



## **Behavioral Health Steering Committee**

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

**January 13, 2021**

#### **Attendees**

Laura Edmonds, Shenna Oriabure, **Julie Turnbull**, **Trina Crosby**, **Lynn Richardson**, Vickie Rice, **Teresa Saulsberry**, **Judge La'Donna Harlan**, Kelly McWilliams, **Audrey Garnett**, **Bryan Smith**, Keta Dickerson, Kimberly Duran, **Charlene Randolph**, (bold type indicates designated voting representatives)

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

Laura Edmonds called the meeting to order at 9:02am and asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Julie Turnbull made a motion to approve the minutes. Audrey Garnett seconded the motion and the group accepted the minutes.

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

Laura Edmonds provided an update of the 530 Fund Balance. Funding is located in two accounts, an escrow account and General Fund 120. Some funds are still being collected under the drug and intoxication fee structure; those funds are applied to the escrow account. Currently the balance for the Felony account (4020) is \$131,830.25 the Misdemeanor account (4031) is \$26,108.85 for a total of \$157,939.10. The general fund (120) is for fees assessed on all offenses. Fund 120 has a total of \$72,536.23. Laura encouraged courts to submit incentive requests for FY2021 or complete the Dallas County specialty court survey. Laura also encouraged courts to purchase incentives throughout the fiscal year to avoid waiting for large reimbursements at the end of the year. 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 \$5,134.45 which leaves a balance of \$19,865.55 Utilization of drug patch: 0% were no shows and 100% received patch services. Of those clients that received drug patches: 16% positive, 16% results pending, 42% negative, 26% unable to test (no patch intact at removal, did not return for removal). A report was provided in the meeting packet. Courts are encouraged to reach out to Shenna about court specific drug testing utilization. CSCD launched a pilot program to return to UA testing. Recovery Monitoring Systems is the UA monitors/observers and specimen testing continues through Redwood. CSCD held a meeting that

provided more information to specialty courts. After initial discussions with CSCD, at this time 530 drug testing policies and procedures will remain the same. There is a possibility of changes in the months to come. The topic will be revisited as things progress with CSCD. As CSCD gears up drug testing the hope is that 530 will be utilized for specialized testing and a resource after all other testing allocations are exhausted.

### **Transitional Housing**

A written report was provided in the meeting packet. There are 3 specialty court participants in Salvation Army transitional housing. The breakdown is 1 female and 2 male participants. The court utilization breakdown is 1 STAC, 1 STAR, and 1 MHJD/SET. Referred individuals must present proof of a negative COVID-19 test and are staffed on a case-by-case basis. Currently there is 1 vacancy (female bed). The vacant female bed has a person identified but if the participant cannot provide required documentation and another referral is received, placement will be given to the move-in ready participant. There is 1 male on the waitlist. 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.

### **Request for Funding**

No requests were received.

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

The OOG's specialty court grant applications are due 2/11/2021. A briefing with a resolution signed by Judge Jenkins is required for submission. The Specialty Court Advisory Council Chair, Judge Ruben Reyes, passed away before the holidays. Judge Reyes was very important to the drug court community and the people of Lubbock. Please continue to keep his family in your prayers.

### **TASC**

The Texas Association of Specialty Courts (TASC) Conference is coming up in April 2021. The 530 Subcommittee approved the proposal on how to divide 530 funding for TASC. Each 530 stipend is \$1,000. The stipend amount will cover the majority of expenses but not all. Those attending under 530 funding are encouraged to carpool and share rooms. The 5 larger courts (4C, AIM, DIVERT, STAC, IIP) receive 2 stipends per court, the 9 smaller courts receive 1 stipend per court, and 1 stipend for Keta Dickerson-OOG representative. The approved funding totals \$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. The committee will revisit this topic in the next couple of months as details are confirmed. The committee will continue to discuss the virtual in-house training proposal. Julie Turnbull advised the TASC conference date changed to April 20-22, 2021 (Tuesday-Thursday) in Galveston, Texas.

### **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. The topic will be revisited in March 2021. Laura Edmonds will follow up with Purchasing about extending the video production contract into FY2022.

**Announcements**

The packet contained information about a local resource, The Phoenix and a calendar for free sober activities. The Phoenix is scheduled to present at the next BHSC. The packet included an email regarding BJA grant opportunities for treatment courts. NADCP 2021 changed dates to August15-18. The conference will be in the Maryland/DC area.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 9:19 am and will reconvene on 2/10/2021 @9:00am via Teams.