

Treatment Court Data:

How to capture, use it, and engage community partners

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Disclosure

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Agenda

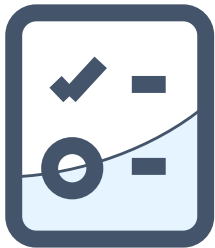
- Survey
- Learning Objectives
- Determining What Method to Use
- Monitoring
- Samples and Templates for Messaging
- External Evaluation
- Q&A

Who's in the room?

Scan code to join the
anonymous poll!



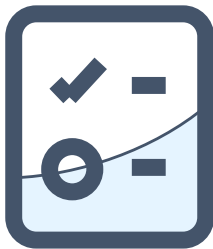
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What is your role on the team?



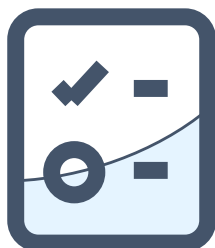
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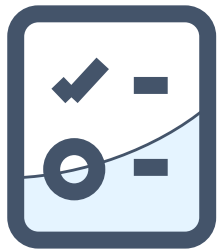
How long have you served in your current role?



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Do you have an electronic case management system for your treatment court?



What programs do you use for visual data (graphs, tables, summary information)?

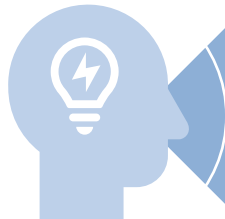
Learning Objectives



Understand data collection, monitoring, and evaluation



Identify ways to utilize data for program improvement and community buy-in



Know what is expected when collaborating with evaluators

Methods

Monitoring

The act of observing and reviewing progress of a program over a period to see if it is achieving its goals.

Evaluation

Using formal methodologies to provide useful empirical evidence about public entities (programs and projects, in decision-making contexts.

Mertens, et al. (2019)

Ask yourself...

WHAT do we need to learn about our program?

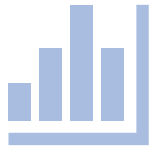
SO, WHAT do we do to accomplish that?

NOW, WHAT do we do with that information?

Mertens, et al. (2019)

Monitoring

Monitoring



Track participant access, recidivism, and unique participant performance measures



Educate team members on **timely** and **accurate** data collection

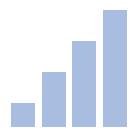


Utilize data for leadership, partners, and community education

Tracking Access



Number of Referred vs Accepted / Denied



Referrals, Acceptances, Denials, and Opt-Outs by demographics, risk/need, and charge



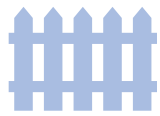
Number of referrals by referral source (defense, supervision, treatment, judge, self)



The time it takes for a referral to enter programming

*Standard X(E) Criminal Recidivism, p. 212 Adult Treatment Court Best Practice Standards

What does Tracking Access Accomplish?



Ensures objective eligibility criteria to prevent gatekeeping and/or disparities



Highlights low referral reasons by source, and incarceration timeframe/screening concerns



Identifies education and training needs and resource limitations/barriers

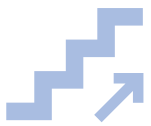
Tracking Recidivism



Track new arrests, charges, convictions, and incarcerations for at least 3 years after graduation (5 years or longer is ideal)



Track in-program recidivism separately



Track by offense **level** (i.e., felony, misdemeanor) and **offense classification** (i.e., drug, OVI, assault, property, theft, etc.)



Track number of jail sanctions given in program



Track peer or mentor support past graduation

*Standard X(E) Criminal Recidivism, p. 212/226 Adult Treatment Court Best Practice Standards

What does Tracking Recidivism Accomplish?



Highlights community safety



Promotes program impact



Helps to identify areas of improvement

Tracking Participant Performance

- ❑ Court attendance
- ❑ Treatment attendance/compliance
- ❑ Test results
- ❑ Sanction, Incentives, and Service Adjustments
- ❑ Medication compliance
- ❑ Housing
- ❑ Employment
- ❑ Education
- ❑ Family reunification
- ❑ Recovery connections and more....

Table 2. Core Dataset of Key Performance Indicators for Evaluating In-Program Outcomes in Treatment Courts

Variable	KPI	Benchmark	Comments
Program completion	Participant completed the program successfully	≥ 60% of participants	Benchmark reflects the national average completion rate in the United States. Excludes participants who received a neutral discharge for reasons unrelated to their performance (e.g., entering military service or leaving the county with the court's permission).
Attendance rates	Percentage of court status hearings, treatment sessions, community supervision sessions, and drug and alcohol tests attended or completed	≥ 75% of sessions or appointments	Calculate separately for different types of services (e.g., court, treatment, supervision, testing). Treatment sessions include CBT counseling focused on teaching prosocial decision-making skills and providing training in adaptive life skills (e.g., vocational training).
Length of stay	Number of days from program entry to completion or discharge	9 to 15 months of substance use, mental health, and complementary treatment services 12 to 18 months of total program enrollment	Treatment services include CBT counseling focused on teaching prosocial decision-making skills and providing training in adaptive life skills (e.g., vocational training). For participants who absconded from the program or are on extended bench warrant, discharge is calculated from the last in-person contact with staff.
Substance use	Percentage of point-in-time positive drug or alcohol tests (e.g., urine, saliva) per month, per phase, and throughout enrollment Number of continuous days without drug or alcohol use for testing procedures that lengthen the time window for detection (e.g., continuous alcohol monitoring devices, sweat patches)	≥ 90 consecutive days of negative drug and alcohol tests prior to completion	Benchmark applies for participants with a substance use disorder or substance involvement. Benchmarks are unavailable for specific phases or time in the program, but rates of positive tests should decline over successive phases or time. Does not include prescribed medications.
Housing	Percentage of participants with unsafe or unstable housing at entry who obtained safe and stable housing by discharge	100%	No specific benchmarks are available, but outcomes are uniformly poor for persons who do not obtain safe and stable housing.

	Benchmark	Comments
its with employment and rent by	≥ 90 days of employment	
its in such	≥ 90 days of enrollment	
lations graph-en- with nlar- is		Exclude infractions covered by other KPIs, including missed appointments and positive drug or alcohol tests. Report separately for in-program vs. postprogram technical violations. No benchmarks are available for technical violations, but the more often they occur, the poorer the long-term outcomes.
ncar- ted		Report separately for in-program vs. postprogram recidivism. Report separately for different KPIs (e.g., arrests or convictions). Classify by offense severity (e.g., felony, misdemeanor, or summary offenses). Classify by offense type (e.g., drug, impaired driving, property, financial, and violent offenses). In programs such as family or juvenile treatment courts, "recidivism" includes new child welfare or juvenile justice petitions. No benchmarks are available for recidivism, but the more often it occurs, the poorer the long-term outcomes.

*Note: Additional information on calculating KPIs for criminal recidivism is provided in the commentary for Provision E.

What does Tracking Participant Performance Accomplish?



Provides a different perspective of success to the team and partners



Shows service gaps/areas needing improvement/areas of success



Provides in-depth and overview reports for different audiences

What can this data look like?



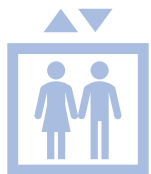
Year in Review (aggregate, de-identified data)



Annual or Quarterly Reports
(quantitative/descriptive statistics)



Participant and graduate testimonials
(qualitative, themes)



Elevator Speeches/Presentations to the
Community

YEAR IN REVIEW

July 1 - June 30, 2024

TEMPLATE FOR AGGREGATE DATA FOR EDUCATION AND PROGRAM PROMOTION



Name of Program
July 1-June 30, 2024



52

Court sessions held



4

Graduations celebrated with the community



8

Families reunited



29

Participants helped to gain full-time employment



12

Participants secured with safe housing



23

Participants regained healing and wellness

85

Successful graduates

3

New employers engaged in hiring program participants

12

Participants assisted with child-care expenses

17

Participants enrolled in job training or higher education

18

Participants helped with civil legal assistance

20

Graduate's cases sealed and dismissed

1,547

Hours of community service by participants

19

Families assisted with food, clothing, or utility assistance

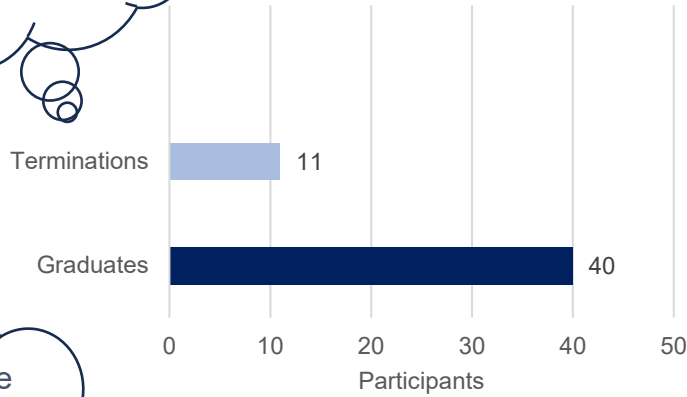
15

Participants received financial coaching

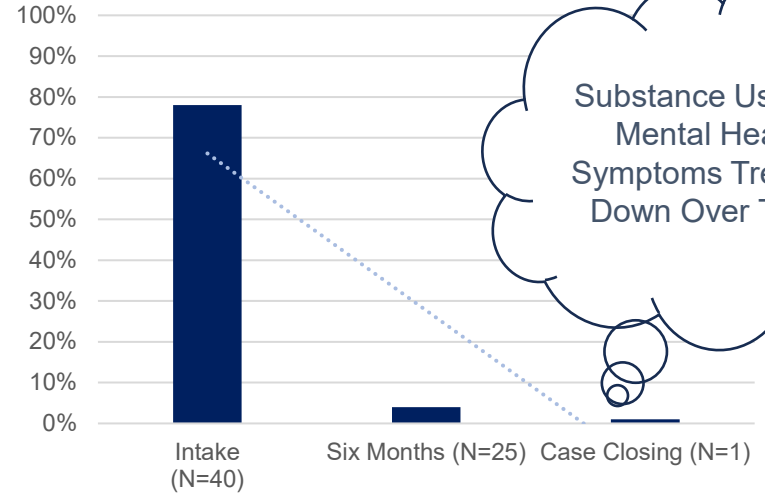
Basic Annual Report

A 78% success rate is great, but should we explore why 11 participants were unsuccessful?

2024 Completion Rates



Substance Use Over 12 months in Program



Substance Use and Mental Health Symptoms Trending Down Over Time!

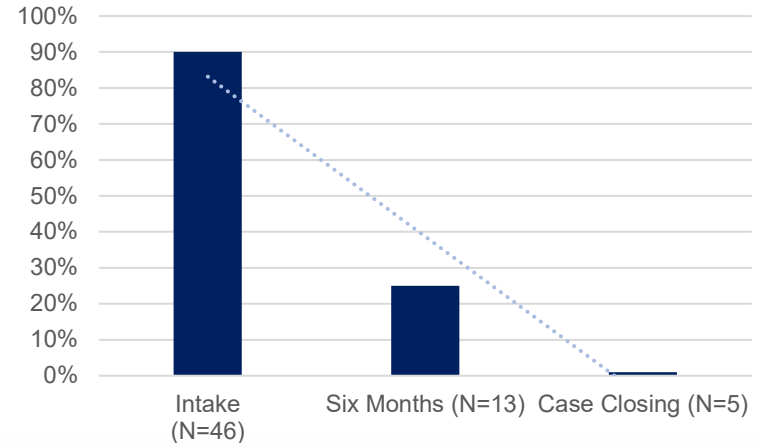
Why are Health Education referrals low?

Referrals to Ancillary Services

- Housing
- Education/Training
- Employment
- Recovery Connections
- Parenting/Life Skills
- Health Education

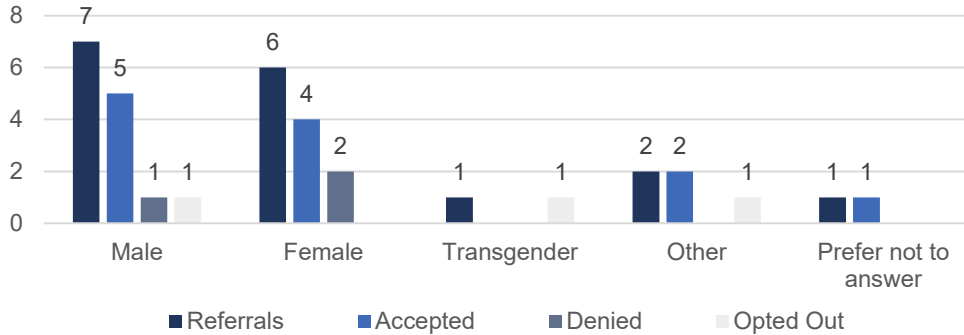


Mental Health Symptoms Over 1 year

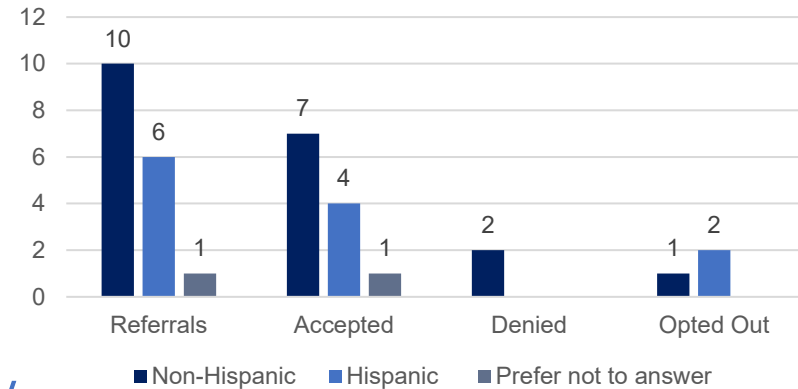


Basic Quarterly Report

Referrals by Gender- 1st Quarter

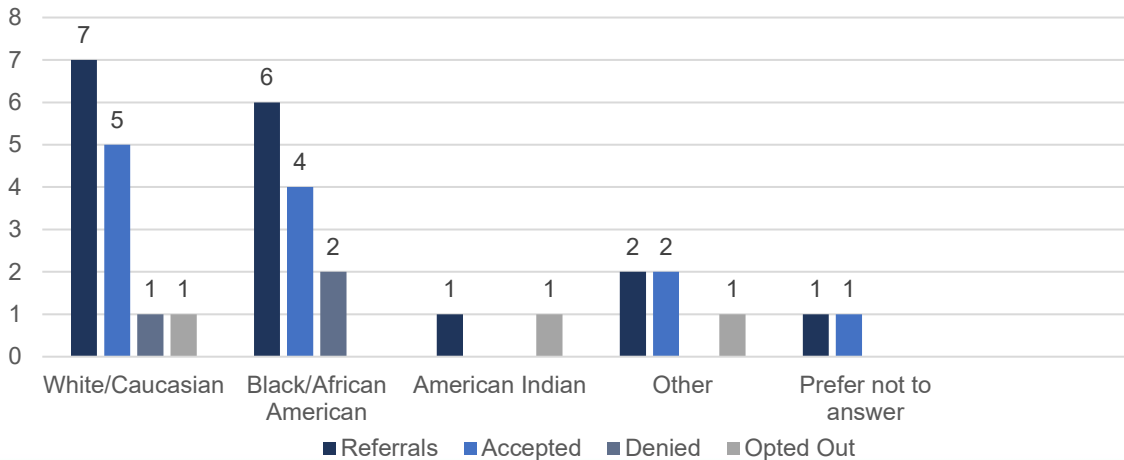


Referrals by Ethnicity- 1st Quarter

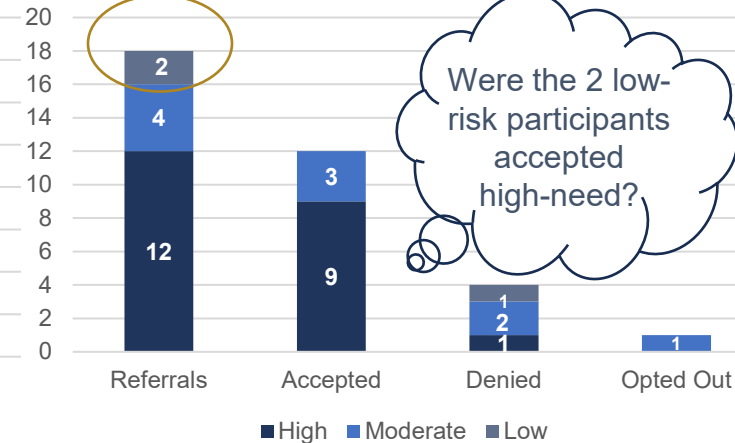


“The Union County Treatment Court team helped me when I needed it most, with no judgment”—Participant Testimonial

Referrals by Race- 1st Quarter



Referrals by Risk-Level- 1st Quarter



Elevator Speech



WHAT

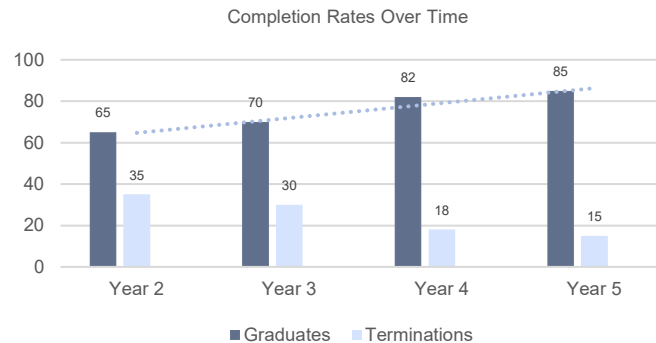
WHY

HOW

Tracking Outcomes



Dispositions (discharges/successful completion) over time



Length of phase and program completion



Satisfaction of participants (exit surveys)

What does Tracking Outcomes Accomplish?



Informs: Treatment providers and liaisons, referring/sentencing judges, court leadership, advisory members, and steering committee



Data over time shows program improvements and participant improvement

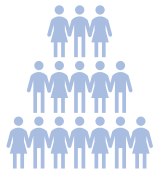


Demonstrates program impact

Monitoring for Disparities and Access Barriers



Referral, admission, and completion rates*



Track incentives, sanctions, and dispositions by race, ethnicity, gender, etc.**



Utilize an equity tool (next slide)***

*Standard II(C) Equity Monitoring, p. 38 Adult Treatment Court Best Practice Standards

**Standard II(G) Equitable I.S.S.A., p. 46 Adult Treatment Court Best Practice Standards

***Standard X(G) Equity Analysis, p. 227 Adult Treatment Court Best Practice Standards

Equity Tools for Treatment Courts

Which tool should I use? **BOTH**, they complement one another!

EIAT

(Equity Inclusion Assessment Tool)—
NCSC and All Rise

- Quantitative spreadsheet
- Addresses active participant equity and entrance/exit disparities
- Technical assistance and training provided

RED

(Racial Ethnic Disparities) Tool—
American University

- Collects information on team demographics, training, policies and practices
- Provides a score, recommendations for improvement, technical assistance and training

Ensure regular team and advisory meetings to review equity data occur and ensure corrective efforts are made. *Gallagher, et al. (2024)*

Ongoing Education on Monitoring



Educate team members on the importance of data collection:

- Timeliness
- Accuracy
- Sensitivity of data



Include policies on timely, accurate data collection, HIPPA, and 42CFR into an MOU to ensure consistent compliance

Evaluation



Data Analysis

Review and analysis of quantitative data



Surveys

Objective, third party distributing surveys to participants or team members



Peer Review

Trained treatment teams reviewing one another's practices and reporting back



Focus Groups

Objective, neutral third-party holding group discussions with participants



Confidential Interviews

Objective, neutral third-party interviewing participants on wellbeing/sense of belonging/recovery capital



Comparison Groups

Comparison of the program to another population of similar risk, need, etc.

Independent Evaluator Tasks

- Interpret program data and provide reports and recommendations
- Confidential interviews with participants
- Focus groups with participants and/or graduates
- Confidential surveys of team members (regarding procedural justice, impact of the program, feelings of belonging, etc.)
- Comparison groups with similar intake dates and risk-levels
- Administer self-report assessments to participants to ensure needs are being met

Interviewing an Independent Evaluator

- What are your prior experiences evaluating court programs?
- Are you familiar with the Adult Treatment Court Best Practice Standards, 2nd edition?
- What statistical procedures will you include in your analysis?
- Will you communicate findings and data requirements to the team, leadership, and partners and explain results?
- What are the costs of this evaluation?
- Do you and your agency adhere to the American Evaluation Association Standards?

Wrap up:

- Why data collection and reporting is important
- Monitoring practices and when to engage in evaluation
- Utilize data for program improvement and partner/community buy-in
- Use resources
- Evaluation is not a one-time event.

Electronic Handouts

- ❑ Year in Review Template
- ❑ Basic Annual Report Sample
- ❑ Basic Quarterly Report Sample
- ❑ Data Visualization Sheet
- ❑ All Rise Exit Interview Template (allrise.org/sample-documents/sample-document-exit-interview/)
- ❑ All Rise Equity and Inclusion Toolkit (allrise.org/publications/equity-and-inclusion-toolkit/)

References

- ❑ redtool.org/ (American University Equity Tool)
- ❑ eval.org/About/Competencies-Standards/Program-Evaluation-Standards
- ❑ www.issuelab.org/resources/37453/37453.pdf (Working with an External Evaluator Guide- Candid Issue Lab)

References

- ❑ Gallagher, J. R., Collinson, M. R., & Francis, Z. (2024). Maintaining fidelity to the treatment court model through evaluation: The racial and ethnic disparities (RED) program assessment tool. *Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment*, 1-12.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/10911359.2024.2394199>
- ❑ Mertens, D. M., & Wilson, A. T. (2019). *Program evaluation theory and practice: A comprehensive guide* (2nd ed). The Guilford Press.

Q & A





Thank you!

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