



## **Behavioral Health Steering Committee**

### **530 Fund Sub-Committee**

**November 11, 2020**

#### **Attendees**

Laura Edmonds, **Shenna Oriabure**, **Julie Turnbull**, **Trina Crosby**, **Lynn Richardson**, Vickie Rice, **Teresa Saulsberry**, **Judge La'Donna Harlan**, **Judge Rocky Jones**, **Judge Aubrey Moorehead**, Kelly McWilliams, **Kimberly Duran** (bold type indicates designated voting representatives)

#### **Review/Approval of Minutes**

Laura Edmonds called the meeting to order at 9:00am and asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Julie Turnbull made a motion to approve the minutes. Vickie Rice seconded the motion and the group accepted the minutes.

#### **530 Fund Balance and Update**

Laura Edmonds provided an update of the 530 Fund Balance. Currently the balance for the Felony account (4020) is \$131,696.62 the Misdemeanor account (4031) is \$33,659.41 for a total of \$165,356.03. There are expenses from the previous fiscal year being paid out in the current fiscal year. Legislation enacted January 2020 changed the fee structure for revenue placed into the 530 account. Revenue was previously generated by a flat fee from drug and alcohol related offenses. The new fee structure is a percentage assessed on all offenses. Shenna Oriabure and Laura have a meeting with the Auditor's Office to garner more information about revenue and the impact of the new legislation. Hopefully a more detailed update will be provided next month. Courts that completed the Dallas County Specialty Court Survey were automatically credited incentive monies for FY2021. The survey due date is today, 11/11/2020. The survey provides information to assist with funding requests and future planning. An overview of the 530 Fund FY2021 expenditures was included in the meeting packet.

#### **Drug Testing**

Laura Edmonds provided an update of the 530 specialized drug testing utilization total for FY21. Total invoiced under the drug testing line item is \$2,144.90 which leaves a balance of \$22,855.10 Utilization of drug patch: 0% were no shows and 100% received patch services. Of those clients that received drug patches: 7% positive, 50% results pending, 22% negative, 21% unable to test (no patch intact at removal, did not return for removal). A report was provided in the meeting packet. Laura reminded courts to provide 24-hour notice on drug testing requests especially during the holiday season. The 24-hour notice will help with responsiveness. A CSCD representative was not present at

the meeting. The committee is waiting on an update from CSCD regarding UA outsourcing. Laura called for a vote to extend UA observations through the end of fiscal year 2021; will allow 16 UA observations for the smaller courts and 32 UA observations for the larger courts (STAC, AIM, DIVERT, IIP, 4C). There is a \$3,000 limit for UA observations due to purchasing restrictions. All voting members present voted “yes” to continue UA observations for FY21. Laura advised there is unlimited UA specimen testing but limited UA observations. Court participants may self-pay for the observation; the cost is \$12.50.

### **Transitional Housing**

A written report was provided in the meeting packet. There are 2 specialty court participants in Salvation Army transitional housing. The breakdown is 1 female and 1 male participant. The court utilization breakdown is 1 STAC and 1 STAR. Referred individuals must present proof of a negative COVID-19 test and are staffed on a case-by-case basis. There are currently 2 vacancies (1 male bed and 1 female bed). Please send referrals to [specialtycourts@dallascounty.org](mailto:specialtycourts@dallascounty.org) and clients will be added to waitlist. Housing is for participants who are chronically homeless. The benefit is participants can stay in the transitional housing for up to 6 months. The ultimate goal is to link participants to permanent supporting housing. This resource is great for those needing long term housing assistance.

### **Request for Funding**

No requests were received.

### **Texas State Office of Governor Update**

Notice of grant awards for FY2021 have been sent out. The OOG’s Specialty Court Advisory Council (SCAC) will meet on 11/13/2020. The meeting’s main focus will be establishing criteria for family courts.

### **TASC**

The Texas Association of Specialty Courts (TASC) Conference is coming up in April 2021. The state stipend applications were due on October 16, 2020. The stipend applications were due prior to the awarding of Office of the Governor (OOG) grants. Courts that received OOG funding for training will need to email Amber Gregory with TASC to update stipend application. In December, the 530 Subcommittee will vote on how to divide 530 funding for TASC. The proposal is for each 530 stipend be \$1,000. The stipend amount will cover the majority of cost but not all cost. Those attending under 530 funding are encouraged to carpool and share rooms. It is proposed the 5 larger courts receive 2 stipends per court, the 9 smaller courts receive 1 stipend per court, and 1 stipend for Keta Dickerson-OOG representative. The proposed funding option will total \$20,000 for TASC leaving \$4,000 in the training line item for the remainder of the fiscal year. The remaining funding can be used for smaller in-house trainings.

### **Specialty Court Survey**

A Dallas County sponsored specialty court survey has been available for some weeks. The survey is optional to complete. Courts that complete the survey will be automatically credited FY2021 incentive funding. Courts that complete the survey will not have to complete formal requests for funding. Courts that opt not to complete the survey can still obtain incentive funding by submitting a formal funding request. Courts that complete the survey by the due date will be entered in a drawing for additional funds. The funds are provided by the Criminal Justice Department's DDA fund.

### **Specialty Court Video Production**

Specialty court video production was approved in the FY2020 budget but production was delayed due to COVID-19. The goal is to complete the project before the end of FY2021. The hope is to resume filming in the first or second quarter of calendar year 2021. There are still concerns about COVID. Outreach will be made to courts to see how to complete production safely.

### **Announcements**

Judge Moorehead was introduced as the new judge for the Misdemeanor DWI Court. Laura Edmonds acknowledged Veteran's Day and thanked veterans for their service. Judge Harlan was recognized as a veteran. Julie Turnbull advised the District Attorney's Office, judges, and courts are anxiously awaiting an update regarding CSCD's UA capabilities. Julie is concerned about the specialty court population not having the constant accountability provided by regular UA monitoring. Julie requested any update provided during a judges' meeting or other forums be forwarded to stakeholders. Laura stated CSCD recently advised UAs are likely to resume at the beginning of 2021.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 9:36 am and will reconvene on 12/9/2020 @9:00am via Teams.