

A communication periodical for our clients, staff & the community at large

The Chronicle

A Paterson Counseling Center Newsletter

Special points of interest:

- Drug Court Specializes in Bridging the Gap of Understanding as It Relates to Criminal Activity Driven By Addiction
- PCC Coordinates Care and Services Based On Specific Guidelines and Policies enforced By The State and Federal Governing Bodies
- PCC Provides Mobile Van Treatment Services
- Have a Concern Or Want to Appeal A Treatment Decision Ask Your Counselor For Appeal Guidelines

How Does New Jersey's Drug Court Work

The mission of Drug Courts is to stop the abuse of alcohol and other drugs and related criminal activity. Drug Courts are unique because they build a close collaborative relationship between criminal justice and drug treatment professionals.

While administered by the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), Drug Court legislation calls for all Drug Court substance abuse treatment funds to be allocated to the Department of Human Services, Division of Addiction Services (DAS). A memorandum of agreement has been signed between the AOC and DAS in which DAS contracts with third parties to execute service contracts with DAS licensed treatment providers in New Jersey to provide the Drug Courts with the full continuum of care.

DAS has a pivotal role in the success of Drug Courts. DAS' primary duties include:

Develop, support, and monitor the treatment provider network:

Identify service gaps in the available continuum of care; recruit new providers into the network; establish provider network membership criteria; review and approve or reject all applications for the provider network; monitor levels of service of network providers to track utilization; review program administration, staffing, and all other aspects of the treatment program's operation; approve extension requests and monitor treatment provider adherence to contractual and licensure requirements

Educate the provider network on the Drug Court program and requirements; educate the provider network regarding Best Practices for the treatment of substance abuse and criminal justice clients

Assess need of and plan for Residential/Outpatient capacity expansion in response to changes in legislation and sentencing guidelines

NIATx and other technical assistance will be offered to Drug Court Network treatment providers

Fiscal and Data Management

- Maintain a database of utilization by service, by county and by dollar amount to develop management reports
- Monitor Fee-For-Service (FFS) and Contracted capacity utilization to support data-driven management of funding resources

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Drug Court Continued

- Project spending and utilization based on available program data and share data with AOC
- Execute and maintain performance-based contracts, for both FFS and contracted treatment services
- Utilizing DAS staff or a contracted fiscal agent, process all payment vouchers
- Utilizing DAS staff or a contracted fiscal agent, DAS will receive, review all service billing to improve the accuracy and quality of the billing process thereby resulting in optimum resource utilization
- Review billing for adherence to clinical guidelines, including extension request policy

Partner with AOC in the Management of Drug Court Treatment and Program Expansion:

- Work closely with AOC to ensure that the treatment needs of the Drug Courts are met, and plan for additional service needs as per Memoranda of Agreement with the AOC; plan and identify projected levels of service and additional treatment needs and develop Annex As to support enhanced/additional clinical services for drug court providers
- Act as a bridge between the AOC and the treatment community
- Co-Facilitate trainings and conferences as per Memoranda of Agreement with the AOC
- Maintain a relationship with national organizations that support Drug Courts and remain current on the latest treatment and Drug Court research in order to provide best practices and ideas to the treatment providers.

Speak with your counselor for additional information on how Drug Court works.

DAS Regulatory Agency

Here is some basic information on the state regulatory agency that governs our operating rules and licensure requirements ensuring that all state residents receive quality treatment for addiction management.

The mission of the Division of Addiction Services (DAS) is to promote the prevention and treatment of substance abuse and support the recovery of individuals affected by the chronic disease of addiction. As the single State agency for substance abuse, DAS is responsible for regulating, licensing, monitoring, planning and funding substance abuse prevention, treatment and recovery support services in New Jersey. To achieve its mission, DAS provides leadership and collaborates with providers, consumers and other stakeholders to develop and sustain a system of client-centered care that is accessible, culturally competent, accountable to the public and grounded in best practices that yield measurable results.

The Division also supports and monitors a wide variety of substance abuse treatment services and treatment providers designed to reduce the misuse of alcohol and other drugs through effective evidence-based treatment, such as the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) Patient Placement Criteria. DAS plans and coordinates addiction treatment services for the 21 counties of New Jersey. It is responsible for the development of treatment services for people involved in the criminal justice system, individuals with mental illness and substance abuse problems; and for the special needs of people who are deaf, hard of hearing or disabled, pregnant women, women with dependent children, minorities and adolescents. The Division conducts licensure inspections and reinspections to determine compliance with licensure standards of all outpatient and residential substance abuse treatment facilities. Source: State of NJ Website.