

Evidence-based Substance Use Dependency in the Drug Court Environment

Presentation to:

Montana Statewide Drug Court/Healing to Wellness Conference

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Drug Courts Are Treatment Courts



Treatment is the Focus of Drug Court



Adult Drug Courts Have Proven Effective

- Nine meta-analyses & multisite studies conclude reduced criminal recidivism
- GAO reviewed drug courts three times and concluded ROI of \$2-\$4 or a 200%-400%
- Focus on treatment in the drug court environment

The diagram illustrates the interconnected benefits of adult drug courts. At the top, three boxes are arranged horizontally: 'REDUCE DRUG USE' (orange), 'REDUCE CRIME' (white), and 'SAVE MONEY' (yellow). Below these, two more boxes are arranged horizontally: 'RESTORE LIVES' (green) and 'SAVE CHILDREN' (blue). Dotted lines connect 'REDUCE DRUG USE' to 'RESTORE LIVES', 'REDUCE CRIME' to 'SAVE CHILDREN', and 'SAVE MONEY' to 'SAVE CHILDREN'. A central vertical line also connects 'REDUCE DRUG USE' to 'RESTORE LIVES' and 'REDUCE CRIME' to 'SAVE CHILDREN'. The background features a silhouette of mountains against a sunset sky.

Five Great References for Treatment Providers

1. Quality Improvement for Drug Courts: Evidence-Based Practices (National Drug Court Institute)
2. A Technical Assistance Guide for Drug Court Judges on Drug Court Treatment Services (Justice Programs Office, American University)
3. Principles of Drug Abuse Treatment for Criminal Justice Populations and Principles of Drug Addiction - Treatment-A Research-Based Guide (NIDA)

The image shows the cover of a technical assistance guide. It features a grid of colored squares (red, blue, white) and the title 'A Technical Assistance Guide for Drug Court Judges on Drug Court Treatment Services'. The cover also includes the American University logo and the text 'Research in Public Substance Abuse and Criminal Justice Services'.

Five Great References for Healing to Wellness Team Members (con't)

- 4. Adult Drug Court Best Practice Standards, Volume 1 Chapter V, Substance Abuse Treatment (NADCP)
- 5. Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts: Treatment Guidelines, 2nd Edition

The image shows the cover of the Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts Treatment Guidelines, 2nd Edition. It features a circular illustration of diverse people in traditional attire. The title is prominently displayed at the top, and the NADCP logo is visible at the bottom.

Checklist of Evidence-Based Drug Court Treatment Practices

- Family assessment of strengths and needs
- Duration of treatment
- Evidence-based treatment-manualized
- MAT
- Recovery Oriented Systems of Care
- Relapse Prevention Plan/Continuing Care
- Systematic Contact after Drug Court



Treatment Provider: Advantages of Partnering with Drug Courts

- DC participants make treatment appointments
- DC help treatment meet performance criteria
- Treatment expertise is highly valued by drug court team
- DC require Recovery Oriented Systems of Care



- **Sanctions/Recognition/Treatment Adjustments all support improved treatment outcomes**
- **Extensive communication with drug court team members**
- **Electronic communication allows treatment to be informed about participant issues**

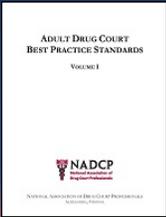


- DC participant manipulation is reduced significantly
- More services are delivered resulting in better outcomes
- DC participants complete treatment
- Win-Win-Win (state/tribal court system, treatment provider, DC participant)

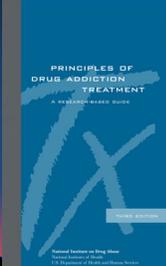


V. Substance Abuse Treatment

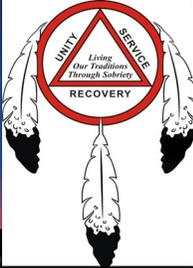
- Treatment is provided to meet clinical goals ... ONLY
- A. – Full Continuum of Care
- B. – In-Custody Treatment ---don't incarcerate for clinical objectives
- C. – Team Representation ---one or two agencies with clinical representation at staffing and court



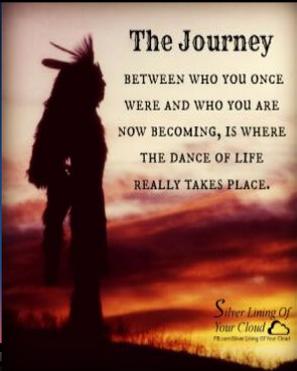
- D. - Treatment Dosage and Duration
- E. - Treatment Modalities ---one individual per week and accommodate suitability for group, gender, trauma histories and co-occurring psych symptoms.
- F.- Evidence-based Treatments – manualized, will improve outcomes, monitor fidelity to the model.
- G. – Medications – medications based on medical necessity



- **H. – Provider Training and Credentials – providers are licensed and experience working with criminal justice populations.**
- **I. - Peer Support Groups – attend self-help meetings or peer support groups, prepare participants for what to expect.**



J. – Continuing Care – Final phase focuses on relapse prevention – continuing care plan – contact participant for at least 90 days after formal discharge

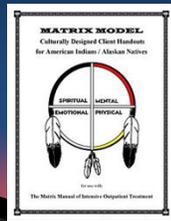


Three Resources You May Not Have Considered

1. Elder Panels-
An Alternative to Incarceration for Tribal Members. On Line: www.appa-net.org/eweb/docs/APPA/pubs/EPAITM.pdf



2. The Matrix Adaptation for Native Americans - an adaptation to the basic curriculum in recognition of the need for a culturally appropriate manualized curriculum. (Matraix Institute, Los Angeles, CA (877-422-2353



3. Native American Motivational Interviewing: Weaving Native American and Western Practices
Venner & Feldstein -Dept. of Psychology, University of New Mexico
Manual for Counselors in Native American Communities