

Overview of Yellowstone County Family Drug Treatment Court

Brenda K. Roche, Ph.D., LP
Neuropsychologist/Program Evaluator

Annual Meeting

12/14/2010

DRUG COURTS

- Expedites the time interval to get individuals into treatment and provide accountability measures before losing them to their addictions.
- Keeps the addict engaged in treatment long enough to receive treatment benefits.

A family drug court is a reality-based common-sense approach. Its purpose:

To create an opportunity for children to be safe and nurtured by a parent free from substances.

To expedite the time interval to get parents into treatment before losing them to their addictions.

To keep the family engaged in treatment long enough to receive treatment benefits.

THE FOUR CLOCKS

 **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)**

60 Month Lifetime

 **ADOPTION AND SAFE FAMILIES ACT (ASFA)**

12 Months Permanent Plan

15 out of 22 months in Out of Home Care Must
Petition for TPR

 **RECOVERY**

One Day at a Time for Life; + LT aftercare

 **CHILD DEVELOPMENT**

Clock doesn't stop

Moves at Fastest Rate from Prenatal to Age 5

FDTTC Characteristics

- Focus on the permanency, safety and welfare of abused and neglected children as well as the needs of the parents.
- Early intervention, assessment and facilitated access to services for parents and children in a holistic approach to strengthen family function.
- Develop comprehensive service plans that address the needs of the entire family system.

FDTC Characteristics

- Provide enhanced case management services to monitor progress & facilitate access to services.
- Regularly scheduled staffings facilitate the exchange of information & coordinate services for the family.
- Increased judicial supervision of children and families.

FDTC Characteristics

- Individual & systems accountability.
- Ensuring legal rights, advocacy and confidentiality for parents and children
- Operate within the Federal mandates of the Adoption and Safe Families Act and Indian Child Welfare Act

FDTC Characteristics

- Judicial leadership for both the planning and implementation of the court
- Commitment to measuring outcomes of the FDTC program and plan for program sustainability
- Working as a collaborative, non-adversarial team supported by cross-training

YCFDTC Adult Demographics

■ Gender

- Female (95)
- Male (21)

■ Age

- 18 – 21 (13.8%)
- 22 – 30 (47.4%)
- 31 – 40 (33.6%)
- 40+ (5.2%)

■ Primary Drug

- Meth (56.0%)
- Marijuana (9.5%)
- Alcohol (23.3%)
- Prescription (11.2%)

■ Secondary Drug

- Marijuana (49.1%)
- Meth (23.3%)
- Alcohol (19.8%)
- Prescription (3.4%)

YCFDTC Participant Issues at Intake

- Physically abused during childhood (70.7%)
- Emotionally abused during childhood (89.7%)
- Sexually abused during childhood (51.7%)
- Physically abused during adulthood (81.0%)
- Emotionally abused during adulthood (92.2%)
- Sexually abused during adulthood (46.6%)
- Victim of incest at any time in the past (40.5%)
- Received counseling for abuse at any time in the past (40.5%)

YCFDTC Education Status at Intake

- No High School Diploma or GED (65.5%)
- High School Diploma or GED (31.9%)
- College or Technical Degree (2.6%)

YCFDTC Child Demographics

■ Gender

- Female (103)
- Male (96)

■ Age

- Infant (19.6%)
- 1 – 3 (31.2%)
- 4 – 5 (18.6%)
- 6 – 12 (23.6%)
- 13 – 16 (7.0%)

■ Living Arrangements

- Family Foster Care (56.8%)
- Kinship Care (33.7%)
- Michel's House (2.5%)
- Group Home (2.5%)
- Guardianship (1.0%)
- Out of State Relative (1.0%)
- YCFDTC Parent (1.0%)
- With Other Parent (1.5%)

Children Reason for Entering Care

- Physical Neglect (86.4%)
- Emotional Abuse (22.6%)
- Physical Abuse (7%)
- Tested Positive for Drugs at Birth (17.1%)
- Child Endangerment (19.1%)

YCFDTC Participant Status

- Graduated (43)
- Terminated after being in the program more than 60 days (40)
- Terminated within 60 days of entering the program (16)
- Case Transferred to Tribal Jurisdiction (1)
- Active (6)
- Opted to Return to Regular Track within 60 days of entering YCFDTC (7)
- Opted to Return to Regular Track after at least 60 days in YCFDTC (6)

Accountability and Rewards

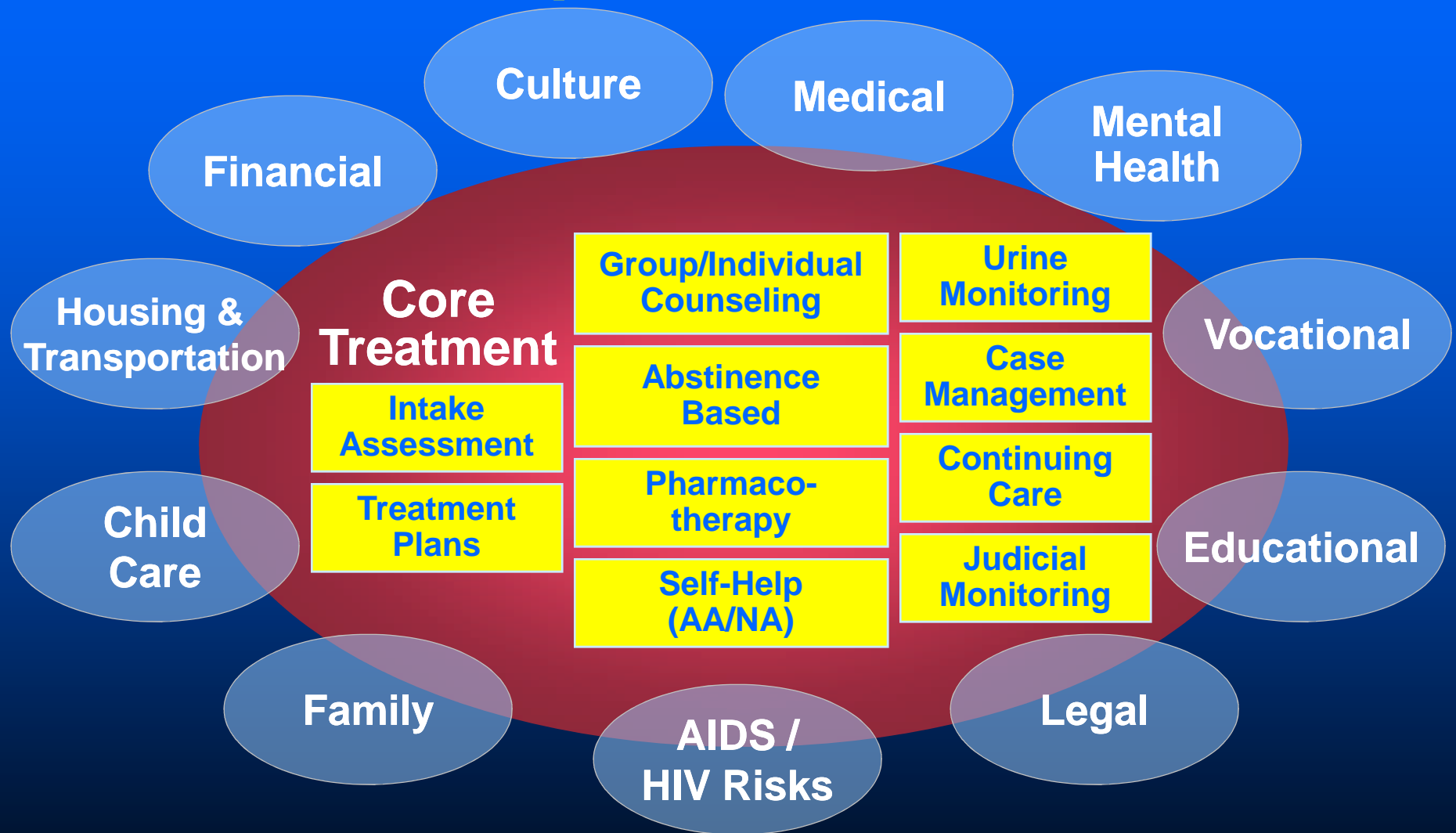
Court Response	Average Number	Range
Sanctions	7.6	1 - 49
Incentives	34.8	2 - 113

Clients were compliant 75.5% of the time!

Child Visitation

- Visits were considered to have a **POSITIVE** outcome in 89% of the visits
- Visits were considered to have a **PROBLEMATIC** outcome in only 1.0% of the visits

Drug Abuse Treatment Core Components and Comprehensive Services



Adapted from Etheridge, Hubbard, Anderson, Craddock, & Flynn, 1997 (PAB)

YCFDTC Cost Benefit (2008)

**For every \$1.00
YCFDTC spent a
savings of \$3.35 was
documented.**

Inability to Comply Is Different than “Non-Compliance”

Good Initial & Ongoing Assessment
Is Essential to Distinguishing Difference

**“Coming together
is a beginning,
talking together
is a process,
and working together
is a success.”**

--- Henry Ford

Contact Information

Brenda K. Roche, Ph.D., LP

Arrowhead Psychological & Behavioral Sciences, LLC

406-294-5090

brenda@arrowheadpbs.com