



Behavioral Health Steering Committee

530 Fund Sub-Committee

January 12, 2022

Attendees

Deborah Hill, Shenna Oriabure, **Charlene Randolph, Julie Turnbull, Trina Crosby**, Vickie Rice, **Teresa Saulsberry, Judge La'Donna Harlan, Audrey Garnett, Bryan Smith**, Kimberly Duran, **Ashley Nicole Horne**, Crystal Garland, Jerry Barker, LaShonda Jefferson, Dr. Marta King, Dr. Jill Johansson-Love, **Serena McNair, Judge Audrey Moorehead, Judge Lela Mays**, Laura Edmonds, **Judge Kristin Wade, Chief Lynn Richardson** (bold type indicates designated voting representatives)

Review/Approval of Minutes

Deborah Hill called the meeting to order at 9:00am and asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Judge Harlan made a motion to approve the minutes. Audrey Garnett seconded the motion and the group accepted the minutes.

Specialty Court Video Production

The purpose of the video production is to present information on each individual specialty court. The long form 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 was obtained to extend the production and contract into FY2022. Video production director, Owen Cole, provided an update on current production activities. Several testimonials have been filmed. The production is currently focused on the narrator's script for the overall video; the script ties the entire program together. Completing the overview video first ensures the individual court videos will tie into the main specialty court video. Production on the individual specialty courts' 3-minute video will start after the completion of the long form video.

Owen proposed a separate ongoing production of content to keep things fresh. Owen opined the "fresh content" will keep the targeted audience continually aware. The proposal is Changing Hearts and Minds, a cinematic format to tell stories in a more dynamic way. The purpose of the production is to get people to pay attention to the diversionary program. The proposed production will draw attention to the programs and get more people engaged. The stories should be designed to highlight either all or part of the specialty court framework. Owen recommended the cinematic (mini movie) 10-minute video to capture an individual's story in a documentary format with several different locations and people involved. The cost for the cinematic video is \$10,000 per video. A second option is a slight modification of the current production style of "simple talking heads." The cost for the second option is \$799 per video. The proposal is for

consideration for fiscal year 2023 and beyond. Judge Wade requested to see a finish product before making any decisions. Judge Wade suggested the cost be shared with service providers. Shenna advised the cheaper option may be to choose 1-3 candidates per year to film. Judge Moorehead requested more information and/or a more comprehensive proposal. Judge Moorehead expressed concern regarding fairness when involving service providers; Judge Moorehead stressed the opportunity should be presented to all providers. Julie Turnbull emphasized sponsors for the video need to be truly sponsors. Charlene reiterated the video is about the specialty court and not the service provider(s). The discussion will continue in future meetings particularly as related to the overall budget.

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 \$218,675.42 and the Misdemeanor account (4031) is \$71,257.80 for a total of \$289,933.22. The general fund (120) is for fees assessed on all offenses. Fund 120 has a total of \$32,324.22. An overview of the 530 Fund FY2022 expenditures was included in the meeting packet. There are 280 bus passes remaining.

Drug Testing

Deborah Hill provided an update of the 530 specialized drug testing utilization total for FY22. Total invoiced under the drug testing line item is \$1,795.90 which leaves a balance of \$23,204.10. A total of 24 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: 50% positive, 17% results pending, 21% negative, 12% unable to test (no patch intact at removal, did not return for removal). A report was provided in the meeting packet.

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 2 STAC and 1 MHJD. 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 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.

A written report on Recovery Beds was provided in the meeting packet. The funding will pay for 6 participants to be housed for 90 days. Each court has an opportunity to utilize a bed but the resource may be exhausted prior to that occurrence. The resource is utilized on a first come, first served basis. A certified court can only use a total of 90 days of the resource per fiscal year. To date the resource has received one referral. Subsequently that referral was pulled due to the participant using another option. Charlene Randolph inquired about the low utilization of the referral process and if the reason could be related to the holiday season. Judge Harlan advised the low referral rate may be contributed to the holidays. Judge Harlan also stated with the strict guidelines, STAC is cautious of how and when the resource is used. The consensus is December does not provide a good baseline for utilization. The utilization of the resource will continue to

be monitored over the next month. Deborah and Shenna clarified the distinction between transitional and recovery housing.

Request for Funding

No requests were received.

Texas State Office of Governor Update

Keta Dickerson was not present to provide an update. OOG specialty court applications are due February 10, 2022.

TASC Board Update

Kimberly Duran advised TASC Board established an Education and Outreach Committee. The committee will start reaching out to different conferences and law schools. The CMIT TASC stipend registration deadline has been extended to February 11, 2022.

Training

Deborah Hill advised Keta Dickerson will be the trainer for the OOG Grant Application Training. The January 12th training was cancelled due to the presenter's scheduling conflict. The training scheduled for January 26th 2:00pm-3:00pm will proceed as planned. Those involved with grants are encouraged to attend. The sessions will be held virtually via Teams. Shenna Oriabure advised a public record request was submitted for Dallas County specialty courts' grant applications scores. Shenna offered to send each court their grant scores, the PowerPoint presentation, and supporting documents for the upcoming training.

The Urban Trauma 101 contract was executed. The training is scheduled for January 21, 2022. Shenna Oriabure advised the CLE hours are pending approval. CEUs for social workers and licensed professional counselors will be offered. A meeting invite for the training will be sent today.

TASC

The Texas Association of Specialty Courts (TASC) Conference is coming up April 2022 in Corpus Christi. Each 530 stipend is \$1,000. The stipend amount will cover the majority of expenses but not all. Those attending under 530 funding will likely incur personal expenses that will not be reimbursed. Attendees 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 for TASC is \$20,000. 530 TASC stipend applications are due January 12, 2022.

Announcements

Serena McNair advised IPS is closing face-to-face services due to increasing COVID numbers. IPS will continue to provide services via telehealth. Audrey Garnett advised that AIM has a new presiding judge, Audra Riley, and a new public defender.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 am and will reconvene on 2/9/2022 @9:00am via Teams.