



Orleans Parish Reentry Court: **Connecting Individuals to Services**

June 17, 2020

Welcome and Introductions

Presenters



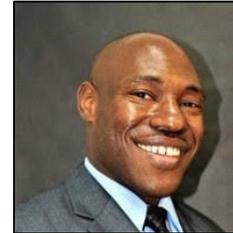
Judge Laurie A. White
Criminal District Court Parish of Orleans
New Orleans, Louisiana



Chad Sanders
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The First 72+
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Learning Objectives

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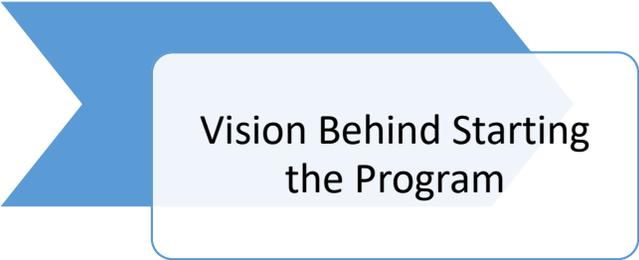
- The history and structure of the Orleans Parish Reentry Court Program
- The introduction of MAT services to the program
- The importance of cross-system collaboration across the sequential intercepts
- Services that courts can offer to facilitate the success of individuals who are reentering the community
- The impact that innovative programs within the courts can have on individuals' lives

Program Overview

The History of the Orleans Parish Reentry Court Program



Started by Judge White
and Judge Hunter in
2010–2011



Vision Behind Starting
the Program



Program Evolution

Structure of the Program

A defendant facing felony charges at Orleans Parish Criminal District Court (OPCDC) (post-acceptance/pre-trial)



Eligible and interested defendants are interviewed/screened for the program (post-acceptance/pre-trial)



If accepted, the defendant pleads guilty and is sentenced to the program



The participant completes the in-jail portion of the program in the Louisiana Department of Safety and Corrections (Two years)



The participant completes the probation portion of the program under the supervision of OPCDC reentry court judge (Three to five years)

Who Is Eligible for the Program?

- Available to defendants who are facing a felony charge in the OPCDC
- Eligibility for the Orleans Reentry Court Program:
 - The defendant must not be charged with:
 - A crime of violence, including domestic violence;
 - A sex offense; or
 - A crime that resulted in the death of a person (e.g., negligent homicide)
 - No prior crimes of violence or sex offenses
 - The defendant must plead guilty pursuant to a plea agreement
 - The defendant's sentence:
 - Must be a term of incarceration that is ten years or less
 - Must not be pursuant to a Multiple Bill ("Three Strikes" Sentencing Law)

Interviewing/Screening/Sentencing Process (Intercept 2–3)

A defendant with a pending felony is referred as a potential participant in the Reentry Court Program by a defense attorney, an ADA, or a judge

The defendant is interviewed/screened by the case managers at their next pre-trial court setting

Case managers make a recommendation to the judge regarding their compatibility with the program

The judge conducts an on-the-record interview with defendant and then accepts or rejects them for the program

If accepted into the program, the defendant pleads guilty and is sentenced pursuant to a plea agreement to the Orleans Parish Reentry Court Program

In-Jail Portion of the Program (Intercept 4)

- After sentencing, participants are transferred to the Louisiana State Penitentiary (LSP/Angola) to complete the in-jail portion of the program
- Requirements to complete the in-jail portion of the program
 - HiSet
 - Vocational training
 - Life skill classes
 - Mentor program
- The reentry court team continues to work with participants on identifying their individualized case management needs and helps them secure stable housing, employment, and a community support plan prior to release
 - Monthly visits by case managers
 - Semiannual visits by the entire reentry court team (judge, case managers, probation officer, and project coordinator)
- Upon completion, participants petition the court to be resentenced

Probation Portion of the Program (Intercept 5)

- Participants are resentenced to three to five years of active probation under the supervision of the judge, the probation officer, and two case managers (participants are typically released from LSP on a Friday and meet with their probation officer, the case managers, and the judge the following Monday)
- Participants begin to work with case managers to be linked to the following comprehensive wrap-around services based on their individualized case management needs:
 - Housing (done pre-release)
 - Employment (done pre-release)
 - Driver's license reinstatement
 - Resolving other legal issues (child support, consumer debt)
 - Obtaining TWIC cards
 - Treatment for mental, physical, and substance use needs
 - Weekly mentoring classes
- Monthly docket day

The Introduction of MAT Services to the Program

- Issue: Participants suffering from opioid use disorder were not receiving the necessary services to maintain their recovery and successfully complete the program
- OPCDC was awarded a 2018 COAP/COSSAP grant to implement the Orleans Parish Reentry Court Enhancement Project
 - To reduce recidivism of participants by introducing enhanced substance abuse treatment, including medication-assisted treatment (MAT) services, and more comprehensive wrap-around case management services into the existing Reentry Court Model
- MAT services are now offered to reentry court participants in both the in-jail and probation portions of program

MAT Services Offered in the In-Jail Portion of the Program

- Case managers do an interview/assessment with the participant
 - RANT screening tool implementation
- Participant's history of substance use shared with our partners at the Louisiana Department of Corrections for further assessment/screening when they arrive at LSP
 - Reentry Court Manager, LSP
 - Shelley Edgerton, LPC, Program Director, Opioid Substance Abuse Program (STR), Louisiana Department of Safety and Corrections

Louisiana DOC Opiate Substance Treatment Program (STR)

- Phases
 - Phase I: Screening and assessment process
 - Phase II: Pre-release substance abuse treatment
 - Phase III: Transition planning and MAT
 - Phase IV: Post-release substance abuse treatment
- MAT services offered
 - Vivitrol
 - Oral naltrexone

Shelley Edgerton, LPC, Program Director, Opioid Substance Abuse Program (STR)

STR Phase I: Screening and Assessment Process

- Occurs within three months of a participant's arrival at LSP
- Screening process:
 - Clinical intake interview
 - Mental health evaluation
 - Medical evaluation
- Assessment process
 - Texas Christian University Client Evaluation and Self Treatment (TCU-CEST)
 - Texas Christian University Drug Screen V
 - Targeted Intervention to Greater Enhance Reentry (TIGER)

Shelley Edgerton, LPC, Program Director, Opioid Substance Abuse Program (STR)



STR Phase II: Pre-Release Substance Abuse Treatment

- Focused primarily on cognitive behavioral therapies: evidence-based approaches
- Individualized treatment plan
- Each participant will receive three months to one year of treatment following an intensive outpatient model that comprises of three hours of treatment a day three times a week
- Psychosocial interventions will be administered in a group setting

Shelley Edgerton, LPC, Program Director, Opioid Substance Abuse Program (STR)



STR Phase III: Transition Planning and MAT

- Occurs within the last one to three months of each participant's release date
 - Individualized treatment and transition plan for each participant
 - Discharge planning: Aftercare appointments, residential treatment if needed, etc.
- Ongoing psychosocial interventions which will include:
 - Relapse prevention
 - Peer support
 - MAT
 - Can occur within a one- to two- year period for oral naltrexone and last two months to 24 hours for vivitrol (prior to participant's release date)
 - Prior to the initiation of MAT, a urine toxicology screen is administered
 - Consent form for MAT—oral naltrexone and vivitrol
 - After initial MAT administration, the offender will be monitored for any potential signs/symptoms of side effects

Shelley Edgerton, LPC, Program Director, Opioid Substance Abuse Program (STR)

STR Phase IV: Post-Release Substance Abuse Treatment

- Continuation of treatment for those on MAT
- A discharge advisory is sent to the reentry court team
- The program's peer support specialists continue to engage the participant for at least one year

Shelley Edgerton, LPC, Program Director, Opioid Substance Abuse Program (STR)

MAT Services Provided in the Probation Portion of the Program

- Work with STR and LSP to ensure that participants come home with any scripts they need immediately, when possible
- On the Monday following release, the case managers meet with the participant to set-up appointments with our team of service providers to be assessed for continuation of MAT services and other medical and mental health needs
- MAT services offered
 - Vivitrol/oral naltrexone/SUBOXONE
 - Our work with community service providers outside the court allows the ability to use any MAT services agreed on by the participant, their service provider, and the judge

Linkage to MAT Services Post-Release

- The case managers connect participants directly with the following community service providers:
 - Initial assessment and treatment by a team of three medical professionals:
 - Nurse practitioner (basic health assessment/discussion of continuation of MAT services)
 - Medical psychologist (trauma therapy and CBT)
 - Medical doctor who is also a board-certified adult psychiatrist with sub-specializations in addiction medicine (MAT prescriptions)
 - Community service providers
 - MAT maintenance is either done with the three medical professionals above or one of our community service providers, depending on the circumstances
 - MAT maintenance may include CBT/twelve-step facilitation therapy, depending on the MAT option being utilized and best practices at the recommendation of our service providers (CBT required for SUBOXONE)

MAT Services and Individualized and Comprehensive Case Management

- Case managers continue to provide comprehensive, wrap-around services to ensure the participants' individualized needs and personal goals are being met:
 - Continued employment
 - Stable housing
 - Addressing legal barriers
 - Vocation enhancement/resume building/entrepreneur training/TWIC cards
 - Mentoring and personal development
- Our collaboration with our team of medical professionals and community service providers allows the flexibility to provide a wide range of MAT services and treatment options based on best practices and the advice of a medical professional to best meet a participant's specific needs and empower them on their road to recovery

Set-Back Options

- If a participant is unsuccessful in their outpatient MAT maintenance/recovery, we employ the following options based on the individual needs/circumstances:
 - Community service provider options
 - Detox
 - Short-term inpatient
 - Long-term inpatient
 - Transitional housing
 - Court sanctions
 - DOC Steve Hoyle Intensive Substance Abuse Program
 - Six months to one-year incarcerated treatment option (STR)
 - Discharge advisory is forwarded upon successful completion of the program, and our case managers would follow the same procedures in linking them to continuing MAT service/other service providers upon release

Stakeholders and Collaborative Partners

- The First 72+ (Intercepts 2–3, 4, and 5)
 - Provides case managers to provide comprehensive, wrap-around services to participants from screening/acceptance into the program to graduation
- The Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections (Intercepts 4 and 5)
 - Runs the in-jail portion of the reentry court program at LSP (Court Correction Reentry Program) (Intercept 4)
 - Opiate Substance Treatment Program (STR) (Intercept 4)
 - Provides treatment and MAT services during the in-jail portion of the program
 - Provides a dedicated reentry court probation officer for the probation portion of the program who is linked with participants from time of sentencing (Intercept 5)
- Community service providers (Intercept 5)
 - Provide treatment and MAT services during the probation portion of the program
- Orleans Public Defenders and Orleans Parish District Attorney's Office (Intercept 2–3)
 - Helps case managers and the judge identify participants for the program
- Opioid Task Force
 - Provides information on the collaborative efforts being taken in New Orleans to fight the opioid epidemic and information on community service providers

The Impact That Innovative Programs Within the Courts Can Have on Individuals' Lives

Success Stories

Next Steps

- Implementation of RANT screening tool
- Narcan distribution/training to all participants' families
- Contract with a peer support specialist to work with case managers and provide support for those participants suffering from OUD
- Continue to enhance and streamline information sharing among all collaborators

Challenges

- Expanding to serve more participants who suffer from OUD
 - Two-year prison sentence required
 - Mentoring challenges with participants who suffer from OUD
- Communication sharing among court team and community service providers
 - HIPPA/communication issues
 - Gathering and sharing all relevant participant information and treatment from Intercepts 3 to 5 to ensure continuum of care
- Set-backs/missing appointments/manipulating MAT services appointment to allow intermittent drug use
- Post-release Medicaid/insurance/out-of-pocket cost issues
- COVID-19
 - Court closures/no monthly docket day
 - No new potential participants
 - No transfers from local Parish jail to DOC

Questions?

Contact Information

For any follow-up questions, please contact Lindsay Jay Jeffrey at ljeffrey@criminalcourt.org

<https://cossapresources.org/Program/TTA>

The screenshot displays the website's navigation bar with the following elements:

- Logo: BJA's Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program
- Search: A search bar with the text "SEARCH".
- Menu Items: COSSAP GRANT PROGRAM, LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES, AREAS OF FOCUS, PUBLICATIONS & DIGITAL MEDIA, and a highlighted button for PDMP TTAC.

The main content area is titled "TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE".

The first section contains the following text:

The COSSAP training and technical assistance program offers a variety of learning opportunities and assistance to support BJA COSSAP grantees and other local, tribal, and state stakeholders to build and sustain multidisciplinary criminal justice responses to illicit substance use and misuse.

Below this text is a blue button labeled "REQUEST TTA".

The second section contains the following text:

Training and technical assistance is provided in a variety of formats, including virtual and in-person training events, workshop and meeting presentations, and online resources.

The third section is titled "The COSSAP TTA Program supports communities by:" and lists the following bullet points:

- Facilitating peer-to-peer learning opportunities in which communities can learn from experienced programs through virtual consultations and on-site visits.
- Providing speakers for conferences and workshops or skilled subject-matter experts for training events to educate stakeholders and build capacity.
- Facilitating strategic and cross-system planning to identify community resources, establish priorities, and develop a road map to achieving goals.
- Identifying materials such as policies and procedures, guidelines, and data sharing agreements that support program activities.
- Supporting PDMPs by increasing PDMP efficiencies and facilitating coordination between PDMPs and state and national stakeholders.



BJA's

Comprehensive
Opioid, Stimulant,
and Substance Abuse
Program