programs with rigorous, life-changing requirements, very few defendants opted for drug court. Beyond that, many drug defendants were unconcerned about misdemeanor charges and did not take court proceeding seriously. The failures to appear (FTA) rate for misdemeanor drug cases spiked to 60 percent in October 2015. Large numbers of FTAs expend more justice system resources and delay the onset of services and rehabilitation for the missing defendants.

An innovative drug court model was conceptualized and implemented through the collaboration between the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH), criminal justice, law enforcement, treatment organizations, and the Fresno Superior Court. The new drug court features a number of significant changes aimed at marketing the benefits of engaging in recovery, streamlining the drug court process, and placing defendants who enter drug court into treatment quickly. Law enforcement agencies and the District Attorney's Office worked on reducing the time between drug citations and the first court appearance from 90 days to 30 days. This then decreased the FTA rate from 60 to 45 percent by March 2016. The court and the DBH arranged to have Substance Abuse Specialists (SASes) available at the courthouse each morning to meet with drug defendants before their arraignments. The SASes educate defendants on the health and social benefits of engaging in substance abuse recovery, and assess the defendants' addictions and personal circumstances to determine which treatment programs would best meet their needs, should they accept treatment. Immediately after meeting with the SASes, misdemeanor and felony defendants who are eligible to enter drug court are now arraigned in Department 11 by the drug court judge. Just after the new drug court started in Fall 2015, approximately 64 percent of eligible defendants accepted treatment. By March 2016, 94 percent of defendants facing the decision to enter drug court did so.

The drug court is immediately able to refer these defendants to suitable treatment providers based on the SASes' assessments and recommendations. An electronic dashboard was developed in FY 2015-16 that helps the judge and probation officers identify the outpatient and inpatient treatment providers that are suitable for individual participants and have available treatment slots open for immediate referrals.

Since its inception in September 2015 through June 2016, the adult criminal drug court convenes four mornings each week, sees an average of 10 to 12 participants daily, and held over 1500 individual hearings. In total, the drug court served 697 participants in this reporting period; of those, 118 successfully completed the drug court program and 197 were terminated unsuccessfully. The drug court's successful completion rate is currently 37 percent and the retention rate is 71.7 percent.

The DBH-funded part time Adult Drug Court Service Coordinator provided the services listed below.

- Welcomed defendants to court each day, promoting a positive court environment, emphasizing again the benefits of engaging in recovery, and offering immediate, onsite assistance.
- Provided 107 participants with subsidized bus tokens or bus passes.
- Referred 46 participants to permanent housing options; of those 15 obtained housing.
- Cultivated housing opportunities with The Californian, Eco Village Project, Fresno Housing Authority, Habitat for Humanity, Naomi's House, Poverello House, Rescue Mission, Salvation Army, and private property owners.
- Assisted 85 participants with employment preparation, interviewing skills, resume building, application completion, job referrals, online application completion, and resume submission; of those 23 obtained jobs.
- Assisted participants to access the following social services:
 - Medi-Cal/SSI (five participants);
 - Dental services (two participants);
 - General relief (five participants);

- Central California Legal Services (two participants);
- Government telephone assistance (two participants);
- Driver's license amnesty program (one participant);
- Energy bill payment through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (two participants);
- Immigration services (two participants);
- College education enrollment and financial aid (two participants);
- Unemployment benefits (one participant);
- Completing Housing Choice vouchers (seven participants);
- Food (eight participants); and,
- Clothing through local thrift stores, Catholic Charities, and other community programs (15 participants).

In total, 295 units of services were provided in this period as a result of DBH funding. This number does not account for drug screens, services provided by the Probation Department, and substance abuse treatment from other DBH contractors or community organizations.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION(S):

Click here to enter text.