



Uinta County Adult Drug Court SYNC REVIEW

- **UC-ADC-2009-031:**

- “I was given the necessary tools through adult drug court to be successful in my recovery.”

- Uinta County Adult Drug Court (UCADC) has been in operation for over 11 years now. It is the first drug court program in Wyoming.
- UCADC is somewhat unique in that it is a detention center based program administered by the Uinta County Sheriff’s Office.
- The program runs in cycles incorporating five to eight participants in each cycle and each cycle is one year in duration.
- Total participation is approximately 30 individuals.
- UCADC is reported to be staffed consistent with the needs of the community and by a:
 - Coordinator,
 - Probation or compliance officer,
 - Two counselors, and a
 - Case manager.
- UCADC financial support comes from Uinta County and the Wyoming Department of Health, Mental Health Substance Abuse Services Division.
- UCADC proceeding are conducted every Tuesday afternoon.
- The UCADC treatment team consists of a:
 - Drug court officer,
 - Two counselors,
 - County attorney,
 - Case manager,
 - Public defender, and the
 - Victims restitution officer.
- UCADC has a forty (40%) percent successful completion rate to graduation.
- UCADC does not use a Wyoming Department of Corrections Probation Officer; a sheriff’s officer is used instead.

Summary



Access to Services:

- While waiting to access services through the UCADC, there can be individual counseling services provided.
- There is a \$600.00 fee to enroll in and complete the UCADC treatment program. This was recently increased from \$300.00
- In patient services are obtained in Rock Springs, Wyoming at Southwest Counseling or WYSTAR in Sheridan, Wyoming at the client's expense.
 - Other programs are used if located and preferred by the client.

Quality of Services Including Recovery Support:

- Client reports having a “voice” in treatment planning; when the client meets with the judge, the client is able to speak directly to the judge regarding how things are progressing.
- The UCADC case manager is recognized as being flexible in the customization of after care services to match the client's needs.
- Services at the detention center and through UCADC include:
 - On staff substance abuse counselors,
 - Case management services,
 - Alcoholics Anonymous meetings,
 - Al-Anon meetings,
 - Religious services,
 - Medical services, and
 - Counseling services through Pioneer Counseling¹.
- Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT)² a cognitive behavioral treatment system, is used in the program. The program coordinator is a certified trainer and subsequently the staff has been trained.
- An alumni group has been formed and is still developing; this group has been a great support to new participants in the UCADC program.
- Aftercare is a strength of this program and available to all participants. Persons completing the program are welcome to return for group services and participation in the alumni group, for example.
- Interviewees all indicated general satisfaction with treatment providers encountered in the program.

Coordination:

- Community service providers and UCADC personnel are all reported as being respectful of individual client spiritual beliefs.
- The UCADC case manager is reported as being helpful with the client's transition from incarcerated living back into independent living in the community.
- UCADC is fully informed and cognizant of treatment issues surrounding their clientele prior to the commencement of court proceedings on a weekly basis.

¹ Information regarding Pioneer Counseling can be obtained at: <http://www.wamhsac.org/pcs.html>.

² More information regarding MRT can be found at: <http://moral-reconciliation-therapy.com/>.



- This review discovered a very positive working relationship between UCADC and other stakeholders and service providers in the community.
- For clients in the Lyman and Fort Bridger Valley area, urinary analyses (UAs) are done at the sheriff's substation in Lyman.
- Additionally, mental health services for clients in Lyman and Fort Bridger Valley area are coordinated by Pioneer Counseling.
- Coordination with other agencies appears to be productive.



Access to Services:

- It is reported that the only way to really access services in this area is through UCADC; it is reported to be difficult to access the services without being in the program.
- Fees for required evaluations can be expensive; a client reported being unable to identify resources for assistance with this cost.
- Public transportation is a need in the community especially from the Lyman and Fort Bridger Valley areas.
- Psychological evaluations (generally in the price range of \$400.00) can be delayed due to the cost of them and the inability of the client to pay.
- Co-occurring mental health and substance abuse treatment needs are reported to be somewhat lacking in this area.³

Quality of Services Including Recovery Support:

- Being that most clients have been incarcerated for some time, they have often become unemployed and lost their housing while confined. This creates somewhat of a strain for clients when transitioning from the program back into the community. However, as noted earlier apparently the case manager recognizes this issue and is assists clients with this process.

Coordination:

- No issues noted.

Systemic:

- The availability of public transportation in the community needs to be addressed systemically.
- Low income housing is found to be a need in the area.
- Stable, long term employment is a need in the area.

³ This was also a finding in a similar review of the juvenile drug court in Evanston.