



Behavioral Health Steering Committee

530 Fund Sub-Committee

December 14, 2022

Attendees

Deborah Hill, Shenna Oriabure, **Trina Crosby, Lynn Richardson, Audrey Garnett, Bryan Smith, Crystal Garland, Julie Turnbull, Judge La'Donna Harlan, Serena McNair, Jerry Barker, Judge Rocky Jones, Judge Audrey Moorehead,** LaShonda Jefferson, Laura Edmonds, Marcus Turner Jr., Dr. Marta Kang, Nakish Greer, **Judge Sandra Jackson, Judge Kristin Wade,** Keta Dickerson, **Charlene Randolph** (bold type indicates designated voting representatives)

Review/Approval of Minutes

Deborah Hill called the meeting to order at 9:00 am and asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Audrey Garnett made a motion to approve the minutes. Julie Turnbull 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 \$223,431.76 and the Misdemeanor account (4031) is \$106,953.23 for a total of \$330,384.99. The general fund (120) is for fees assessed on all offenses. Fund 120 has a total of \$17,768.96. An overview of the 530 Fund FY2023 expenditures was included in the meeting packet. There are 70 bus passes remaining. Deborah encouraged courts to utilize incentive funding.

Drug Testing

Deborah Hill provided an update of the 530 specialized drug testing utilization total for FY23. Total invoiced under the drug testing line item is \$1,936.48, which leaves a balance of \$23,063.52. A total of 19 drug patches have been administered. Utilization of drug patch: 24% were no shows and 76% received patch services. Of those clients that received drug patches: 26% positive, 37% results pending, 26% negative, 11% unable to test (no patch intact at removal, did not return for removal). A report was provided in the meeting packet. The meeting packet included the individual court utilization spreadsheet. The document provides specific drug testing fund utilization by court including allotment, expensed, and balance.

The subcommittee is exploring the opportunity to have renowned presenter Paul Cary provide a virtual training on drug testing with a focus on fentanyl. The cost of the training is \$1,300 and would require a budget adjustment. The proposed training would be via Zoom, cannot be recorded, but would have no capacity limits.

Transitional Housing

A written report was provided in the meeting packet. There are 2 specialty court participants in Salvation Army transitional housing. The court utilization is 1 MHJD/SET and 1 ATLAS participant. There is no one 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. There are no specialty court participants currently in Salvation Army recovery housing. There is one on the waitlist. The funding will pay for 14 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

Request for Funding

No requests for funding were received.

Texas State Office of Governor Update

Keta Dickerson recommended for upcoming grant applicants to identify any deficiencies not meet in grant period, discuss the deficiencies, and how the applying program will remedy the unmet benchmarks in the new grant cycle.

Specialty Court Video Production

The purpose of the video production is to document the effectiveness of the specialty court programs to encourage increased participation. The videos will capture the program participants' unique stories of success, which can be specifically attributed to the specialty court program. The FY2023 video production is underway. Deborah Hill appealed to the committee for volunteers. The bid process has concluded, and a vendor selected. Shenna advised volunteers are needed for the project. Courts need to identify clients who will be the video subjects. The project is more involved and intimate with personal testimonies. Clients will need to be willing to speak about the client's personal life, share childhood and bookin photos, have family interviewed, and be filmed in their home or other personal spaces. One video will be completely in Spanish. A document with tips on "how to choose a participant" was included in the meeting packet. The vendor will conduct a prescreen. Filming to begin in February 2023. Please send potential video participants' contact phone number, email, and full name. Participants must be willing to show their faces in the video.

Specialty Court Survey

Shenna Oriabure presented on the “Dallas County Specialty Court Survey.” The presentation slides were included in the meeting packet. Shenna stated the goal of the presentation was to provide information about the survey and open dialogue. Keta Dickerson inquired if CJD or anyone has reached out to the courts to discuss trends directly, specifically related to the -81% census change. No individual reached out to the individual courts directly about trends. Shenna will investigate the possibility of individual court discussions. Julie Turnbull and Chief Richardson both supported the collection and use of data. Judge Moorehead inquired if a particular person is responsible for completing the survey. Survey completion is at the presiding judge’s discretion. The survey completer will likely have to collaborate with other court team members to obtain all the requested information. Judge Wade suggested a deeper data dive. Specifically, to acknowledge other factors that tell the story of a specialty court. Judge Wade recommended a delve into the numbers to include cost per participants, what tools/resources courts have available, how people get into the court, and how many are rejected. There are many factors that go into judging the success of the specialty courts. Specific questions were suggested including: what is the average TRAS score and how many people are rejected. Judge Harlan agreed some adjustments were needed to the survey. Chief Richardson expressed interest in race, age, and other demographics. Shenna requested committee members send proposed questions for next year survey. Julie offered to utilize the Tyler case management system to assist with reports for pre plea courts. Other attendees understood why specialty courts may be hesitant to share information, if the information will not be judged in the right light or context.

Specialty Court Team Building Event

Deborah Hill advised the 2023 CJD’s Objective Key Results (OKRs) include conducting a team building event for specialty courts. Deborah stated proposed activities are to support specialty courts and progression to the next level. A small focus group has been identified for the event. Trina Crosby is spearheading the efforts. Each of the specialty court partners will have an opportunity to have representation on the focus group. Trina stated the representatives were selected to bring a fresh perspective and may not necessarily be involved in day-to-day specialty court interactions. The team building will focus on getting team members’ talent to mesh to accomplish goals of specialty courts. Deborah solicited support and buy-in for the upcoming event.

Department Updates

Criminal Justice Department: Deborah Hill formally introduced Marcus Turner Jr. to the group as the new SAMHSA Treatment Coordinator. Please include Marcus on any SAMHSA related communication. Marcus greeted the group.

Community Supervision and Corrections Department: Serena McNair advised difficulty gaining access to the online OOG stipend application. Julie Turnbull advised Google Docs access is not available while on Dallas County’s VPN. A person can file for an exception with Dallas County to allow access to Google Docs or utilize a personal computer. CSCD will be on a holiday schedule (8:00am-5:00pm) starting December 19th until the new year. In the new year, Nancy Mulder, will be the new presiding judge over STAR Court. Keta Dickerson requested Judge Mulder be given the Judicial Bench Book for Specialty Courts.

District Attorney's Office: Julie Turnbull advised no update at this time.

Public Defender's Office: Chief Richardson advised no update at this time

Judiciary: Judge Jackson expressed gratitude for everyone's efforts.

Announcements

2023 NADCP Conference Stipend Application due by electronic submission by 5:00pm on 1/13/2023.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 am and will reconvene on 1/11/2023 at 9:00 am via Teams.