



## **Behavioral Health Steering Committee**

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

**September 8, 2021**

#### **Attendees**

Deborah Hill, Shenna Oriabure, Dr. Marta King, **Trina Crosby, Lynn Richardson, Teresa Saulsberry, Judge La'Donna Harlan, Audrey Garnett, Judge Audrey Moorehead, Judge Lela Mays, Bryan Smith,** Crystal Garland, LaShonda Jefferson, Arnold Patrick, Dr. Jill Johansson-Love, **Julie Turnbull, Judge Kristin Wade, Judge Jennifer Bennett,** Laura Edmonds, Keta Dickerson (bold type indicates designated voting representatives)

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

Deborah Hill called the meeting to order at 9:01am. Deborah asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Chief Lynn Richardson made a motion to approve the minutes. Judge Wade seconded the motion and the group accepted the minutes.

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

Deborah Hill 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 \$123,169.14 the Misdemeanor account (4031) is \$17,882.04 for a total of \$141,051.18. The general fund (120) is for fees assessed on all offenses. Fund 120 has a total of \$156,418.68. No funds have been expensed out of Account 120 because the account has not been set up to do so. The funds in Account 120 will be transferred to the balance in the escrow account for FY2022. Deborah encouraged courts to submit incentive requests for FY2021. The last day to make incentive purchases for FY2021 is September 30, 2021. An overview of the 530 Fund FY2021 expenditures was included in the meeting packet. There are 320 bus passes remaining. The approved FY2022 Budget was provided in the packet. The approved budget was \$170,000.

#### **Drug Testing**

Deborah Hill provided an update of the 530 specialized drug testing utilization total for FY21. Total invoiced under the drug testing line item is \$10,829.15 which leaves a balance of \$14,170.85. A total of 96 drug patches have been administered. Utilization of drug patch: 0% were no shows and 100% received patch services. Of those clients that received drug patches: 23% positive, 9% results pending, 46% negative, 23% unable to test (no patch intact at removal, did not return for removal).

### **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 male participant and 2 female participants. The court utilization breakdown is 1 STAC, 1 STAR, and 1 MHJD. Currently there is one vacancy (male bed). There is 1 female on the waitlist. 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](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.

Laura Edmonds provided an update regarding the Salvation Army's the new housing options. In addition to the traditional transitional housing beds there will be another 530 funded bed option at the Salvation Army. For FY2022, there is \$20,000 set aside for addiction recovery services housing. The \$20,000 will fund supportive residential services for specialty court participants with unstable or unsafe living situation, which compromises their ability to maintain sobriety. This option is short term for up to 90 days. The goal is to stabilize the participant in recovery and to assist with housing and financial stability. The recovery beds include 10 hours of programming a week, weekly sessions, and development of housing plan and goals. Onsite mental health professionals from IPS and Metrocare will be available to residents. There is not a specific number of beds set aside for Dallas County. The fund will pay as beds are utilized. When a referral is received, Dallas County will contact the Salvation Army to check bed availability. Judge Mays inquired about length of time from referral to admissions. Laura did not have a definitive answer but speculated there will be bed availability due to the discontinuation of the State contract. Laura presented the recovery beds as a quasi-relapse track. An informational document was provided in packet.

### **Request for Funding**

A funding request was received from Misdemeanor DWI for \$525 (\$15 x 35 participants) for FY2021 incentives. The request was unanimously approved. A funding request was received from ATLAS for \$885.50 for training via the CMIT Mental Health Conference. The breakdown is as follows: \$213.50 per diem, \$412.00 Lodging, and \$260.00 registration. The request was unanimously approved. A funding request was received from DDC for \$500 (\$15 x 25 participants) for FY2021 incentives. An error in the mathematical calculation was identified on the form. Judge Bennett verbally amended the request to \$375 (\$15 x 25 participants). The request was unanimously approved for the amount of \$375.

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

Keta Dickerson advised the Specialty Court Advisory Council will meet in September. Keta provided recommendations related to the loss of grant funding. Keta emphasized ensuring metrics are adjusted when impacted by barriers like COVID. Unchanged and unmet benchmarks could have negatively affected the scoring of the grant application. Keta suggested modifying benchmarks to address all circumstances. Grant adjustments can be made during the grant cycle; adjustments can be made to benchmarks. Patrick Arnold stated several departments throughout Texas lost grants or received significantly less funding. There was some discussion about additional funding being available next year. Keta recommended staying on task with data collection. There are a couple of laws effective on September 1<sup>st</sup> that will funnel a large sum of

money into specialty courts. Keta offered her services to review grant applications prior to submission. Keta will provide feedback. Those wanting to take advantage of this option must provide ample time for Keta to review the application. Deborah Hill inquired about creating and implementing a training on grant writing with an emphasis on the OOG application. Keta suggested only doing a couple of application sections during the 530 meeting to avoid a lengthy session. Training may be forthcoming. The end of Grant Year 2021 was 8/31/2021. OOG Grant reporting is due 9/15/2021.

### **Training**

The meeting packet contained the previously approved in-house Urban Trauma 101 training information. The training is scheduled for January 21, 2022. The training will be held virtually via the Microsoft Teams Town Hall feature. If the training is beneficial then the previously approved Implicit Bias training will be scheduled.

### **Specialty Court Video Production**

The purpose of the videos is to present information on each individual specialty court. The longer video is an overview of specialty courts in Dallas County. Specialty court video production was approved in the FY2020 budget but production was delayed due to COVID-19. Permission has been received to extend the production and contract into FY2022 if necessary. The goal is to complete the project before the holiday season begins in November. The longer video will begin filming this month. Filming for the individual specialty court videos will occur in a single courtroom during a two-week period.

### **Communication/Information Sharing**

Deborah Hill requested feedback on methods to achieve more effective communication. Sharing information is vital for the success of specialty courts in Dallas County. Julie Turnbull suggested adding an agenda item for the TASC Board to provide an update to the subcommittee. Additional ideas and suggestions may be submitted to Deborah.

### **Announcements**

Unlocking Doors 2021 Virtual Texas Reentry Symposium is scheduled for September 14, 2021. CCIF is hosting a Specialty Court Golf Tournament on Wednesday, October 6, 2021 from 3pm-6pm. This year has a new location, Top Golf. Cost is \$100 per person for 3 hours of golf and fajita buffet. A team of 6 is \$600. Please contact Bryan Smith for more information. National Drug Court Month is September 2021. The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Judicial Summit on Mental Health is scheduled for October 14-15, 2021. The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Mental Health Conference in Galveston, Texas is October 25-28, 2021. NADCP was held in August 2021. Deborah Hill provided time for attendees to make comments. Judge Moorehead interacted with a vendor with the ability to conduct rapid nail testing. Judge Moorehead is hoping that vendor may conduct a presentation in Dallas County. Judge Moorehead also gave kudos to Chief Lynn Richardson on her NADCP involvement and presentation.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 9:47 am and will reconvene on 10/13/2021 @9:00am via Teams.