



2014 SYNC Review

Campbell County Adult Drug Court

500 South Gillette Ave

Suite 2500

Gillette, WY 82716

307.687.6470

Coordinator: Robert Palmer

Established: January 2002

SYNC Evaluation Date: February 25-26, 2014

Total Clients Interviewed: 5

Sex of Clients Interviewed: 3 Males, 2 Females

Phases of Clients Interviewed: Phase 1 -1, Phase 2 -1, Phase 4 - 3

Court Information Summary:

The Campbell County Adult Drug Court only accepts individuals who have been convicted of non-violent felonies. Clients cannot have prior or current convictions which the client possessed and/or used a firearm or dangerous weapon and involved in incidents which resulted in death or serious injury of a person. Campbell County Adult Drug Court is unique in its structure, in that it provides community trainings about the program and in turn has a strong community support and buy-in. Once a year, the Adult Drug Court holds an employer appreciation BBQ where employers are shown gratitude for supporting and working with the clients of drug court. Graduation is held four times a year. Employers, family, friends, judges, drug court team members and county commissioners all attend. The drug court includes a mandatory family program; however, if a participant does not have family then substitutes

are allowed and can include but are not limited to: employers, co-workers, 12- step sponsors and close friends.

Graduates of Adult Drug Court: 139 since its inception.

Recidivism Rate for FY 13: 15%

Retention Rate for FY 13: 85%

Eligibility:

Clients are evaluated by Personal Frontiers through utilization of the Psychological Screening Inventory (PSI) which includes an Addiction Severity Index (ASI) in order to determine level of care. The Drug Court Staff will review the PreSentence Investigation and Addiction Severity Index to determine if the candidate fulfills the requirements of admission to the program. If the Candidate meets the requirements, then a 1:1 interview and questionnaire is completed with the Drug Court Staff and the potential client. This is followed by a seven member team interview. Once the interview is completed, the team will vote whether to recommend acceptance to the Drug Court Judge. If the Judge approves the client, she/he will attend and observe a Drug Court session. At this point the Judge will ask the client to determine if he/she is willing to voluntarily commit to the program before final acceptance is granted.

Financials:

Treatment court is funded by the state with a grant totaling \$196,447.86 which requires a 25.1% match from the county in the amount of \$56,352.47, (the County Commissioners generally award more than the required amount.) The program also receives funding from Program Participant Fees totaling \$22,076.01. Additional miscellaneous funds from city, county or other state funds were received totaling \$30,000.

SYNC Review Areas:

Access to Services:

- The admittance process in place has helped make access to the program easier for participants.
- Group and individual treatment is offsite which is beneficial in creating an open environment for sharing and building therapist/client rapport. The physical separation does not impact communication between staff.
- Clients felt that the information provided to them regarding the expectations of the program were initially overwhelming yet comprehensive. Clients knew what to expect when they entered the program.
- A requirement of drug court is employment and with the outreach conducted by the program building a positive community rapport participants are able to find non-discriminatory employment easier when compared to other counties around the state

Quality of Services:

- Clients did not feel there was a stigma or any discriminatory actions towards them as participants of the treatment program, from staff or the community.
- Clients spoke very highly of the program and the support that is offered both, while in the program and aftercare.
- There are five alumni that continue to attend court every Tuesday and occasionally offer assistance to those who are struggling to find employment.
- Clients are encouraged to be involved in community services to build a positive rapport and promote healthy lifestyle techniques, including but not limited to: community gardens and adopt a city street.
- The five phase structure is beneficial to clients in establishing their sobriety and building healthier life habits, while receiving varying levels of treatment and supervision – Phase 1 being the most intense level of treatment and supervision to the least amount of supervision and treatment on Phase 5.
- The drug court team is knowledgeable and remains current with new practices through National Association of Drug Court Professionals and National Drug Court Institute

Coordination of Services:

- Weekly staff meetings assist in additional coordination by all program areas to ensure client information and interests are being well represented.
- The program staff has a network of groups, organizations and employers who are familiar with the treatment program and are willing to work with their clients, whether through community service or employment opportunities.
- Having the group and individual treatment through contracted personnel, offsite is beneficial to create openness for sharing and building therapist/client rapport.

Strengths:

- Campbell County has a large number of resources outside of the treatment program, such as AA groups, community activities and public transportation, which are very helpful for participants.
- Participants felt well informed about the program.
- The current judge presiding over the treatment program is very supportive and takes an interest in each participant.
- Participants remain engaged after graduation. Many of them continue to participate in various aspects of the program.
- The administration, treatment and supervisory staff focus on the successful program completion for each client.

- The administration, treatment, and supervisory staff are willing to take a risk on accepting a client rather than turning them down. As supporting evidence demonstrates that even those who do not successfully complete the program have gains in recovery by participating in the program.
- The clients are appreciative of the open door policy that the treatment program staff offers.
- The Drug Court team is resourceful in identifying medical and dental providers that are willing to donate time and funds to assist in the health of drug court clients.
- The Campbell County Commissioners are actively engaged in the program. They often attend graduation and court proceedings.

Concerns/Areas of Growth:

- There is a lack of affordable, transitional and low-income housing in Campbell County and many rentals have drug charge and felony restrictions. This makes it difficult for some clients to secure appropriate housing.
- Since the recent change in treatment providers, due to CARF certification requirement, there is a transitional period for understanding from each party associated with treatment court clients. There is a learning curve for all parties to come to a mutual understanding about treatment so that the clients receive the most benefit from the program.

Recommendations/Requests:

- Continue efforts to educate larger corporations about 'Drug Court' and the services that provided.
- Continue to educate the other courts about the benefits of treatment court for clients with substance abuse issues.
- Continue building a cooperative agreement among administration, supervision, clients and Personal Frontiers in regards to HIPAA policies and community services.

Overall Impression:

The Campbell County Court Supervised Treatment Program is successful because of the quality of the staff and the guidelines they have developed for their clients. They understand addiction and the unique challenges their clientele face. They work hard to provide a consistent and high-quality program while individualizing the program to meet the needs of their clients. The program would benefit from continued efforts to educate the community about treatment court services. As the court has experienced a recent transition with treatment providers it is important to work together to find the common ground for services that best meet the needs of the clients. The clients of the treatment program spoke very highly of the staff and opportunities the program has allowed them, although they also understand the much of their success relies on their own choices and decisions to change their previous behaviors and lifestyle choices. Overall, this program is functioning extremely well and is making a difference in the lives of their clients.



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