

Project Court REACH: Montgomery County Opiate Stabilization Part Action Plan

Essential Element #1: Broad legal eligibility

Recommendations:

- Review and revise legal eligibility requirements
- Come to an agreement on the range of clinical need that is appropriate for opioid court
- Create a new MOU with the new District Attorney

Goal 1: Develop clear legal and clinical eligibility criteria, formalized in a new MOU.

Objective 1A:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures	Updates / Notes
Define clinical eligibility.	<p>Convene a meeting with clinical staff (i.e. treatment stakeholders) to understand the appropriate clinical need for the program and the definition of clinically appropriate eligibility</p> <p>(Wait for Jessica the new coordinator- August 19th)</p>	Judge Catena Project Court REACH staff	September 20th 2021	Eligibility criteria defined	
Objective 1B:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures	Updates / Notes

Create a new MOU	<p>Convene a meeting with the District Attorney, Public Defender, and Court to set forth what charges would be acceptable.</p> <p>Draft new MOU</p> <p>Have all stakeholders sign new MOU</p>	<p>Michael Dayian, Judge Catena,</p> <p>Lorraine Diamond, William Martuscello, Kim Van Wormer.</p> <p>Project Court REACH staff</p>	August 16th 2021	New MOU drafted and signed.	
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Essential Element #2: Immediate Screening for Risk of Overdose

Recommendations:

- Integrate the protocols outlined in “Referral Procedures” by conducting outreach to law enforcement and defense counsel in order to facilitate more and quicker referrals
- Increase buy-in and support from law enforcement and defense counsel through marketing/education efforts
- Review and revise process by which participants are identified and informed about opioid court
- Consider how to integrate the peer navigator into the identification and screening process at the court

Goal 2: Integrate immediate screening and referral procedures for people that are arrested or ticketed in Montgomery county.

Objective 2A:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures	Updates / Notes
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Develop written screening and referral procedures using finalized screening tool and MOU	<p>Request recommendations via email from Sheriff, Police Chiefs, Public Defender, City, Town, and Village Court Clerks, and Opioid Court Coordinator on the most efficient way to identify and refer participants to Opioid Court.</p> <p>Refine screening tool based on discussion with stakeholders</p> <p>Develop written screening tool procedures</p> <p>Implement new screening tool and procedures</p>	<p>Michael Dayian, Jasmine Lopez, Sheriff Smith, Chief Thomas, Chief Van Deusen</p> <p>Michael Dayian, Jasmine Lopez, Nydia Hill, Sheriff Smith, Chief Thomas.</p> <p>Project Court REACH staff</p>	<p>September 7th 2021</p> <p>September 7th 2021</p>	<p>Recommendations received.</p> <p>Referral procedures drafted in revised MOU.</p> <p>Recommendations implemented.</p> <p>Revise MOU to incorporate identification procedures.</p> <p>Identification and screening procedures implemented.</p>	
Objective 2B:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures	Updates / Notes
Disseminate written screening and referral procedures to all stakeholders	<p>Develop pamphlets and/or referral resource cards.</p> <p>Develop referral form.</p>	Jasmine Lopez, Nydia Hill.	<p>September 7, 2021</p> <p>September 7, 2021</p>	<p>Pamphlet and/or referral resource card drafted.</p> <p>Pamphlet and/or referral resource card distributed to stakeholders and court clerks.</p> <p>Referral form distributed to stakeholders and court clerks.</p>	
Objective 2C:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures	Updates / Notes

Develop process whereby Peer Navigator meets with potential participants at City, Town, and Village Court appearances.	Request recommendation from law enforcement and court clerks on the most efficient way to notify Peer Navigator of potential participants.	Jasmine Lopez, Nydia Hill, Sheriff Smith, Chief Thomas.	September 7, 2021	Revise process section of MOU to include Peer Navigator at arraignments and interaction with Peer outside of court setting	
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Goal 3: Increase incentive to participate in the program

Objective 3A:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures	Updates / Notes
Communicate treatment/service options for participating in the program.	Describe treatment options, housing, and work benefits in a pamphlet.	Jasmine Lopez, Nydia Hill Project Court REACH Staff	September 2021	Pamphlet drafted. Pamphlet disseminated.	
Develop case incentives for successful completion of the program.(Examine case examples and potential outcomes for case disposition)	Request recommendation from District Attorney and Public Defender for appropriate incentives.	Lorraine Diamond, William F. Martuscello.	September 2021	Revise MOU to include case incentives.	

Essential Element #3: Informed Consent after Consultation with Defense Counsel

Recommendations:

- Integrate defense counsel in stakeholder meetings to develop processes that work from a defense counsel perspective
- Ensure public defenders are aware and know the process for making referrals
- Public defenders should be available to meet with all potential participants after screening is completed by coordinator

Goal 4: Educate the criminal defense bar to ensure all defenders are familiar with the Opioid Court Stabilization Part procedures and process.

Objective 4A:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures	Updates / Notes
Include 18B administrators in stakeholder meetings.	Develop a plan to assign counsel.	Kim Van Wormer, Esq. William F. Martuscello, Esq. Judge Catena.	August 31st 2021	Plan created. Revise MOU.	
Objective 4B:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures	Updates / Notes
Create a simple informational tool (one-pager) for defenders to use to understand program eligibility and inform the Bar Association of the policies and procedures of the Stabilization Part.	Develop an informational pamphlet for 18B lawyers. Create a pamphlet to be included in the Bar Association newsletter.	Michael Dayian Kim Van Wormer Project Court REACH staff	August 31st 2021	Pamphlet created. Bar Association informed.	

Essential Element #5: Rapid Clinical Assessment and Treatment Engagement

Recommendations:

- Broaden treatment options by building relationships with outpatient treatment providers, including MOUD providers, in Montgomery County
- Administer NYS Treatment Screening Form to collect more clinical information from participants
- Encourage more in-depth information-sharing with treatment providers
- Consider clients' social circumstances and clinical preferences when making treatment decisions
- Stakeholders can benefit from more education around clinical options for opioid use disorder and overdose risk

Goal 5: Broaden treatment options for program participants.

Objective 5A:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures	Updates / Notes
Increase stakeholder education on opioid use, OUD and clinical options.	Ensure all stakeholders view Project Court REACH training modules	All stakeholders	September 2021	Training modules viewed	
Objective 5B:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures	Updates / Notes
Partner with outpatient providers in or outside the county (New Choices [Schenectady], St. Mary's Outpatient in Gloversville, NY, and Amsterdam, NY, Sparc [Rotterdam]).	Meet with outpatient treatment providers. Meet with inpatient treatment providers.	Jasmine Lopez Project Court REACH staff	September 2021	Treatment providers identified who are willing to give Opioid treatment participants priority.	

Partner with inpatient providers.					
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Essential Element #6: Recovery Support Services

Recommendations:

- Integrate peer at the point of referral through completion
- Assess participants' case management needs and assist in coordinating social supports
- Identify and partner with local recovery support service agencies to provide additional support to participants, including exploring family support navigation and services

Goal 6: Determine what support services are available in the community to support participants' success in the program.

Objective 6A:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures	Updates / Notes
Identify and outreach to recovery support services in the county and link participants to services.	Use SIM map and other resources to identify recovery support services Outreach to organizations Refer participants	Jasmine Lopez, Colleen Kirkland, Nydia Hill	September 2021	Recovery support services identified and listed	

Essential Element #7: Frequent Judicial Supervision and Compliance Monitoring

Recommendations:

- Provide judicial interaction with participants on a regular basis, either through teleservices or in-person appearances
- Schedule stakeholder meetings to occur throughout the year to review procedures and program operations
- Formalize plan between court-based stakeholders and treatment providers to ensure ongoing communication about participant progress

Goal 7: Establish procedure/routine for frequent judicial interaction with program participants.

Objective 7A:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures	Updates / Notes
Create procedures for judicial interaction with program participants. (Consider scheduling calendar days for same day as drug court)	Decide a feasible and sustainable procedure for judicial interaction with participants, including those in inpatient treatment. Discern suitable platform	Judge Catena, Jasmine Lopez.	August 23 2021	Procedure for judicial interaction developed and implemented.	

Goal 8: Convene stakeholder meetings throughout the year to review procedures and discuss program updates.

Objective 8A:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures	Updates / Notes
Determine frequency of stakeholder meetings and who will schedule the meetings.	Convene stakeholder meetings.	Judge Catena, Jasmine Lopez.	September 20 2021	Revised MOU.	

Goal 9: Create a formalized communication process for stakeholders.

Objective 9A:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures	Updates / Notes
Determine who will be responsible for communicating participant progress, frequency, and to which stakeholders.	Convene stakeholder meeting.	Judge Catena, Jasmine Lopez	September 2021	Revised MOU.	

Essential Element #8: Intensive Case Management

Recommendations:

- Develop a case management program beginning when the participant enters the Stabilization Part, for all participants (including inpatient through teleservices)
- Increase communication among team members and clearly define roles

Goal 10: Define case management role, what services are available, and who will perform these tasks.

Objective 10A:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures	Updates / Notes
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Identify funded clinician at Conifer Park, or identify how to use those case management funds	Research funding opportunities	OCA (Susan Sturges, Dennis Reilly), Jasmine Lopez.	August 2021	Funding sources identified.	
Objective 10B:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures	Updates / Notes
Build case management into inpatient and outpatient treatment options.	Obtain funds to hire a case manager.	OCA (Susan Sturges, Dennis Reilly), Jasmine Lopez, Colleen Kirkland.	TBH	Case manager hired.	

Essential Element #9: Program Completion and Continuing Care

Recommendations:

- Stakeholders should consider creating a formal completion criteria checklist that could include elements of social stabilization to be addressed through case management
- Continuing care plans should be developed with clients and the court, to support participants with recovery after they complete 28-35 days of inpatient treatment, or if they are in outpatient services, whether they continue in the opioid court program, or after they complete

Goal 11: Define program completion criteria.

Objective 11A:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures	Updates / Notes
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Create a checklist to ensure participants and staff understand the steps to be taken to complete the program.	Convene treatment stakeholders to create a checklist.	Jasmine Lopez. Project Court REACH staff	September 2021	Checklist created.	
Objective 11B:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures	Updates / Notes
Create a continuing care checklist for participants after inpatient and outpatient stabilization.	Convene treatment stakeholders to create a continuing care checklist.	Jasmine Lopez. Project Court REACH	September 2021	Checklist created.	
Objective 11C:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures	Updates / Notes
Establish and implement next steps in the case disposition for participants who have completed initial treatment and stabilization phase. (SEE GOAL 5)	Convene stakeholders to create options for case disposition.	Judge Catena Project Court REACH	September 2021	Case disposition options developed.	

Essential Element #10: Performance Evaluation and Program Improvement

Recommendations:

- Work with Project REACH staff to identify areas and strategies for data entry improvement
- Implement recommendations from this report with the support of technical assistance

Goal 12: Continue work with Project Court REACH to establish an ongoing data entry process/plan.

Objective 12A:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures	Updates / Notes
Determine list of data metrics to be collected for program participants.	Meet with Researchers at Columbia University	OCA, Jasmine Lopez Project Court REACH staff	September 2021	Meeting held and list created.	
Objective 12B:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures	Updates / Notes
Determine what program or how to enter the established collected data metrics.	Convene meeting with OCA.	OCA, Jasmine Lopez Project Court REACH staff	August 2021	Meeting held and program identified.	