



## **Behavioral Health Steering Committee**

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

**June 10, 2020**

#### **Attendees**

Laura Edmonds, Shenna Oriabure, **Judge Kristin Wade, Julie Turnbull, Audrey Garnett**, Kimberly Duran, **Trina Crosby, Judge La'Donna Harlan**, Dr. Jill Johansson-Love, **Judge Lela Mays, Serena McNair, Charlene Randolph**, Vickie Rice, **Lynn Richardson**, Keta Dickerson (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. Audrey Garnett made a motion to approve the minutes. Lynn Richardson seconded the motion and the group accepted the minutes.

#### **Anthem Strong Families Presentation**

Anthem Strong Families presented on available services. Anthem Strong Families staff members present were Charles Dillon-Program Director, Lisa Ross-Director of Marketing and Development, and Cosette Bowles-Founder and CEO. The programs' goal is to help individuals confront their own negative behaviors in an environment of support. Programs help individuals identify and understand their "why" in order to deal with their "what." Programs use a strength based approach that emphasizes accountability and positive engagement. Anthem's current funding is focused on fathers but not to the exclusion of others. There are mini clinics and other programming offered to all people. Anthem works in strong partnership with a host of community agencies. Mr. Dillon presented specific independent research findings. The mini clinics and other programming are currently being offered virtually. Anthem is seeking MOUs and letters of support for a RFP the organization is pursuing. Multiple meeting attendees spoke highly of Anthem Strong Families. Written program information was included in the meeting packet.

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

Laura Edmonds provided an update of the 530 Fund Balance. Currently the balance for the Felony account (4020) is \$136,572.91 the Misdemeanor account (4031) is \$46,866.48 for a total of \$183,439.39. The total amount of credits/revenue in the account has declined due to the impact of COVID-19. An overview of the 530 Fund FY2020 expenditures was included in the meeting packet. Laura encouraged courts to utilize incentive monies before September 31, 2020.

## Drug Testing

Laura Edmonds provided an update of the 530 specialized drug testing utilization total for FY20. Total invoiced under the drug testing line item is \$3,873.40 which leaves a balance of \$11,126.60. Utilization of drug patch: 27% were no shows and 73% received patch services. Of those clients that received drug patches: 29% positive, 21% results pending, 21% negative, 29% unable to test (no patch intact at removal, did not return for removal). Laura stressed the importance of following the policies and procedures to access drug testing resources. The self-pay fee for drug testing through Recovery Monitoring Systems is \$50. The \$50 fee covers the collection and specimen testing. Judge Bennett asked about negotiating a better rate for self-pay. Laura stated she is happy to have that conversation with Recovery. Shenna Oriabure emphasized there are two components in drug testing: the witnessed collection and the specimen testing. Even if a participant pays the \$12.50 collection fee, 530 is paying the specimen lab testing fee to vendor, Redwood Laboratories. The fund's ability to pay the \$12.50 witnessed collection fee is limited to 16 collections per certified specialty court. The specimen lab testing is only limited by the \$15,000-line item budget.

Serena McNair announced CSCD is in the process of permanently outsourcing drug testing due to budget and officer safety concerns. Proposals are being prepared for final decision. Judge Wade opined the outsourcing might greatly affect the 530 budget. Those judges in attendance voiced opposition to outsourcing and requested information on how to provide input to CSCD before final decisions are made. Serena advised she will relay that information back to the decision maker(s).

Laura advised the current 530 UA policy is a stop gap while CSCD has temporarily suspended drug testing. The total amount spent on UA collection is limited to \$3,000. There is not a current contract for UA collection services. To go beyond \$3,000 requires a lengthy quote process that would require everything be put on hold until completed.

Judge Harlan asked if it was possible to increase the number of drug patch applications for STAC Court as the court has nearly 200 participants. Judge Mays stated that over the last few months the subcommittee has given STAC Court the same considerations as other courts with only 20-50 participants. Judge Mays asked that there be some type of scale and added that STAC A and STAC B are being intertwined. Shenna advised the drug patches and drug collections policies were a quick response to a crisis and need. Shenna stated in the upcoming year these requests can be better addressed and planned. Judge Mays advised the inconsistencies with distribution of resources has been an issue over the past 1 ½ years. Serena advised that Office of the Governor (OOG) combines STAC A and B. Judge Mays stated the State can combine them but that does not make it a must for how Dallas County and the 530 Subcommittee operates. Laura advised the concerns expressed by Judge Mays will be kept in mind when addressing policies and procedures. Future discussions will focus on how to distribute resources equitably while taking consideration for individual court capacity. Currently the patch applications are not transferrable. Laura solicited thoughts on making patches transferrable from courts who are not utilizing the patch. If patches become transferrable, it is incumbent upon the requesting court to show approval and documentation from grantor court.

The subcommittee will continue to vote monthly on the additional drug testing services under adjusted practices during the pandemic. Laura requested a motion to approve the extension of

drug patch services for an additional month (including an additional 4 patch applications per certified court) until July 8, 2020. All voting members present voted yes **except** PD (Lynn Richardson) -voted **NO** due to the unreliability of the patch. The motion passed. Drug patch services through Recovery will continue for another month and patches will be transferrable with documentation from granting court.

### **Transitional Housing**

A written report was provided in the meeting packet. There are 4 specialty court participants in Salvation Army transitional housing. The breakdown is 2 female and 2 male participants. The court utilization breakdown is 1 STAC, 1 AIM, 1 DIVERT, and 1 STAR. Laura advised to continue sending referrals and the referrals will be assessed on a case by case basis. All referrals should present with documentation of a negative COVID-19 test. Tests must be taken within a two-week period before admission. Judge Harlan asked if free testing was available at the Kay Bailey Hutchinson Convention Center. Judge Wade advised of free testing locations in the Dallas area.

### **Request for Funding**

No funding requests were received.

### **Training**

Laura Edmonds advised 530 funded two registrants for RISE20, NADCP's virtual conference. There will be follow-up with those attendees to obtain key points from sessions attended. Laura stated the subcommittee is still exploring training options. The fund is hoping to sponsor at least one training before the end of the fiscal year.

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

Keta Dickerson reported on the OOG call that occurred in May 2020. The decision from the call was to only fund specialty courts funded in FY2020. Allocation depends on the collection and revenue on hand at time of award. OOG will not fund any new courts.

### **Specialty Court Video Production**

Laura Edmonds advised video production should resume in mid-July through August. Shenna Oriabure and Laura will reach out to coordinate with specialty courts.

### **Digital Art Expo**

Laura Edmonds advised a broadcast request for the Drug Court Month Digital Art Expo was submitted and is still pending approval. IT helped create the broadcast document (included in the meeting packet). Due to the low number of participants, all those who provided a submission will be given a \$15 Walmart gift card.

### **2021 Budget**

Laura Edmonds reminded the group of the upcoming budget only meeting in July. The meeting will be solely dedicated to the discussion of the FY2021 Budget. The recommended operating budget for FY2021 is \$150,000. In order to conduct a productive budget meeting all courts are asked to submit their top three funding priorities by June 24, 2020. A final budget vote will occur in August 2020 and Commissioner Courts briefing in September 2020.

### **Announcements**

Shenna Oriabure advised of an upcoming free webinar sponsored by SAMHSA. The webinar is titled Supporting the Resilience of Black Men: Culturally Affirming and Responsive Approaches to Engagement, Treatment, and Recovery. The information has been distributed via email and the 530 Teams Channel.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 10:07 am and will reconvene on 7/8/2020 @9:00am via Teams.