



Campbell County Adult Drug Court 2009 SYNC Review

February 4, 2009

- **CC-JFDC-2009-023**
 - “Look at me, I have a life; a good one!”
 - *Reported by a client of Campbell County Adult Drug Court.*
- **CC-JFDC-2009-024**
 - “Drug court was a great learning experience; I also learned about addictions and that understanding has strengthened our relationship.”
 - *Reported by a client of Campbell County Adult Drug Court.*

Summary

- ✓ Campbell County Adult Drug Court is a felony level drug court.
- ✓ The current client case load is approximately 15 at the time of this review.
- ✓ The advisory board for the drug court does not know the clients and does not interact with them.
- ✓ The treatment team meets and then briefs the judge before drug court proceedings.
- ✓ 15% of funding for the adult drug court comes from local government sources.
- ✓ This program reflects an interesting, yet effective balance, between clients being held accountable through strict probation and the court which is perceived by clients as being holistic and strength based.
- ✓ Being a felony level drug court most referrals come from adult probation and parole.





Access to Services:

- Admission into adult drug court for one case reviewed was approximately one week which is incredibly good and it also appears that support services were available during the one week wait, and
- a client actually referred friends to adult drug court; apparently this is not uncommon and often times there are referrals from previous clients.

Quality of Services Including Recovery Support:

- Judge Perry seems to take a strength based, holistic approach to client recovery such as stressing physical fitness;
- one example of a sanction issued to a client was to write a paper about boundaries. This type of sanction seemed to serve the client well with regards to consequences for behavior or actions and self discovery for creating effective boundaries with others which is what the concern was in the sanction;
- there are clear policy and procedures with regards to sanctions and incentives. Even with these clear policies and procedures, there is also the ability in the court proceedings when the circumstance warrants it to issue a sanction in the proceeding, remove the client from court, and then in private work with the client on mitigating factors such as underlying mental health issues than need treatment before the sanction is actually imposed.
- In phase I of the program there is no free time except for four hours a week to obtain groceries. However, depending on the client and the client's progress the court will allow extra free time for church and physical exercise.
- In phase V of the program the client returns once a month for a period of time to check in. This seems to assure the client of the drug court's continued interest in their success and also hold the client accountable.
- An interesting phenomenon was noted with regards to community support. Local employers call the drug court for people to employ because the employers know the clients are clean and sober and are regularly tested.
- A client's family members are included in some treatment options during family time at Personal Frontiers a private counseling center;
- as the client progresses through the program, suggestions from the client are taken into greater consideration, and
- it appears the program is receptive to making changes based on previous and current client suggestions. This is reported to have helped the evolution of this drug court.

Coordination:

- The drug court and the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation coordinate extremely well. Vocational Rehabilitation works with the clients on employment skills, helps pay for schooling, finding tutors and assessments. The drug court coordinator is quoted as saying "they are an invaluable resource to our program."
- Campbell County Health provides services to the drug court free of charge for informative presentations on health issues and other health related programs. In addition, they assist the drug court by providing testing services.



- Additionally, the two cases reviewed also reflected what appears to be good coordination between the adult drug court and the following entities:
 - Adult probation and parole;
 - attorneys;
 - early childhood development;
 - employers;
 - clergy;
 - substance abuse center;
 - family;
 - friends;
 - mental health center;
 - outpatient psychiatric services;
 - physician;
 - private mental health provider;
 - public defender;
 - education, and
 - 12 step programs.
- In an interview with the program coordinator, examples of wrap around services were reported to include, among others:
 - nutrition classes;
 - CLIMB¹ Wyoming;
 - budgeting and finances;
 - children's development center;
 - GARF² (sexual assault and domestic violence services), and
 - early parenting classes.
- Clients generally report that when the appropriate phase is reached, they have a greater degree of input into the identification and coordination of services such as anger management training and self esteem enhancement training.



Access to Services:

- It was reported in an administrative interview that the Wyoming Addicted Offender Accountability statutes and associated Addiction Severity Index (ASI) test³ can hinder the timely admission of a client into the drug court program.
- The Campbell County Adult Drug Court accepts felony level cases only; the program administrator is concerned that there may be a population that is not being served in the community.

Quality of Services Including Recovery Support:

- The adult drug court case manager is employed by the drug court and the probation officer is employed by the Wyoming Department of Corrections. It is reported that both positions fill the role of probation officer. A suggestion was

¹ Information regarding CLIMB Wyoming can be found at: <http://www.climbwyoming.org/>.

² GARF stands for Gillette Abuse Refuge Foundation. More information regarding GARF can be found at: <http://www.garf.vcn.com/>.

³ An example of the ASI in .pdf format can be viewed at: <http://wdh.state.wy.us/mhsa/treatment/DENS.html>.



made during interviews that the client might be better served with an actual case manager advocating and assessing client needs as opposed to two probation officers.

- Understanding other cultures, acknowledging cultural differences and possibly having some flexibility to accommodate various traditions in the treatment program may be an area that might be given greater attention. It was not determined whether minorities were over or underserved by this program.
- The program appears to be more punitive in nature than strength based and there is an administrative acknowledgment of this fact. However, given the good results of the program and felony level cliental, matching strength based practices and adhering to an appropriate level of punitive based accountability may be challenging. This review did find a good balance between client level accountability from the administrative function of the program, and what appears to be a more strength based and holistic approach from the court. An interesting dynamic that appears to be working.

Coordination:

- It was reported that information from the Wyoming Department of Family Services (DFS) is not always forthcoming in a timely fashion.

Systemic:

- Not uncommon to Campbell County, there was a report of lacking mental health and substance abuse treatment providers in the community.