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National Drug Court
Resource Center

Veterans, Tribes, and the Critical Role of Data

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Introductions



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Justice Programs Office

American University



National Drug Court Resource Center



- State Net
- Treatment court map
- Treatment court database
- Factsheets and briefs
- Research reports
- Sample program documents
- The *Drug Court Review*
- Grant solicitations
- Active online community
 - Listservs
 - Newsletters
 - Blogs
- Webinars
- Podcasts
- Conference presentations
- Workshops

To learn more about the NDCRC, visit our website at

www.ndcrc.org

Session Roadmap

THtWCs and VTCs

What is data?, Importance for organizations

Considerations in planning data collection

Research questions, Data, Collection, and Analysis

Researcher-practitioner partnerships

Tribal Healing to Wellness Court Survey

Resources

THtWC and VTC Intersections

- Complex programs
- Cultural and identity driven/focused
- Wide variation
- 10 Key Components
- Under researched
 - TTA evolving based on research
 - Researcher-practitioner partnerships
 - Research considerations

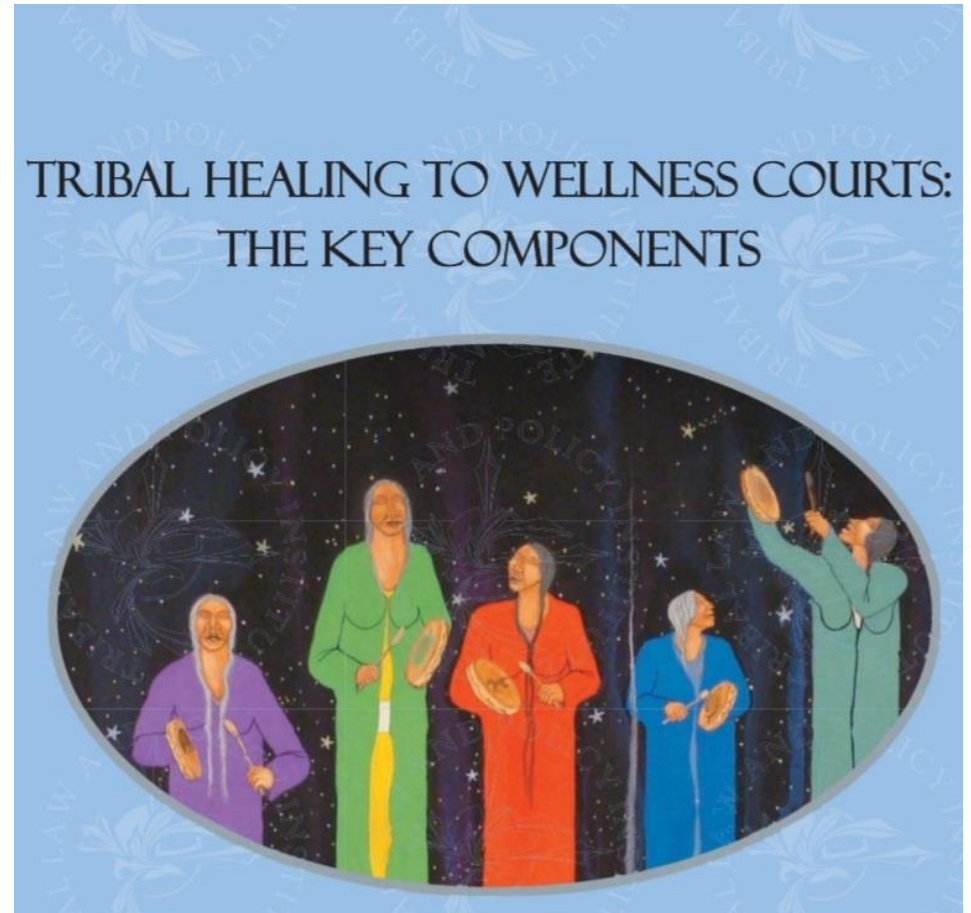
Session Roadmap

THtWCs and VTCs

What is data?, Importance for organizations

Key Component # 8: Monitoring and Evaluation

Data is utilized during an evaluation to determine if the program is meeting its desired goals.



What Is Data?

Is it power?

Is it argument?

Is it fuel for exploration?



Relationship Between Data and Experience

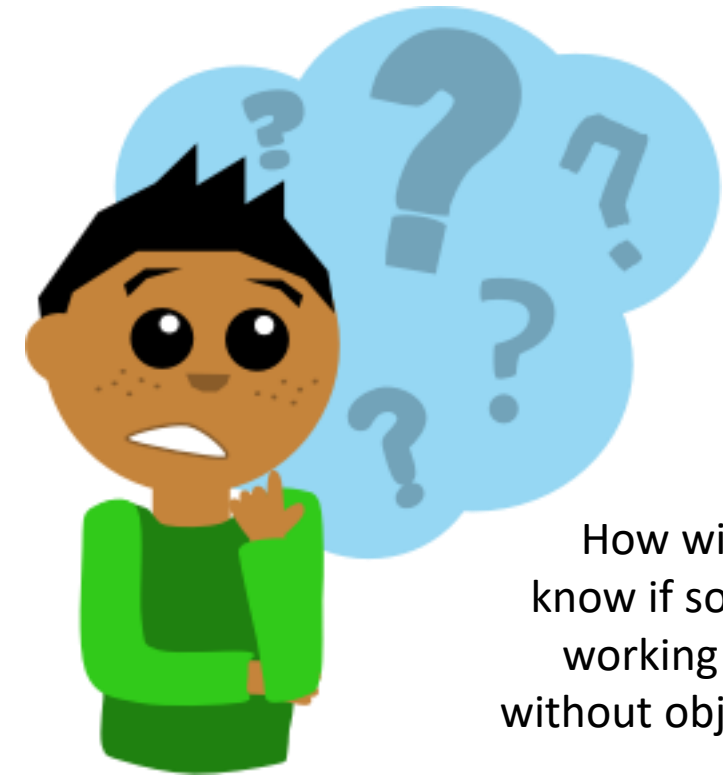


New information
inconsistent
with experience is
meaningful!

New information
consistent
with experience is
meaningful!

Why Do Court Programs Need Data?

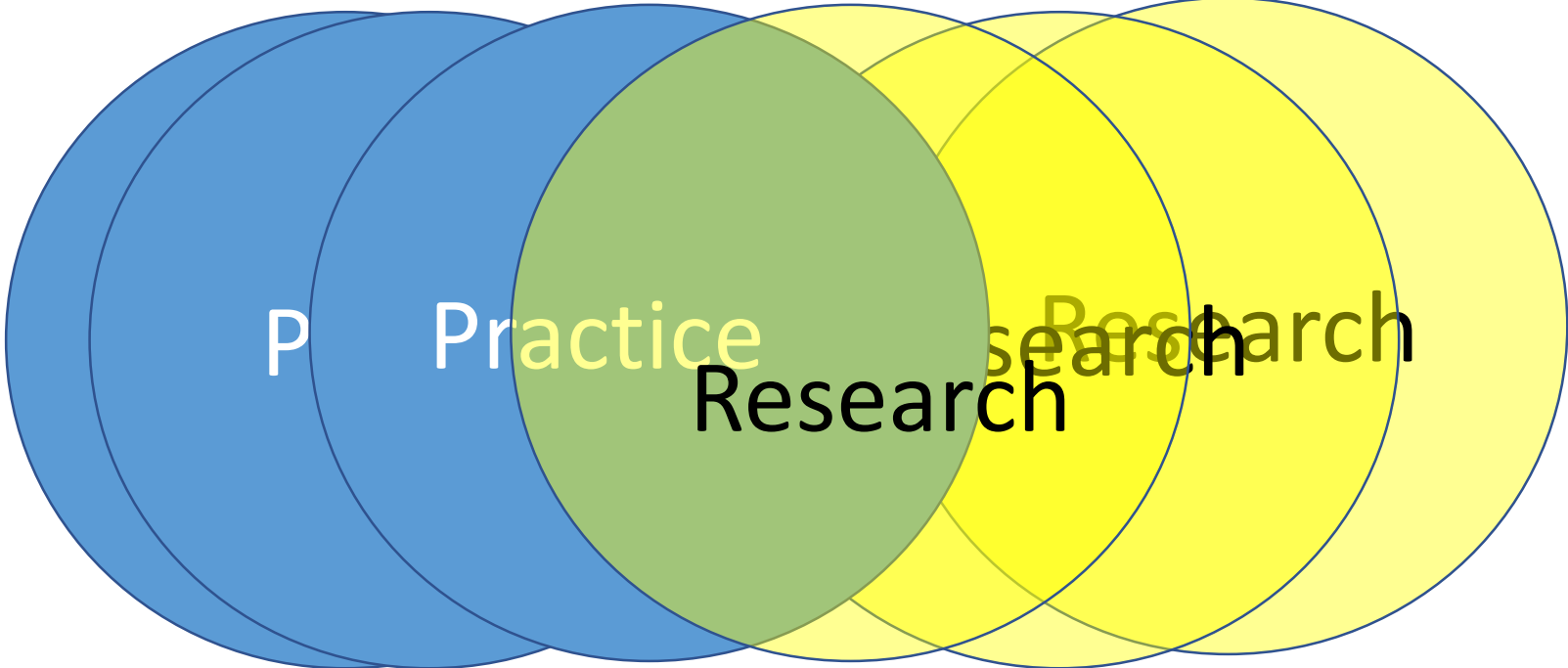
- Monitor daily operations
- Report on performance measures
- Identify areas of strengths
- Identify areas in need of change
- Measure improvements
- Determine whether goals are met



How will courts know if something is working or failing without objective data?

Data should be used as a roadmap for treatment court teams to decide what issues need to be tackled!

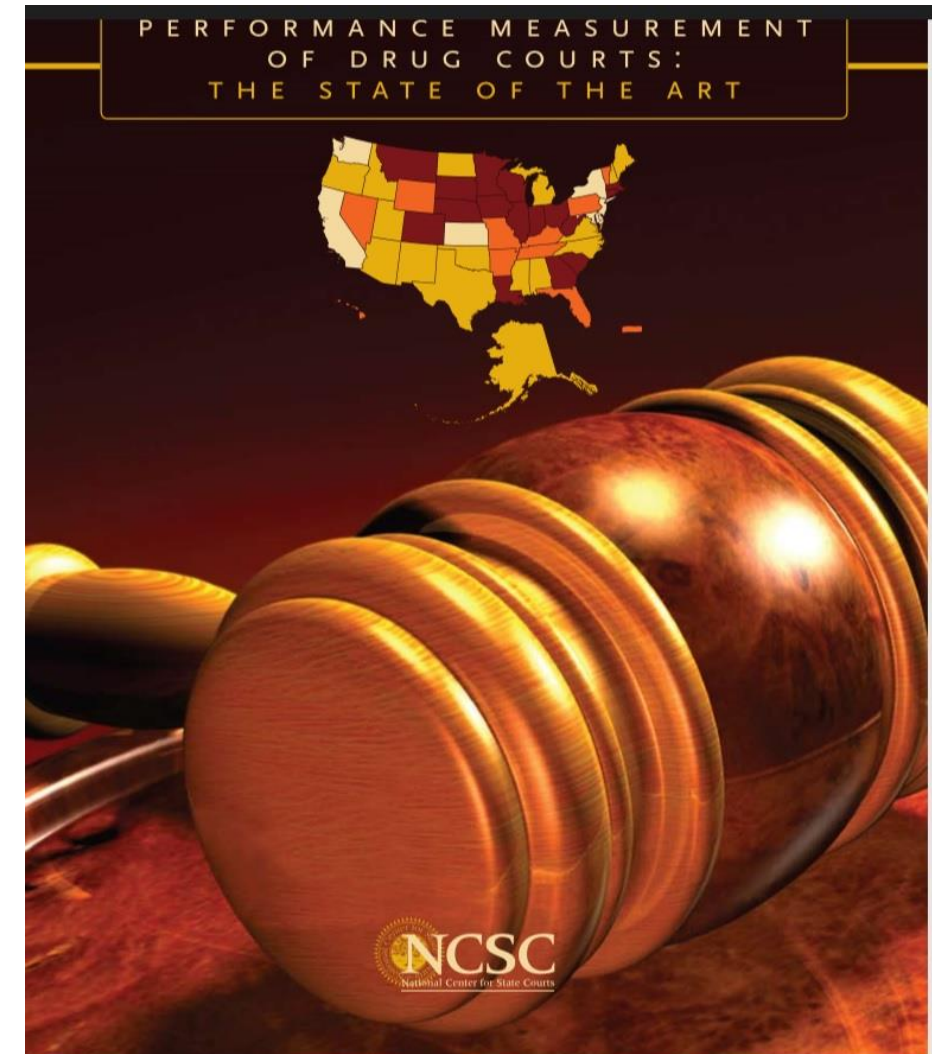
Research and Practice Relationships



Data to Improve Court Operations



- *Performance Measurement of Drug Courts: The State of the Art* highlights four recommended PMs:
 1. Retention
 2. Sobriety
 3. In-program recidivism
 4. Units of service
- Drug Court Review – Summer 2019
Article on Performance Management



Session Roadmap

THtWCs and VTCs

What is data?, Importance for organizations

Considerations in planning data collection

Considerations in Planning Data Collection

Infrastructure for storing data

What are you going to collect?

Who is going to collect?

How is it going to be collected?

How are results going to be used?

Where Will the Data Be Stored?

Local Based Systems

- Excel
- Microsoft Access
- Buffalo DMIS-2010

Cloud Based Systems

- RecoveryTrek
- Apricot

How Is the Research Going to Be Used?

Types of Research

Descriptive

- Define and describe phenomena

Explanatory

- Identify cause and effect of a phenomena
- Predict how one phenomenon will change based on changes in another

Evaluation

- Determine the effects of a social program or other intervention

Feasibility

- Time
- Funding
- Assistance
- Departmental support
- Gaining access to groups or people
- Do data sets already exist?

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THtWCs and VTCs

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Research questions, data, collection, and analysis

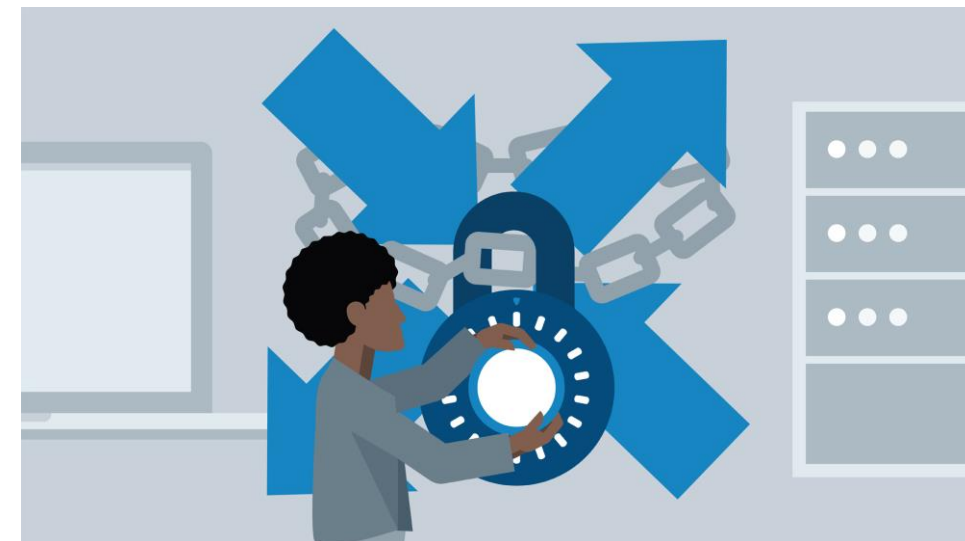
Formulating Research Questions

- Personal experiences
- Vicarious experiences
- Question proposed by other researchers
- Theory
- Pragmatic reasons
 - Financial or professional reasons



Developing Strong Research Questions

- Know field and its literature?
- What area needs further exploration or improvement?
What does your court need to know?
- Funding sources interested?
- Will study have significant impact on my court or the field?



Examples of Research Questions

- Are participants who are exposed to a certain type of treatment more likely to have improved outcomes?
- Do program graduates less likely to be re-arrested than non-participants?
- Is our court reaching the intended target population?

Refining a Research Question



- Manageable size
- Resource limitations
- Time limitations

Data Considerations



1. Unit of analysis
2. Variable
3. Types of Data
4. Validity
5. Measurement

Unit of Analysis

- Major entity you are analyzing
- Level of social life on which the research question is focused
 - Individuals
 - Groups
 - Towns
 - Neighborhoods
 - Cities
 - Social interactions
 - Artifacts (books, photos, newspapers)

Variable: A Characteristic that Varies

Independent (IV)

- Explanatory variable
- Predictor or cause

Dependent (DV)

- Outcome variable
- Effect



Types of Data

NATURE

**Quantitative
&
Qualitative**

FREQUENCY

**Cross-Sectional
&
Longitudinal**

Validity: Ultimate Goal

Measurement Validity

- Is a measure measuring what we **think** it measures

Generalizability

- Conclusions are supported across different groups, settings, events

Causal Validity

- A results in B

Categorical Data

Qualitative information grouped into categories

- **Nominal:** one category is neither greater nor lesser than the other (gender, race, ethnicity)
- **Ordinal:** categories' ordering has meaning (educational level)



Measurement Data

- **Information** can be placed on a numbered line
- Either:
 - **Discrete:** only certain values
 - **Continuous:** any value within a range



Should be mutually exclusive

Let's Critique These Questions



How often do you smoke tobacco?

- A. Never
- B. 1-3 times
- C. 4-6 times
- D. 7-9 times
- E. 10 or more times

How many hours a week do you attend counseling?

- A. 1-2 hours
- B. 3-4 hours
- C. 5-6 hours
- D. 7-8 hours
- E. 9-10 hours

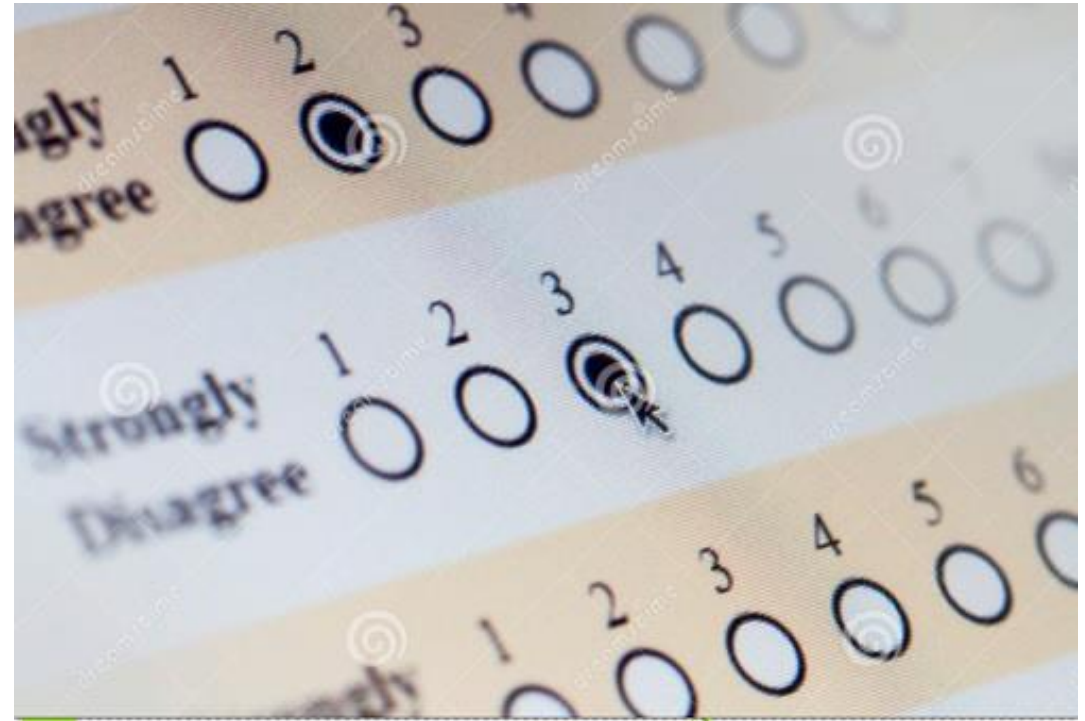
When you drink, how many drinks (e.g., 1 beer, 1 mixed drink, 1 glass of wine) do you have in a drinking episode?

- A. 1-2 drinks
- B. 2-3 drinks
- C. 4-5 drinks
- D. 6-7 drinks
- E. 8-9 drinks
- F. 10 or more drinks

How Are You Going to Collect It?

Data Collection Methods

- Surveys
- Interviews
- Focus Groups
- Official Records
- Observations



Importance of Researcher-Practitioner Partnerships

How to Analyze Data?

Qualitative Data

- Review and organize data
- Read and take notes
- Describe, classify, and interpret your findings
- Visualize the data

Quantitative Data

- Descriptive analysis includes: mean, median and mode, and range
- Inferential statistics includes conducting statistical testing. Often, software such as SPSS or SAS are used, as well as DMIS

Using Data Management Information Systems (DMIS)

- Collect information on participants
- Run reports
- Analyze data
- Host of other features
- Resources
 - Access
 - Buffalo DMIS
 - State Offices of Court Administration

Drug Court Progress Report

NAME: JOHN F DOE Docket: 12M12345
 Contract Date: 5/15/2012 RCD: 6/6/2012
 Primary Drug: Alcohol
 Secondary Drug: Heroin
Clean Date: / Total Days Clean:
 Treatment Provider: DSAS
 Location: 1532 GENESSEE ST



1:1 Counseling: Group Counseling:

	Date	Attend.	Tox	X		Date	Attendance	Tox	X
▶	6/4/2012	N		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		6/1/2012	Y	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	5/30/2012	Y	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		5/28/2012	Y	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	5/21/2012	Y	Negative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		5/25/2012	Y	Negative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	5/16/2012	Y	Positive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		5/21/2012	N	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
*				<input type="checkbox"/>		4/30/2012	Y	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Putting It Together: Example

Tribal Healing to Wellness Key Component 6 Drug Court Standard 4

Section 4: Incentives and Sanctions		
Question	Data Needed	Statistic
Does the court administer similar sanctions for similar acts of noncompliance?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sanction given for each act of noncompliance 	% of sanction types or severity by form of noncompliance
Does the court administer similar incentives for similar acts of compliance?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incentive given for each act of compliance 	% of incentives by form of compliance
Does the court utilize jail for clients who test positive for alcohol or drugs during Phase 1 or prior to clinical stabilization?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sanction data 	% of Phase 1 clients who tested positive for alcohol or drugs and were jailed (vs. another sanction)

Field Example: Goal

	Low level violation	Moderate level violation	Severe level violation
Low level sanction	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Moderate level sanction	0.00%	100.00%	0.00%
Severe level sanction	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%

Field Example: Perception

	Low level violation	Moderate level violation	Severe level violation
Low level sanction	80.00%	20.00%	0.00%
Moderate level sanction	10.00%	75.00%	15.00%
Severe level sanction	2.00%	8.00%	90.00%

Field Example: Data

	Low level violation	Moderate level violation	Severe level violation
Low level sanction	36.70%	17.65%	3.13%
Moderate level sanction	30.28%	20.59%	15.63%
Severe level sanction	33.03%	61.76%	81.25%

How Did We Get There?

- Tracked sanctions and act of noncompliance for each client for every court date
- Surveyed staff to identify what would be considered a low, moderate, or high level violation
- Ranked sanctions based upon evidence based sanction grids (such as the Center for Effective Public Policy or NADCP)
- Categorized offenses and sanctions based upon rankings and then tabulated

Standard 5: Substance Abuse Treatment



Section 5: Substance Abuse Treatment		
Question	Data Needed	Statistic
Does the court provide access to medication assisted therapy, outpatient, detoxification, intensive outpatient, residential treatment, and aftercare?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• # of clients assessed for services• # of clients deemed eligible for services• # of eligible clients entering referred services	% of clients deemed eligible for a service who entered the service
Does a treatment provider attend at least 75% of staffings?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Treatment provider attendance at staff	% of staffings treatment provider is present
What percentage of clients are in a treatment that is manualized?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Type of treatment and name of treatment	% of clients who are in a manualized treatment (vs. % of clients who are in a substance use group but it is not manualized)

Outcome Data – Intermediate Outcomes

Total # of drug tests # of positive drug tests
of treatment sessions client is scheduled to attend # of treatment sessions client attends
of probation meetings client is scheduled to attend # of probation meetings client attends
of court sessions client is scheduled to attend # of court sessions client attends

Outcome Data – Recidivism Outcomes

Criminal Involvement Since Start of BJA Award for Drug Court Program Participants and Former Participants				
Measure		Charged for Committing a New Criminal Offense	Conviction for a New Criminal Charge	Revocation of Terms of Supervised Release
A	Participants who are still participating in the program			
B	Participants who successfully completed the program in the past 12 months			
C	Participants who successfully completed the program 12–24 months ago			
D	Participants who unsuccessfully exited the program			

Conclusion

- Importance of considering native and military status in practice and research
- Research is fun, and **valid** data are needed!
 - Vital to for progress and its measurement
- Start thinking about your current data protocols and procedures
- How can you use what you learned today to make improvements to your court's data collection process?
- Do have a research partner?

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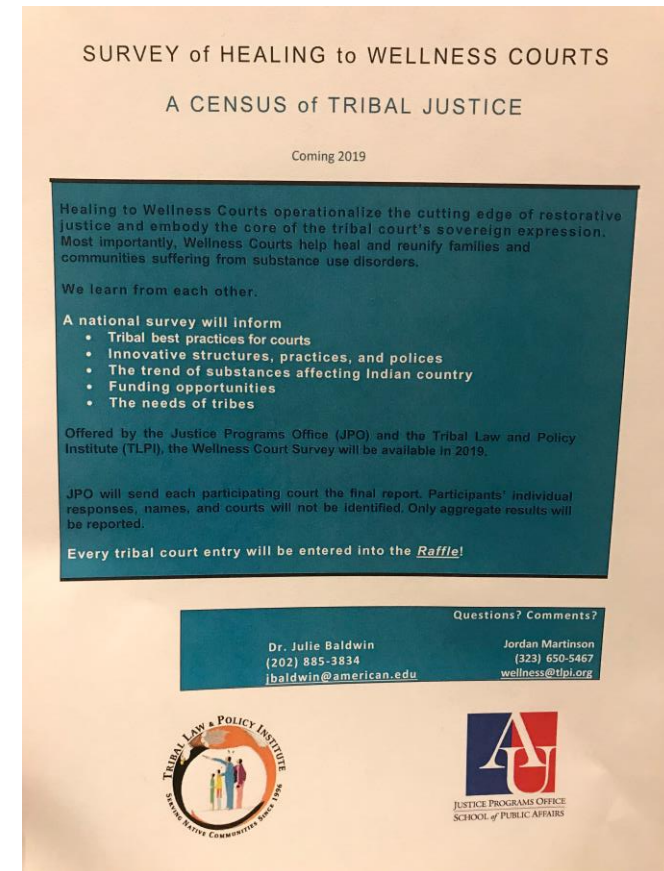
Researcher-practitioner partnerships

Tribal Healing to Wellness Court Survey

National Tribal Healing to Wellness Court Survey



- Tribal Healing to Wellness Court Programs
- Examine:
 - Structure
 - Polices and Operations
 - Partnerships
 - Target Issues
 - Participants
 - Challenges
 - Successes
- Development Process



***TLPI to assist in dissemination –
Be on the lookout!***

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Tribal Healing to Wellness Court Survey

Resources

Available at Back Table



SURVEY of HEALING to WELLNESS COURTS A CENSUS of TRIBAL JUSTICE

Coming 2019

Healing to Wellness Courts operationalize the cutting edge of restorative justice and embody the core of the tribal court's sovereign expression. Most importantly, Wellness Courts help heal and reunify families and communities suffering from substance use disorders.

We learn from each other.

A national survey will inform

- Tribal best practices for courts
- Innovative structures, practices, and polices
- The trend of substances affecting Indian country
- Funding opportunities
- The needs of tribes

Offered by the Justice Programs Office (JPO) and the Tribal Law and Policy Institute (TLPI), the Wellness Court Survey will be available in 2019.

JPO will send each participating court the final report. Participants' individual responses, names, and courts will not be identified. Only aggregate results will be reported.

Every tribal court entry will be entered into the Raffle!

Questions? Comments?

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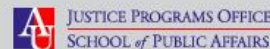
Jordan Martinson
(323) 650-5467
wellness@tlpi.org



DRUG COURT REVIEW VETERANS TREATMENT COURT ISSUE

Fostering a wider understanding of veterans treatment courts, including the issues, challenges, and successes they have experienced.

Winter 2018



ISSUE BRIEF

RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES (RED) IN TREATMENT COURTS

By: Dr. John R. Gallagher, PhD, LSW, LCAC
Indiana University School of Social Work
Associate Professor

JULY 2019

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The National Drug Court Resource Center (NDCRC) is housed at the Justice Programs Office, a center in American University's School of Public Affairs, and is funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. Issue briefs such as this are created to educate and inform the treatment court field about topics of importance. For more information please visit the National Drug Court Resource Center at www.ndcrc.org.

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY'S SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
The Justice Programs Office, a center in American University's School of Public Affairs, supports the National Drug Court Resource Center, part of a BJA-funded drug court initiative. This issue brief was created to respond to specific issues identified during the provision of technical assistance to the field. For more information or to request technical assistance services or to learn more about the AJJ Justice Programs Office, go to www.american.edu/jpo.

THE HISTORY OF RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES (RED) IN TREATMENT COURTS

Racial and Ethnic Disparities (RED) in policing practices, arrest and conviction rates, sentencing norms, and incarceration trends have continuously had a negative impact on racial and ethnic minorities.¹ Treatment courts, unfortunately, have also experienced RED in outcomes (e.g. minorities graduating programs at a lower rate than Caucasians). In their courts, treatment courts have taken a proactive, advocacy approach in researching and eliminating the problem to assure equal access and effective treatment for all participants. The first treatment court was a drug court that began in 1989 in Miami-Dade County, Florida. Since then, drug courts have been rigorously evaluated, and in the past 30 years research has demonstrated that drug courts are more effective than traditional criminal justice interventions (e.g. probation) at reducing criminal recidivism rates for individuals who have substance use disorders.² As a result of the success of drug courts, other treatment court models were developed, such as mental health courts, family dependency treatment courts, veterans treatment courts, and DWI (driving while intoxicated) courts, to name a few. Although research has continuously shown that treatment courts are effective, there is an unfortunate trend in some treatment courts where RED exist. These disparities are primarily present in participants who have access to the programs, completion rates, and criminal recidivism outcomes. It is important to mention, however, that the majority of research on RED is focused on adult drug courts, which is not surprising, considering they are the most common type of treatment courts. The findings, however, from previous research and recommendations to eliminate RED in outcomes may be applicable to all types of treatment courts, as they operate under the same, or similar, key components (e.g. frequent status hearings with a judge, random and frequent drug testing, court-ordered counseling, offering sanctions and incentives). The presence of RED in treatment court outcomes is not a new phenomenon. Nearly 20 years ago, Browner found in a Pennsylvania drug court that Caucasian participants were more

Veterans

Veterans Treatment Court Enhancement Initiative

Funded by the National Institute of Corrections

The National Institute of Corrections and the Bureau of Justice Assistance have partnered with the Justice Programs Office (JPO), a center in the School of Public Affairs at American University, to develop and administer training and technical assistance for specialized screening, assessment, and case planning tools for veterans treatment courts (VTCs) and assess their utility in the field.

The first phase of Veterans Treatment Court Enhancement Initiative produced three new VTC-specific tools: a short screener, a comprehensive risk-need assessment, and a case planning protocol. These tools were designed to meet the special needs of veterans in contact with the criminal justice system by incorporating the latest research on trauma, substance use disorders, and other issues affecting veterans.

In this second phase, JPO staff administered a solicitation process to select up to four VTCs interested in receiving on-site and remote training and technical assistance to learn how to implement the tools. JPO staff are developing a training and technical assistance program for the VTC-specific tools and will work with each new pilot court to integrate the tools into existing court procedures and practices and provide ongoing technical assistance to assist in proper implementation. JPO staff will also work with the Phase I and II pilot sites to assess the utility of the VTC-specific tools in the field.

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JUSTICE AND
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BJA TTA Collaborative



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- *Drug Court Review*
- Treatment Court Map and Database
- Research Support
- Grant Solicitations
- State Net
- Active online community
 - Listservs
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 - Blogs
- Conference presentations
- Workshops



NADCP

- Toolkits
- Op-Eds and Other Articles
- Webinars
- National Mentor Court Network
- Partnership with Justice for Vets
- Operational Tune-Ups
- Implementation Training
- Grant Solicitations
- TTA through NDCI



- Factsheets
- Podcasts
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Questions?

Discussion!

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ADDITIONAL SLIDES

Applying What We Learned: Scenario 1

During a court hearing, a female participant told the judge that she feels like women are treated unfairly in the wellness court program.

Later, the judge asked the wellness court team members to investigate if gender inequities exist in the program.

What steps would your team take to answer this question?

Investigate Gender Inequities in the Program

- Research Question?
- Unit of analysis?
- Variables?
- Independent variable?
- Dependent variable?
- Sample?

Applying What We Learned: Scenario 2

In the past few months, five participants dropped out of the wellness court program.

The wellness court team is interested in finding out why participants are leaving the program.

What steps would you take to answer this question?

Retention (Performance Measure)



- Research Question?
- Unit of analysis?
- Variables?
- Independent variable?
- Dependent variable?
- Sample?

Applying What We Learned: Scenario 3

Some team members feel that in-program recidivism is increasing.

The wellness court team is interested in finding out what this increase is and why it might be increasing.

What steps would you take to answer this question?

In-Program Recidivism (PM) – What and Why



- Research question?
- Unit of analysis?
- Variables?
- Independent variable?
- Dependent variable ?
- Sample?