



Johnson County Juvenile Drug and Alcohol Court SYNC REVIEW

- **JC-J-2009-012:**
 - **“Having the client know about services and requesting them is a good indicator that transparency is significant in Johnson County.”**

Summary

- Any client who graduates the Johnson County Juvenile Drug and Alcohol Court (JCJDAC) program has continued access to any of the services they received in the drug court program for a full year and are always welcome to the alumni groups.
- Services of JCJDAC were considered high-quality and effective by all persons interviewed in the SYNC review process.
- Services of JCJDAC were arranged based on families expressed and identified needs.
- This program is strength based and is motivated by appropriate incentives.
- JCJDAC accepts referrals from municipal court, circuit court and in some instances district court.
- JCJDAC meetings are clearly strength based and directed toward encouraging recovery and sobriety. Staff works to ensure adequate representation of youth and family concerns.
- JCJDAC is administered through Community Resource Center and contracts for services with Volunteers of America.



Access to Services:

- Services are quick and efficient; they are reported to sometimes even be offered before youth are officially accepted into drug court.
- Access to JCJDAC normally takes about two weeks.
- Upon completion of JCJDAC, the client receives a full year of cost free mental health counseling services and the ability to attend the alumni group meetings.
- There appears to be a good referral system in place for clientele who could benefit from this JCJDAC. Referrals typically come from Buffalo Municipal Court although some also come from Johnson County Circuit Court and District/Juvenile Court.
- Mental health and physical health concerns were addressed through the clients' school; because the assistant principal is a part of the client's treatment team.
 - Additional medical services were also addressed through medical services for the client's pregnancy. In addition, the client was able to receive benefits through the Wyoming Department of Services.
- Usually within one week of appearing in court, assessments are completed.

Quality of Services Including Recovery Support:

- The client expressed numerous times feeling very close to entire JCJDAC treatment team and that they were invested for success.

Coordination:

- The community was very collaborative in the client's treatment. They all took personal interest in the client and communicated well amongst each other.
- The treatment plan was an integrated plan among all team members with meaningful input from the client.
- This community as a whole embraces the wrap-around concept and uses this to the fullest extent possible in their treatment.
- The JCJDAC recognized significant issues in the client's life and worked to address those issues with the client. For example:
 - Client's mother is developmentally disabled,
 - client had a baby,
 - relationship with the other custodial parent,
 - poverty,
 - homelessness and
 - grandmother's alcoholism.
- Cultural diversity is reported and to be recognized and honored.
- Although the client was difficult initially to work with and created barriers, the agencies, stakeholders and providers were able to work together and help the client with such like skills as parenting skills.
- School involvement in treatment and case management is significant. This is demonstrated in part by:



- Educational representation by school staff on the treatment team, and
- JCJDAC utilizes the “Power School” program to monitor the client’s school progress.



Access to Services:

- JCJDAC services are not an option for juveniles assigned to the Wyoming Department of Family Services for probation.

Quality of Services Including Recovery Support:

- The current mental health therapist has been in the community for a while now but the Mental Health Center had three different therapists assigned to Drug Court within a year.

Coordination:

- There is a general agreement the working relationship with the Wyoming Department of Family Services, Juvenile Services unit could be improved.

Systemic:

- It was common agreement that having only one mental health provider in the area could cause significant barriers, specifically around more severe mental health or substance abuse cases. This, however, was not a concern in this specific case.
- An identified unmet service need is the lack of aftercare, however there is a provision for one year of treatment following graduation from the program.
- Crisis beds are only available in Sheridan; it would be useful to have access to a similar service in the local community.