



Behavioral Health Steering Committee

530 Fund Sub-Committee

March 10, 2021

Attendees

Laura Edmonds, Shenna Oriabure, **Julie Turnbull, Trina Crosby, Lynn Richardson,** Vickie Rice, **Teresa Saulsberry, Judge La'Donna Harlan,** Kelly McWilliams, **Audrey Garnett,** Kimberly Duran, **Charlene Randolph,** Deborah Hill, **Judge Jennifer Bennett, Judge Audrey Moorehead, Judge Kristin Wade, Bryan Smith, Judge Raquel Jones** (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. 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 \$130,955.74 the Misdemeanor account (4031) is \$23,206.32 for a total of \$154,162.06. The general fund (120) is for fees assessed on all offenses. Fund 120 has a total of \$89,088.91. 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 \$7,357.35 which leaves a balance of \$17,642.65 Utilization of drug patch: 0% were no shows and 100% received patch services. Of those clients that received drug patches: 29% positive, 6% results pending, 41% negative, 24% unable to test (no patch intact at removal, did not return for removal). A report was provided in the meeting packet. Laura reported a noticeable decrease in 530 drug test utilization which can be attributed to CSCD's pilot program.

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 2 male participants and 1 female participant. The court utilization breakdown is 2 STAC and 1 MHJD/SET. Currently there is one vacancy (female bed). Referred individuals are no longer required to present proof of a negative COVID-19 test. The Salvation Army has secured onsite rapid COVID testing. Please send referrals to 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 progress reports are due 3/15/2021.

TASC

The Texas Association of Specialty Courts (TASC) Conference is coming up in April 20-22, 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. Applications were due on 2/22/2021. 530 funding will be utilized to send five individuals to TASC. The low utilization is likely due to individuals not wanting to travel during a global pandemic and CMIT state stipends meeting the training needs. A court may still apply to utilize 530 funding for TASC but the attendee will have to prepay all expenses and then be reimbursed after the conference.

There is substantial funding in the training line item for the remainder of the fiscal year. The remaining funding can be used for smaller in-house trainings. The meeting packet contained the previously submitted in-house training proposal. The submitted proposal will be voted on during April's subcommittee meeting.

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 production scheduled is impacted by the course of COVID-19 pandemic. Optimistically filming will resume in May or June 2021.

National Drug Court Month

National Drug Court Month is May 2021. Laura Edmonds advised work has begun for a Commissioners Court resolution. Anyone interested in speaking on the resolution will need to reach out to Laura. Laura asked for other ideas or activities in observation of National Drug Court Month. No additional suggestions were provided.

Announcements

The packet included an email announcing “Innovations to Support Drug Treatment Court Programs during COVID-19: Spotlight on Technology to Improve Participant Experiences” and “Equity and Inclusion Training for Your Treatment Court Team.” The NADCP Conference is August 15-18, 2021. Starting in April 2021 CJD Assistant Director, Deborah Hill, will begin facilitating the 530 meeting. The Criminal Justice Department has made changes to the department’s organizational chart. Teresa Saulsberry and Shenna Oriabure will be under the direct supervision of Trina Crosby with the oversight of Deborah Hill. Kelly McWilliams advised of a STAC Court graduation on 3/12/2021 at 1:00pm. Judge Wade provided information on a resource. The Jewish Family Resource Center has a drive thru pantry on Thursdays from 9am-12pm. A car is required to utilize the resource. The location is at the corner of Arapaho and Montfort. Lynn Richardson advised COVID vaccines for the unsheltered homeless were being distributed at Our Calling, specifically the one shot Johnson and Johnson vaccine. Laura Edmonds advised the unsheltered were also being vaccinated at the Bridge and Stewpot but must have access to the campus. Laura is not exactly sure what “access to the campus” means. Vickie Rice reminded attendees of NADCP’s webinar on Mitigating Trauma in the Courthouse by Understanding Changes to the Brain on 3/11/2021.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:23 am and will reconvene on 4/14/2021 @9:00am via Teams.