



NEWSLETTER

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Florida Association of Drug Court Professionals July 2009

Dear FADCP Members:

It has been a very busy time since our last newsletter. I want to assure you that you have an excellent team of FADCP Board Members working on your behalf. I wish to welcome our newest Board member Judge Deborah White-Labora, 11th Circuit and recognize Jennifer Grandal who will serve as Treasurer.

The Board has formally adopted the FADCP Strategic Plan for 2009-2012. The strategic plan constitutes a "living document" that will be internally reviewed by the FADCP Strategic Committee every six months for timeliness and progress and formally put back before the board (with any amendments) for approval for continuance. In addition, the Board will review the strategy annually for adoption.

The strategic plan is posted on the FADCP website at www.fadcp.org. I wish to thank the FADCP Strategic Committee for all their efforts to produce the strategy. The committee was chaired by Colonel Jim McDonough with the assistance of the Objectives Workgroup comprising: Judge Melanie May, Judge Jack Espinosa, Jr., Director Bill Janes, Jennifer Grandal, Dena Geraghty, Georgina Rullo, and Mike Jewell.

On Friday, May 15th, the 10th Annual Statewide Drug Court Graduation and 20th Anniversary celebration was hosted by the birth place of drug courts, Miami, Florida. This celebration was not only a statewide event, but a national event too, with the "Inaugural National Drug Court Commencement Day" held where drug courts across Florida and the nation held graduations. These wonderful events recognizing the 20th Anniversary were collaboratively coordinated by FADCP, OSCA, NADCP and the Miami-Dade County Drug Court.

Thank you to all that were involved with this amazing celebration that resulted in the State of Florida winning the award for most outstanding recognition of National Drug Court Month!

Legislatively, we had a very successful year. Your FADCP Board hired lobbyist Beth Labasky to assist us with monitoring SB 1726 and HB 7139 which has resulted in \$20 million dollars in stimulus funding over the next two years geared toward expanding post-adjudicatory drug courts. Ms. Labasky hit the ground running and was a strong addition to

our legislative team spearheaded by former board chair Judge Melanie G. May, and Judge Marcia Beach of the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit who tirelessly walked the halls of our legislative branch on behalf of our drug courts.

In March, we distributed the automated Drug Testing Survey to our drug court coordinators. The results are being compiled by Jill Ibel from Judge Espinosa's court in the 13th Judicial Circuit. The findings will be released during the summer but by all accounts the preliminary data is showing interesting trends.

We are planning the second distance learning session scheduled for October 21, 2009 featuring Doug Marlowe who will present sustainability issues and risk assessment strategies to improve the effectiveness of your drug court during budgetary constraints. More information to follow in the coming weeks.

Included in this publication is the individual FADCP membership form for the 2009-2010 term if you wish to re-join at this time. The organizational membership form can be accessed on the FADCP website at www.fadcp.org. We will start our membership drive in July via e-mail to all of our members. We appreciate all your support and look forward to another exciting term as we continue to work on initiatives that help support our drug courts.

I hope you will enjoy the hard work and interesting articles placed in this issue of the FADCP Newsletter. Please take the time to submit some articles for consideration, and send them to our Executive Director, Eve Janocko at evejanocko@aol.com. Collectively, we can ensure that drug courts stay in the forefront and are recognized as vital programs that make a difference, save money and restore lives. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact me at 954-831-3576.

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Orloff". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish at the bottom.

Florida Association of Drug Court Professionals Newsletter

July 2009

A BANNER YEAR FOR FLORIDA'S DRUG COURTS

By Judge Melanie G. May

WOW, what a year! The 2009 Legislative Session resulted in the passage of SB 1726. In a nutshell, the bill expands pre-trial drug court eligibility to non-violent, third degree and other non-forcible felonies, when the offender has a verified substance abuse problem. It increases the target population for drug offender probation, expands the use of post-adjudicatory drug courts, adds substance abuse back into mitigating factors for downward departures under limited conditions, expands the sentencing points for mandatory prison from 44 to 52, and provides for certain probation violators to be placed in post-adjudicatory drug courts. Perhaps most importantly, it also provides for over \$20 million dollars in stimulus funds over the next two years to implement.

This amazing outcome is due to the hard work and advocacy of Representative Sandy Adams and Senator Victor Crist and their staffs, who worked tirelessly to craft this legislation. Thanks to all of you who got behind this initiative and made your voices heard. A very special thank you goes to Judge Marcia Beach, who traveled to Tallahassee multiple times in support of the legislation. Please let them know how much we appreciate their advocacy and support.

In more detail, SB 1726:

1. Amends section 397.334, Fla. Stat., to:
 - A. Include factors that must be considered for placement of offenders in post-adjudicatory drug court, including an assessment of the defendant's criminal history, substance abuse screening outcome, amenability to the services of the program, total sentence points, the recommendation of the State Attorney and Victim, if any; and the defendant's agreement to enter the program.
 - B. Require persons in post-adjudicatory drug court who violate probation through a failed drug test to be handled by the drug court judge.
 - C. Require each circuit to report client-level and programmatic data. Client level data includes treatment compliance, completion status and reasons for failure to complete, offenses committed during treatment and sanctions imposed, frequency of court appearances, and units of service. Programmatic data includes referral and screening procedures, eligibility criteria, type and duration of treatment offered, and residential treatment resources.
2. Amends Section 921.0026, Fla. Stat., to allow a downward departure from the lowest permissible sentence to include third degree, non-violent and other non-forcible felonies for offenders with up to 52 points to a post-adjudicatory drug court, if amenable.
3. Amends section 948.01, Fla. Stat., to allow the sentencing court to place a defendant, charged with a non-violent third degree or other non-forcible felony and scoring up to 52 points, on probation or community control with the special condition of participation in post-adjudicatory drug court as long as the offender is in agreement.

4. Amends section 948.06, Fla. Stat., to allow the court to order a defendant into a post-adjudicatory drug court on a violation of probation or community control if the defendant:

- Fails a drug test
- Scores under 52 points
- Has an underlying non-violent third degree or other non-forcible felony
- Is amenable to post-adjudicatory drug court
- Is transferred to drug court for monitoring

5. Amends section 948.08, Fla. Stat., to include expansion of adult pretrial diversion drug courts to include non-violent third degree felonies and is identified as having substance abuse problem. It deleted the exclusion for those who had participated in prior PTI programs.

6. Amends section 948.20, Fla. Stat., to allow defendants with non-violent third degree felonies or other non-forcible felonies, who score under 52 points to be placed on drug offender probation.

7. Requires the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to evaluate the effectiveness of post-adjudicatory drug courts and issue a report of its findings to the Legislature by October 1, 2010.

The following amounts were appropriated from stimulus funding to expand drug courts over the next two years:

- \$1,500,000 - State Attorneys to assist with additional workload;
- \$750,000 - Public Defenders to assist with additional workload;
- \$825,000 - OSCA for the administration and data collection;
- \$175,000 - OSCA for the administration and data collection;
- \$17,633,233 – Case management, drug testing, and drug treatment services

A Drug Court Expansion Funding Workgroup spearheaded by the OSCA and FADCP with key stakeholders are developing the plan that will be presented to the Legislative Budget Commission in August. The workgroup has identified prison admissions and the willingness and ability of existing drug courts to handle the expansion as the main criteria for targeting counties to expand their drug courts. Drug courts will target prison bound offenders and divert them from prison into post-adjudicatory drug court. The goal is to divert a minimum of 1,600 offenders from prison and thereby save the building and operational costs of a prison (approximately \$100 million to build and \$32 million a year to operate). If this can be accomplished, we are hopeful that the legislature will restore lost general revenue monies in the coming years by reallocating these saved funds to drug courts. As the plan materializes, we will keep you informed.

It is our opportunity to shine. We must be successful and we will be. This should be one of final steps in our efforts to institutionalize drug courts in the State of Florida and to provide a stable funding source.

Founding Member Retires
By Michael Jewell
Drug Court Program Manager
7th Judicial Circuit

The Florida Association of Drug Court Professionals (FADCP) regrettably announces the retirement of one of our founding members, Marty Epstein. In addition to all of the work he did locally in the establishment and development of a drug court program in Palm Beach County, in 2001 he participated in the drafting of the initial Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws for FADCP. Marty was one of the originals that pitched in \$100 of personal funds to jump start the association's treasury. In addition to serving on the Board since the beginning, he also led FADCP as the Chair for two years 2004-2005. He even traveled to South America to help spread the drug court movement to other nations.

More recently, following her prolonged illness, his wife Alice passed away. Due to health concerns of his own, Marty has recently announced his resignation from the FADCP Board. The association has come a long way since inception and Marty has made significant contributions along the way. We will surely miss his contributions, his wit and his laughter. His heart for drug court is like that of the many dedicated drug court professionals with whom we are privileged to serve. Marty's resignation message included the following sentiments:

"I want to wish FADCP the greatest successes I could and hope that someone out there understands how truly successful drug courts are in this country and around the world, all under the leadership of FADCP, its untiring board and its very faithful members."

Thank you Marty – We will miss you!

Drug Courts Celebrate 20th Anniversary
By Aaron Gerson, Senior Court Analyst II, OSCA

The 10th Annual Statewide Drug Court Graduation was held **Friday, May 15, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. EDT**. This year's statewide graduation was special in that it marks the 20th anniversary of drug courts. The graduation ceremony was hosted by Miami-Dade County, the birthplace of drug courts. Exciting plans were developed for this year's special graduation ceremony.

In celebration of the 20th anniversary of drug courts, various dignitaries attended this year's historic event. Chief Justice Peggy Quince and General Barry McCaffrey were keynote speakers. The National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) partnered with Florida to help coordinate the anniversary and statewide graduation by assisting with securing the attendance and participation of national dignitaries. The NADCP coordinated a national press conference on the steps of the Miami-Dade County courthouse the morning of the event. They encouraged drug courts across the country to host graduation ceremonies on May 15th to help promote drug courts nationally and to celebrate the 20th anniversary of drug courts marking the inaugural National Drug Court Commencement Day.

Proclamations were signed by Governor Crist and Chief Justice Quince in honor of National Drug Court Month in May, with a special recognition of the 20th anniversary of drug courts. The proclamations were presented at the statewide graduation.

The statewide graduation was broadcast live on the Internet. You may still view the event at <http://www.jud11.flcourts.org>. Please take some time to view the event, several drug court graduates spoke during the ceremony telling their inspiring stories which confirms that drug courts save lives and the work we do as professionals really makes a difference.



Judge (ret.) Jeffrey Rosinek



General (ret.) Barry McCaffrey

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10th Annual Statewide Drug Court Graduation and 20th Anniversary Celebration



West Huddleston, CEO, NADCP,
Judges Deborah White-Labora and Jeffrey Rosinek
Presentation of Award from Office of Justice Programs



Judge Jeri Cohen, Chief Justice Peggy Quince,
General Barry McCaffrey, Judge Jeffrey Rosinek,
Judge William Johnson

Lee County 20th Judicial Circuit Family Dependency Drug Court, May 18th



Back: Candice Johnson, Judge James Seals, Ashley Woosley.
Front: Brandi Greer (graduate) and her son Nehemiah

20th Drug Court Anniversary Celebration is a Triumph!
Florida Wins National Drug Court Month Award
By Eve Janocko, FADCP Executive Director

The coordination of the 10th Annual Statewide Drug Court Graduation and 20th Anniversary Celebration hoisted Florida to win the National Association of Drug Court Professionals' (NADCP) award for outstanding recognition of National Drug Court Month. The events would not have been possible without the collaboration of the Miami-Dade County Drug Court, the Office of the State Courts Administrator, the Florida Association of Drug Court Professionals (FADCP), the NADCP and all of our drug courts statewide who held graduations and issued proclamations. Congratulations to Florida's drug courts!

After months of planning the stage was set on the morning of May 15th on the steps of the Miami-Dade County Courthouse to kick-off the 20th Anniversary Celebration of Drug Courts. Over 100 people attended the press conference. Judges were in their robes, police and correctional officers were in uniform, and doctors were in their white medical coats adorning the backdrop of the podium. Judge Deborah White-Labora, Adult Drug Court Judge for Miami-Dade County was the Master of Ceremony. She kicked off the press conference on a beautiful, sunny morning. Next, the mayor of Miami, Manny Diaz welcomed attendees to his beautiful city and presented a proclamation declaring May 15th as "Drug Court Day" in Miami. West Huddleston, the chief executive officer of the NADCP addressed the crowd with his vision for drug courts at the national level and then had the pleasure of introducing General (ret.) Barry McCaffrey who provided remarks about the efficacy of drug courts. The crowd was treated to a blast from the past when former Judge Herbert Klein, the founder of the drug court concept gave his remarks on how profound drug courts are in helping citizens get their lives back and on track. Judge Gisele Pollack, the chair of FADCP gave welcoming remarks and had the pleasure of introducing two remarkable graduates, Bobby Robinson and David Markus who gave stirring accounts of their past struggles with drug addiction and how drug courts saved their lives.

At the conclusion of the press conference, the crowd walked to the Stephen P. Clark Center to attend the 10th Annual Statewide Drug Court Graduation hosted by the Miami-Dade County Drug Court. Judges Deborah White-Labora and Jeffrey Rosinek served as masters of ceremony. May 15th was declared "National Drug Court Commencement Day" by the NADCP, and drug courts across the nation were encouraged to hold local graduations in unison. The statewide graduation ceremony was webcast live for the nation to view. Chief Justice Peggy Quince and General Barry McCaffrey were keynote speakers. Bill Janes, the director of the Florida Office of Drug Control, West Huddleston, and Judge Gisele Pollack provided remarks. Chief Justice Quince and Director Janes presented the proclamations declaring May as "National Drug Court Month" in Florida. Miami-Dade County was presented with a plaque from the Office of Justice Programs for their contribution to the drug court movement which has grown from the first in Miami to over 2,300 worldwide.

A 15 minute video on the history of Miami-Dade County's Drug Court was shown. The emotional impact of the video was phenomenal as it showed vintage footage of Judge Stanley Goldstein the first drug court judge in history. The video was comprehensive and followed the 20 years of drug court progress.

The most significant part of the event was the graduation ceremony. Judge Jeri B. Cohen, the Family Dependency Drug Court Judge in the 11th Circuit provided the audience with remarks that focused on how drug courts expanded from adult into the family and juvenile divisions with Miami-Dade being one of the first drug courts in the nation to implement these courts. The success Miami-Dade County has had in family

and juvenile courts is a testament to the community partnerships that have been forged to bring together services and resources for these programs.

Several graduates addressed the audience telling their compelling stories about their struggles and how drug court was the saving grace that took them away from the chains of substance abuse and gave them back their freedom to live their life again. The important message imparted by the graduate speakers to the graduates in the audience was the importance of embracing recovery each day asking yourself, “What will you do today to support your recovery?” It is a lifelong recovery process not just ending today with the graduation ceremony. This same message was echoed by General McCaffrey in his remarks. The graduate speakers were poised in their remarks as they were before many dignitaries including former Governor Jeb Bush, Colonel Jim McDonough, and Judge Melanie May to name a few.

Next, the founders of drug court were recognized by Judge Jeffrey Rosinek. These founders include Judges Wetherington and Klein, Judge Goldstein’s widow, Vaughn Rae Goldstein, Katherine Fernandez Rundle and Bennett Brummer. They had the foresight 20 years ago to address the problem of substance abuse addiction by thinking outside the judicial box to formulate the drug court concept which has had one of the most profound impacts on the justice system.

The graduation ceremony concluded with Judge White-Labora thanking those who helped coordinate the events. For the next week, the May 15th events received strong press coverage thanks to the press plan developed with the guidance of Colonel Jim McDonough and Chris Deutsch with the NADCP. There were 33 drug court graduations held in Florida on May 15th with 235 graduates completing drug court. Almost all the states held graduations or celebrated drug courts on May 15th making it a united effort.

Aaron Gerson with the OSCA submitted the events held on May 15th for the NADCP’s consideration for the National Drug Court Month Award. Judge Pollack and her Judicial Assistant, Victoria Cruz attended the NADCP conference in Anaheim. They created the display table to showcase Florida’s drug courts and the combined efforts to recognize and celebrate drug courts on the 20th anniversary. The glitzy display board sealed the deal for Florida as it took home the national award for best recognition of National Drug Court Month.

The 10th Annual Statewide Drug Court Graduation and 20th Anniversary Celebration could not have been successful or possible without the efforts of the following for which the FADCP is forever grateful for their input, creativity, expertise and countless hours of dedication to the events:

Miami-Dade County, 11th Judicial Circuit: Judge Deborah White-Labora, Judge Jeffrey Rosinek, Sharon Abrams, Eunice Sigler, Sandy Lonergan, Diana Diaz, Thomas Luis, and Sonia Agostini

Office of the State Courts Administrator: Jennifer Grandal and Aaron Gerson

National Association of Drug Court Professionals: West Huddleston and Chris Deutsch

Florida Association of Drug Court Professionals: Judge Gisele Pollack, Jim McDonough, and Frank Rabbito

All of the Florida drug courts that participated in the statewide graduation.

The hard work and dedication of many drug court professionals helped Florida win the national award.

National Drug Court Month Award Presentation
“Florida Wins”
NADCP Annual Training Conference
Anaheim, CA
Saturday, June 13, 2009



Judge (ret.) Jeffrey Rosinek, Judge Deborah White-Labora
 Judge Gisele Pollack, Judge William Ray Price, Jr.,
 and West Huddleston



Akilah Bain, Judge (ret.) Jeffrey Rosinek,
 Judge Deborah White-Labora,
 Judge Gisele Pollack, and
 Judge William Ray Price, Jr.



Chris Deutsch (NADCP), Miami-Dade County Drug Court Team: Vandilla McClendon, Sandra Lonergan,
 Sonia Agostini, Diana Diaz, Alexandra Planes, Juan Guelmes, Thomas Luis, Akilah Bain, Judge (ret.)
 Jeffery Rosinek, Judge White-Labora, Judge Gisele Pollack, Judge William Ray Price, Jr., and West
 Huddleston

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT MISDEMEANOR DRUG COURT By Judge Gisele Pollack

Judge Gisele Pollack completed some research regarding recidivism rates of the Broward County Misdemeanor Drug Court Program (MDCP). For a six month period January through June of 2007, 110 eligible participants of the MDCP chose not to participate and elected disposition of their qualifying charges in the traditional adversarial system. January 5, 2009, a year and a half to two years later, 14 of these opt-outs were arrested and charged with felony offenses filed upon by the State Attorney's Office, a recidivism rate of 13%.

For that same period January through June of 2007, 214 MDCP graduates were analyzed for arrest history subsequent to graduation from the MDCP. As of January 5, 2009, 12 out of 214 were arrested and charged with felony offenses filed upon by the State Attorney's Office, a recidivism rate of 5%.

The MDCP team is extremely proud of these results. Comparing the rates of recidivism for opt-outs and graduates, felony as a second arrest for the population served in the MDCP was reduced 62%. A pre-conference session Wednesday, June 10, 2009 from 2:00-5:00 p.m. entitled **"Building Interventions for Marijuana Dependant Young Adults in Drug Court"** at the 15th Annual NADCP Training Conference in Anaheim, CA June 10-13, 2009, will include a presentation on the MDCP.

Judge Pollack welcomes any jurisdictions to contact her regarding the MDCP program. She can be reached at 954-831-3576 or jpollack@17th.flcourts.org

Basic Assumptions in Substance Treatment

Michael E. Hayes, PhD, LCSW
Clinical Supervisor and Treatment Manager
16th Judicial Circuit Drug Courts
Monroe County, Florida

Years ago describing a clinician as ‘eclectic’ was like labeling a therapist ‘a jack of all trades and master of none;’ it was not always a compliment. Over the years the term has been used in a kinder and gentler manner. Clinicians need multiple techniques since problems and people differ, but the building blocks of treatment, regardless as to which theory a person may subscribe, have a consistency, especially in treating addiction.

In working with new and old clinicians I have presented these consistencies as building blocks that can be viewed as *categorical imperatives* in doing treatment; especially substance abuse treatment. They form the basis of a clinician’s thinking about clients and they are the basis of their interventions. They are basic assumptions about behavior and addiction.

The first is that *all behavior is purposeful* and that an individual does something for a reason. At times it can be difficult to grasp the reason or purpose of the behavior, but that does not mean that there is no purpose.

By purpose it is meant that there is an anticipated benefit to the behavior from the perspective of the actor. The benefit can either be a direct positive payoff or indirectly, by behaving in a particular manner there is something else, less pleasing, that you do not have to do.

In situations in which there is either no benefit or an unwanted or negative outcome, then the behavior ceases. An individual does not put his finger in an electrical outlet more than once unless he enjoys the pain. This is simple reinforcement theory. The difficulty for the clinician is remembering that the short-term benefit may outweigh the more logical long-term consequence of the behavior.

The act of using mind-altering substances is also purposeful behavior. This is the second assumption: *using is a problem-solving response* that is chosen in the hope of achieving a positive outcome to a specific problem. The problem or the target of the behavior can range from facilitating a social situation to avoiding the emotional pain of trauma.

When we speak of addiction as a disease or a genetic pre-disposition, we are not speaking about the purpose of the response, but about the neurochemical influence that such a pre-disposition has in stopping the behavior.

Following from the above assumption is that if you do not know, or understand, what the problem is, anticipating it or solving it is extremely difficult. Both the onset and the response become random acts which are difficult to predict and to replicate. Therefore the third imperative is, *for an individual to stop using, he needs to understand how come he uses*. This focuses on that before an alternative behavioral strategy is employed to resolve the immediate problem, the person needs a deeper understanding what the problem is, under what conditions does it occur, as well as the circumstances that exacerbate the problem.

Addiction is a problem-solving response and this leads to the fourth categorical imperative: *it is a strategy to negate feelings of powerlessness.*

Powerlessness appears to be experienced in five generic forms, these are: abuse issues (physical, sexual and emotional); loss due to death; abandonment, both physical and emotional; betrayal which is emotional abandonment; and neglect. Therefore, to get high is not an attempt to change who you are, but to change how you feel about whom you are or, in the short run, just how you are feeling.

The fifth imperative therefore is *if using is rejection of self, then recovery is acceptance of self.* It also can be said that using is a lazy person's strategy of change; a way to achieve change with little effort and without doing the work. It is emotionally safe since it mutes, or stuffs, the feelings associate with the issue.

There is a definite relationship between feelings and using which can be phrased as the next imperative: *Feelings fuel cravings.* This implies that learning new methods to recognize and respond to feelings will be critical in managing cravings and maintaining abstinence. From this perspective cravings can be viewed as 'an early warning sign' that there is something in a person's life that is not being addressed and that needs to be.

These "categorical imperatives" form the basic tenets of substance treatment and they attempt to concisely outline clinical building blocks for the counselor. Although they can be found in almost every theory of treatment, they are generic. They speak directly to the manner by which clinicians think about what they think about when thinking about treatment. They are the assumptions which not only inform how clinicians think about treatment, but also direct how they do what they do.

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Circuit 17 and Broward Reentry Coalition Assists Family in Need **By Stephanie Symons, CPS Circuit Program Supervisor**

On December 22, 2008 Allison Brooks CPSO spoke with one of her drug court clients and determined the family had no food and was in dire need due to the recent surgery of the offender's mother. The client is unemployed and has two children and she had no Christmas presents for them. Officer Brooks was able to locate some wrapped presents for the family but was still concerned that they had no food. Officer Brooks called Circuit Program Supervisor Stephanie Symons. The request for assistance was sent to Mr. Thomas S. Lanahan, Chairperson of the Broward Reentry Coalition. The Broward Reentry Coalition has been active in this community for several years and has formed partnerships with multiple agencies and individuals that provide services for our offenders. Mr. Lanahan was also appointed to the Florida Department of Corrections Advisory Committee for Re-Entry. Mr. Lanahan requested assistance from all members of the Broward Reentry Coalition and a message was sent to the members by Communication Director, Mary Jo Williamson, who is employed by Broward Sheriff's Office. The following two days Mr. Lanahan and CPS Symons communicated with several agencies. The timing was critical as our office was closed on Christmas day. Mr. Lanahan visited the family twice before Christmas and provided the following donations:

- Approximately 200 pounds of canned goods and a Turkey
- 6 large bags of miscellaneous toys both wrapped, and unwrapped
- 1 large bag of new clothing

The following Organizations provided support:

Lauderhill Police Department

Broward Sheriff's Office - Department of Community Control Administration

Broward Partnership for the Homeless

Positive Images

Additionally Mr. Lanahan in his capacity as Community Job Development Coordinator for the Broward Sheriff's Office Department has located an employment possibility for the offender which is only two blocks from her home. Information regarding resources available to assist with the mother's illness was also provided by various coalition members. Community partnerships may be used to the benefit of our offenders and their

families. The Broward Reentry Coalition is a wonderful resource for our offenders as well as a conduit for the sharing of information. I would like to extend sincere thanks to all of the individuals and organizations that

assisted this family in their time of need.

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Submitted By Georgina Rullo
6th Judicial Circuit

Seeking Safety: A Treatment Manual for PTSD and Substance Abuse*

Author: Lisa Najavits

Introduction for Potential Clients:

What is Seeking Safety? 25 Topics utilized in group setting

The Seeking Safety program was made to help people with substance abuse and trauma. Some people develop posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) as a result of their trauma. You will learn more about this while participating in this program. Trauma means that a person has suffered a severe life event, such as physical or sexual abuse, a car accident or a hurricane. Many men and women who abuse substances have experienced trauma.

Why is it Called Seeking Safety?

The number one goal of the program is to help you become safe. Safety includes:

- Manage trauma symptoms (such as flashbacks, nightmares, and negative feelings).
- Cope with life without using substances.
- Take good care of yourself (getting regular medical exams, eating well).
- Find safe people who can be supportive to you.
- Free yourself from domestic violence or other current abusive relationships.
- Prevent self-destructive acts (such as cutting, suicidal impulses and unsafe sex)
- Find ways to feel good about yourself and to enjoy life.

Finding Self-Respect

Many people who have PTSD and substance abuse-especially if these have gone on for a long time-find it hard to like themselves.

- You may feel that you've never gotten to know yourself or,
- You may feel that you've lost yourself along the way
- This program tries to help you understand yourself and develop coping skills and the ability to respect yourself.

Introduction for Service Providers:

Providers must recognize the importance of treating substance use and trauma simultaneously:

- **"No Wrong Door"** -- Important to treat trauma in substance abuse settings
- **"Don't ask and they won't tell"**--Important to actively screen for trauma

The manual consists of 25 topics and any or all of the topics may be used in group or individual sessions. For example: a four week outpatient program may choose four topics for group administration; a six month residential program may administer all of the topics. Which topics to administer and the decision to use in individual or group are flexible, and should be adapted to the needs of the population served. However, as

with other evidence based practices, the topic format must be adhered to. Seeking Safety is delivered in a manner that is consistent with Motivational Interviewing. Participants do not need to meet criteria for PTSD or substance use disorders. Substance abuse and trauma are diseases of ideals and one goal of Seeking Safety is to restore ideals to clients.

Quotations are used in each topic. A quotation from Seeking Safety:

The past isn't dead--it isn't even past."

William Faulkner

As Faulkner suggests the trauma lives on, even years after the event.

Seeking Safety may be administered to men or women or adolescents. Groups may be mixed gender but this is not recommended. Clients usually find Seeking Safety helpful. The safe coping skills and other skill building tools are practical and easily adapted.

Key Principles:

- Safety-as the goal for first stage treatment
- Integrated tx- treat both disorders at the same time
- Focus on ideals to counteract the loss of ideals in both PTSD and SA
- 4 content areas: cognitive, behavioral, interpersonal, case management
- Attention to counselor/group leader process: balance praise and accountability; be aware of counter transference and self care.

*Evidenced Based Formula must be carried out as written.

Submitted by Georgina Rullo
6th Judicial Circuit

Grant-Funded Program to Develop Treatment
For Women's Prescription Drug Addictions

CLEARWATER – Following a recent award of \$900,000, a multi-agency coalition committed to addressing the skyrocketing substance abuse epidemic in Pinellas County will unite to combat the growing problem of prescription drug abuse. As the Sixth Judicial Circuit reconvenes in 2009, female Pinellas County Drug Court defendants will become the first participants in a challenging intensive outpatient treatment program.

Annually, for the next three years, 70 female drug court offenders will have the opportunity to participate in a nationally recognized treatment model to enhance client's motivation for change. The grant – \$300,000 for each of the three years – is from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, a federal regulatory agency that operates under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. To be managed by Pinellas County Drug Court, the program will feature court-supervised, comprehensive treatment for eligible non-violent felony offenders.

Why only women? The National Office of Drug Control Policy reveals that females are at particular risk for prescription drug abuse, with higher rates of abuse among teen girls, more emergency room visits among young women, and higher rates of treatment admissions for dependence on some prescription drugs among females (ONDCP, 2007). This disturbing new trend runs counter to traditional drug use patterns, where males have typically exceeded females.

Beginning her third year presiding as Drug Court Judge, Dee Anna Farnell said the need for new treatment methods has become apparent by the number of women who are being arrested or dying as a result of prescription drug abuse. "In just the past 60 days, at least five active drug court offenders have died from reckless abuse of prescribed drugs such as Oxycontin." According to a St. Petersburg Times special report (February 17, 2008), "prescription painkillers and anti-anxiety drugs now kill about 500 people a year in the Tampa Bay area, triple the number killed by illegal drugs such as cocaine and heroine. The Florida Office of Drug Control reports that the problem is so severe in the Tampa Bay area that the number of deaths per capita is nearly 70% higher than it is in the state. Police report a surge in prescription drug related crimes, including doctor shopping, prescription fraud and pharmacy robbery.



Judge Dee Anna Farnell

Judge Farnell advocates for a 21st century model of treatment courts. "In many cases, more than traditional Drug Court treatment is necessary. Emotional and mental problems are the underlying cause of the addiction, and we want to address these issues with a more comprehensive, evidence-based treatment."

The program will seek to match or surpass current Adult Drug Court success rates, which traditionally exceed statewide success rates. In the most recent fiscal year, 87% of Drug Court graduates remained arrest free one year after program completion.

Judge Farnell said she will encourage new female Drug Court clients to enter the new program if they are abusing prescription drugs, have mild to moderate mental health diagnoses, and are evaluated for intensive outpatient treatment.

Judge Farnell pointed out that “The project was developed with the ever-growing cooperation and consensus-building of the Pinellas County partnership that has made Drug Court a success.” Drug Court operates with input from team members representing the State Attorney, Public Defender, Department of Corrections and various substance abuse treatment providers.

Three vitally important agencies– Operation PAR, WestCare GulfCoast-Florida and the University of South Florida’s Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute (FMHI) – advocated for the treatment model that will focus on the client’s motivation for change and the enhancement of coping skills for dealing with traumas that the clients may face with abuse of prescription drugs. Judge Farnell said one goal of the program is to develop uniform Drug Court treatment and administrative procedures for dealing with prescription drug offenders. Other objectives include:

- 1) Increasing Pinellas Drug Court’s capacity to serve women in gender-specific, culturally-appropriate environments;
- 2) Utilizing a standardized screening assessment to accurately identify co-occurring disorders and trauma;
- 3) Putting evidence-based treatment into operation;
- 4) Screening for prescription drug abuse.

Participation in this – and all Drug Court programs – will be voluntary for defendants in pre-trial intervention, post-plea, and post-adjudication or probation violation stages of the court process. First-time, pre-trial defendants who enter Adult Drug Court may have charges against them dismissed after successful completion of the program. For defendants under supervision of the State Department of Corrections (post-plea drug court), successful completion results in a withhold of adjudication, and/or a reduced length of probation.

Like other Drug Court programs, the Collaborative treatment will involve monthly court appearances before Judge Farnell and weekly urinalysis screenings. Operation PAR will provide the treatment for North Pinellas residents who enter the program, and WestCare will be the provider for South Pinellas residents.

The 12-session program monitored under the guidance of FMHI is known as MET/CBT 12 for Motivational Enhancement Therapy/Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. It begins with an intensive assessment designed to determine individual needs and specific challenges unique to each client. At this point, counselors will also identify any history of mental health conditions or traumas that may need to be explored in treatment.

The first participants in the Collaborative may be selected at about the same time as the Florida Office of Drug Control comes to Pinellas County for a Statewide Awareness Day (Jan. 6) seminar on the prescription drug epidemic. That discussion, scheduled from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the St. Petersburg College Epi-Center, is for law enforcement, court officials, treatment facilities and anyone else with a stake in the problems associated with prescription drug abuse.

Allyson Adolphson of the State Office of Drug Control said the purpose of the seminar is get all stakeholders in line with an effort aimed at passage of a “prescription drug monitoring program” during the 2009 legislative session.

In addition to being given a chance to graduate from Drug Court and become productive, drug-free members of the community, the first participants will be challenged to generate an appropriate name for the program; something more representative than Pinellas County Adult Drug Court Collaborative.

Developing a group name will be part of their treatment, and Judge Farnell says, “We want them to come up with a name that represents the treatment. Something that is transformative and empowering.”

6th Circuit Drug Court Food Drive



Judge Farnell

The 6th Judicial circuit sponsored a food drive for the food pantry center in Clearwater. The food was brought in by drug court staff, colleagues alike, and the clients and family’s who participate in Drug Court. The food drive was conducted in December 2008.

Florida Association of Drug Court Professionals Newsletter

July 2009

Meeting Notes FADCP General Membership Meeting
Anaheim, California, NADCP Conference, June 11, 2009
By Judge Gisele Pollack

Started 6:35 p.m. and ended 7:10 p.m.
15 members in attendance

Also, in attendance and introduced was Austine M. Long, J.D., Project Director of Adult and Family Technical Assistance, our Florida representative/liaison with NDCI along@ndci.org 703-575-9400 x30

Judge Pollack announced the Executive Committee approval and the newly constituted FADCP Board members for 2009-2010. Judge Pollack noted the subsequent resignation of Marty Epstein and Frederick Longmire from the Board, and the change from Jim Santangelo to Jennifer Grandal as Treasurer of the Board.

Treasurer's Report: Current balance is \$30,981.16 (including \$6,807.87 for training).

Overview of 2009 Legislation (as outlined in agenda item 5 of the Board meeting held on May 13, 2009). Questions were asked regarding which circuits will receive funding and which circuit data reporting would apply. Circuits will be determined based on criteria determined by the Drug Court Funding Expansion Workgroup. One important criterion will be number of prison admissions. Judge Pollack announced composition of working group membership, with assurance that membership did not include a judge with a drug court.

The next distance learning session will be funded by NDCI through BJA funds. The session will be held in October 2009 with Doug Marlowe presenting on "Sustainability" and how to use evidence based practices to match clients in drug court to the most effective and cost-efficient interventions.

The FADCP three year Strategic Plan is being finalized and will be distributed to membership.

National Drug Court Month: Highlights given regarding the 10th Annual Statewide Drug Court Graduation and 20th Anniversary Celebration, including the hard work of the Miami-Dade County Drug Court, OSCA, FADCP, and NADCP.

Drug Testing Survey: March results being compiled for distribution soon.

Membership Update including prize incentives for most memberships by a circuit in 2009-2010, incentives to be determined.

Committees:

Strategic Planning: Lester Bass, Jax, Fl., LBass@coj.net 904-858-1393; and Jeff Rosinek
Funding or wherever needed: Jim Downum downumjw@fljud13.org 813-272-5518
Training: Kendra Branch Kendra.Branch@flsteps.org 321-637-7730 and Dena Geraghty
Newsletter: Vandilla McClendon and Sheree Beau Wells

Other business: Florida hopes to win the National Drug Court Month award.

Subsequent to the meeting on Saturday, June 13th, Florida won the National Drug Court Month award thanks to the efforts of the Miami-Dade County Drug Court, OSCA, FADCP, NADCP and all of our Florida drug courts who held graduations and recognized National Drug Court Month with proclamations. Congratulations to Florida's drug courts!!

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FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF DRUG COURT PROFESSIONALS

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

June 2009 - May 2010

(Tax ID#: 65-1140643)

<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Renewal <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 New <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Bronze <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 Silver <input type="checkbox"/> \$2,500 Gold		
Name:		
Title:		
Organization/Agency:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
County:	Circuit:	
Phone:	Fax:	
Email (required for newsletter and updates):		
As a member of FADCP, I would like to assist with: <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter <input type="checkbox"/> Drug Testing Research <input type="checkbox"/> Memberships <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Issues <input type="checkbox"/> Training <input type="checkbox"/> Bylaws <input type="checkbox"/> Funding <input type="checkbox"/> Other:		
Which category best describes your involvement in Drug Court? <input type="checkbox"/> Judicial Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Defense <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinator <input type="checkbox"/> Treatment <input type="checkbox"/> Probation <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Government <input type="checkbox"/> Planner <input type="checkbox"/> Prosecution <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluator <input type="checkbox"/> Elected Official <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="checkbox"/> Child Welfare Team	Type of Drug Court (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Pretrial <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Post Adjudication <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Pretrial <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Dependency <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Post Adjudication <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	

**Make checks payable to "FADCP" and Mail Registration and Payment to:
Eve Janocko, FADCP Executive Director
136 Garden Gate Drive
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082**

Any Questions? Contact: Eve Janocko (904) 280-4143 (evejanocko@aol.com);
Mike Jewell, Secretary (386) 740-5155 or Judge Giselle Pollack, FADCP Chairperson (954)831-0456

FADCP SNIPPETS

Upcoming Training Opportunities

Criminal Justice Reinvestment Conference

July 23-24, 2009

Contact Lin Rayner, Policy Assistant
Florida Substance Abuse & Mental Health Corporation
850-410-1575

FADAA Annual Conference

August 12-14, 2009

<http://conference.fadaa.org>

Statewide Dependency Summit

August 26-28, 2009

<http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/admin/dependency>

Florida Drug Courts Distance Learning Session

When: October 21st

Presented by: Dr. Doug Marlowe

Topic: Sustainability Issues and Risk Assessment

Host Site: TBD

FADCP Membership Incentives

The Circuit with the most memberships for 2009-2010 will win your coordinator a prize or two. The FADCP is determining what incentives will be given, ideas suggested include gift certificates to restaurants, department stores, movie tickets, etc. The more support we have from you the more we can do to help advance and expand drug courts. If you have any ideas, please contact our Membership Chair, Jane Muir-Isherwood at jane.isherwood@keyscourts.net.

Future FADCP Newsletters

Thank you to all our programs that contributed to our newsletter this edition. This newsletter is far more interesting with all of the segments provided by our programs. Please send Eve Janocko evejanocko@aol.com ideas for the newsletter and articles about your program.