

Project Court REACH: Chemung County – HOPE (Heroin Overdose Prevention Effort) Court Action Plan

Essential Element #1: Broad legal eligibility

Recommendations:

- Continue accepting a broad range of charges into HOPE Court;
- Continue accepting referrals from multiple sources;
- Strengthen working partnership with town and village courts to facilitate more referrals; and
- Create process for Elmira PD and other police departments to make referrals to HOPE Court at the point of arrest.

Goal 1: Formalize legal and clinical eligibility criteria in an official Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or updated policies and procedures.

Objective 1A:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures
Facilitate meeting about legal eligibility criteria, especially considering which felony charges may be eligible for HOPE Court	Identify team members to participate Schedule meeting Hold meeting	Judge Forrest	January 2022	HOPE Court Stakeholders have a meeting to discuss legal eligibility criteria
Objective 1B:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures
Review the MOU Template with stakeholders and determine if HOPE Court wants to use it	Project REACH staff will send MOU template HOPE Court team will review HOPE Court team will decide whether to use MOU	Project Court REACH Staff Identified stakeholders	January 2022	HOPE Court stakeholders have reviewed MOU Template

Essential Element #2: Immediate Screening for Risk of Overdose

Recommendations:

- Facilitate HOPE Court referrals from first responding police officers;
- Develop written referral process for officers;
- Develop plan to conduct legal and clinical screenings; and
- Create educational materials and strategy, including trainings, to encourage officers to make HOPE Court referrals.

Goal 2: Strengthen screening and referral process with Elmira Police Department and Chemung County Sheriff's Office.

Objective 2A:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures
Continue to engage law enforcement stakeholders to develop plan to facilitate referrals	Provide law enforcement agencies with brochures; Condense brochure/pamphlet into a 'crisis card' with referral numbers to be handed out	Desiree Rogers, Sherriff Schrom, Project Court REACH staff	January 2022	Crisis card created and disseminated
Objective 2B:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures
Review Project Court REACH screening tool	Project Court REACH to send screening tool	Project Court REACH staff	January 2022	HOPE Court stakeholders have reviewed the screening tool

Essential Element #4: Suspension of Prosecution or Expedited Plea

Recommendations:

- Engage new ADA in Project REACH;
- Encourage ADAs to identify potential participants and refer them to HOPE Court; and
- Raise level of awareness of policies and procedures for HOPE Court.

Goal 3: Formalize and disseminate identification and referral pathway map.

Objective 3A:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures
Review and finalize referral map	Send referral map to hope court HOPE Court stakeholders review and finalize map Map is disseminated widely	Project Court REACH Staff, Desiree Rogers, Judge Forrest	January 2022	Referral Map disseminated
Objective 3B:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures
Review of current policy manual by HOPE court Assistant District Attorneys	Meet as group to review any needed changes	TBD	February 2022	Policies and procedures reviewed by ADAs

Essential Element #6: Recovery Support Services

Recommendations:

- Incorporate peer into referral process by facilitating communication between Elmira Police and the peer for a warm handoff to treatment.

Goal 4: Incorporate new peer into HOPE Court Operations, especially considering the role in facilitating identification and referral.

Objective 4A:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures
Provide connection between Police Department and peer	Update crisis card with peer information Provide crisis cards to police officers	Desiree Rogers	January 2022	Crisis cards disseminated
Objective 4B:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures
Continue facilitating connections between peer and potential participants in the courthouse	Peer attends HOPE Court meetings Peer works with defense counsel, coordinator, and ADAs to help identify potential participants Peer engages potential participants about benefits of HOPE Court and safety planning around overdose risk	Peer	January 2022	Peer facilitates HOPE Court referrals

Essential Element #7: Frequent Judicial Supervision and Compliance Monitoring

Recommendations:

- Continue to utilize tele-visits to engage with participants completing in-patient treatment even after court appearances return to in-person.

Goal 5: Assess feasibility of program compliance standards based on participant feedback.

Objective 5A:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures
Create a plan to garner feedback about refusal to participate	Identify how to contact participants (i.e. in jail, in drug court, through defense counsel) Develop feedback questions Create survey Disseminate survey through identified channels	Project Court REACH staff, Desiree Rogers, defense counsel	February 2022	Feedback gathered
Objective 5B:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures
Analyze feedback to inform program improvement	Use survey feedback to update and improve practice	HOPE Court team	Ongoing	Feedback incorporated

Essential Element #8: Intensive Case Management

Recommendations:

- Continue to foster strong relationships with local treatment agencies who support the harm reduction model.

Goal 6: Incorporate new OCA case manager into HOPE Court operations.

Objective 6A:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures
Define case manager role in HOPE Court	Define case manager role Have case manager review REACH Training Modules	Desiree, Susan Sturges	February 2022	Completed/updated court policies and procedures or MOU
Objective 6B:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures
Continue existing relationships with current providers	Onboard case manager with current treatment network	Desiree, Susan Sturges	TBD	Relationships continue with current providers

Essential Element #9: Program Completion and Continuing Care

Recommendations:

- Amend policies & procedures manual to provide program completion criteria, including program length and successful completion requirements.

Goal 7: Develop and formalize program completion criteria.

Objective 7A:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures
Define program completion criteria for HOPE Court	Provide model completion criteria Review and personalize for HOPE Court Utilize completion criteria	Colleen, AJ, Courtney, Taylor HOPE Court stakeholders (Casey Johnson) (judge, coordinator, Casey Johnson, etc.)	December 2021 February 2022	Completion criteria defined and used

Essential Element #10: Performance Evaluation and Program Improvement

Recommendations:

- Work with Project Court REACH staff to identify areas and strategies for data entry improvement, including the use of the Opioid Court dashboard; and
- Implement recommendations from this report with the help of technical assistance from Project Court REACH.

Goal 8: Work with Project Court REACH to improve data entry.

Objective 8A:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures
Connect HOPE Court with Leslie Ebright for data entry questions (e.g. Violation of Probation)	<p>Send email to Leslie Ebright introducing her to HOPE Court stakeholders</p> <p>Meeting with Leslie Ebright to discuss data entry</p>	Project Court REACH	January 2022	Project Court REACH connects HOPE Court with Leslie Ebright via email
Objective 8B:	Action Steps	Persons Responsible	Timeline	Performance Measures
Meet with Court REACH staff to walk through data entry (consider how to crosswalk data with DCS)	<p>Schedule meeting time and date</p> <p>Host meeting with Project Court REACH</p>	Project Court REACH, Desiree	February 2022	HOPE Court meets with Project Court REACH and walks through data entry