


Juvenile Drug Courts 101

Presenter: Jessica Pearce

Host: Eloisa Chaparro

How are you participating today?

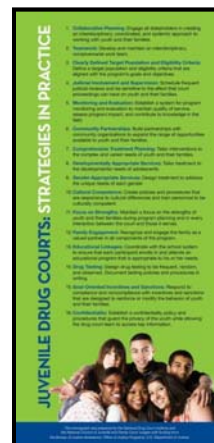
○ As a group – 

○ Individually – 

Write in chat one thing you'd like to learn today



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NATIONAL COUNCIL OF
JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES
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Improving Practice in Courts Across America

- **JTDC Project Advisory Committee**
 - Multi-Agency collaborative focused on improving practice
- **JTDC Training**
 - Improving practice on a national, regional, and local level
- **JTDC Technical Assistance**
 - Targeted one-on-one assistance for JDC teams to learn and implement recommended practice
- **JTDC Demonstration Sites**
 - A community of learning focused on implementation, process, and evaluation
- **JTDC Resources and Tools**
 - Providing JDC teams with practical guidelines and tools to facilitate the implementation process

The Objectives for the Session

- Explain the key elements of a Juvenile Drug Court
- Describe how a Juvenile Drug Court can improve response to and outcomes for court-involved youth with substance abuse problems
- Identify the appropriate target population for the JDC

Click on the box that best describes your professional group

- A. Judicial Officer
- B. Coordinator
- C. Probation
- D. Defense Attorney
- E. Prosecutor
- F. Court Staff
- G. Treatment Provider
- H. Educator/ school liaison



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Click on the box that best describes your experience and knowledge about JDCs

- A. No knowledge of drug courts
- B. Visited a JDC/Read about them
- C. Working in an Adult or Dependency Drug Court
- D. Team member of a JDC <1 year
- E. Team member of a JDC >1 year



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Difference between courts

- What is the difference – you have either seen or anticipate between the adult and juvenile drug courts?



Differences



Poll: Where are you in the process of operating a JDC?

- ☐ Currently operating a JDC
- ☐ Had a JDC but it is now suspended or closed
- ☐ Actively planning to (re) start a JDC
- ☐ Contemplating the development of a JDC

The Framework


- Problem solving courts
- Incorporate the theory of therapeutic jurisprudence
- Strengths-based



Emergence of the Juvenile Drug Court

- Rates of smoking, drinking, and other illicit drug use among students increased and remained high
- Dealing with substance-abusing juveniles in traditional juvenile court often meant:
 - Long treatment waiting lists
 - Disjointed service delivery
 - Lack of family engagement
 - No input into the nature or extent of treatment
 - Lack of immediate follow-up by the court to verify court orders had been fulfilled



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- What challenges are you facing when working with substance abusing youth involved with the court?

Write about your challenges in chat.

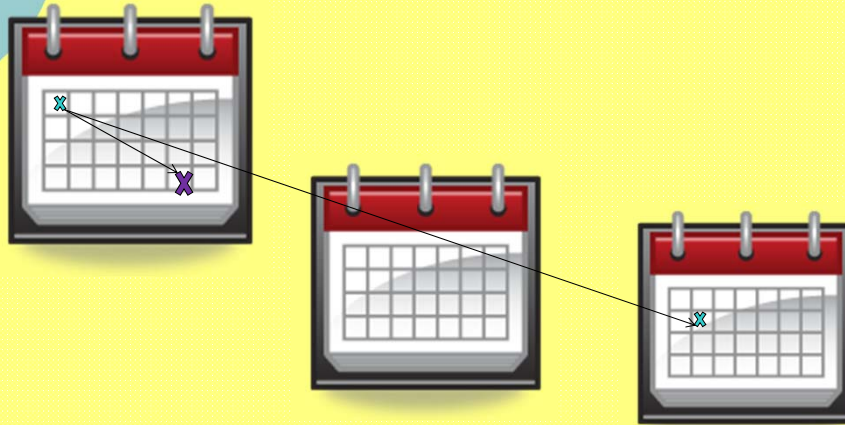


What is a Juvenile Drug Court?

- Establishes a **docket within a juvenile court** to which selected delinquency cases are referred
- Deals with **youth** identified as having **problems with alcohol and/or other drugs**
- Maintains **close court oversight**
- **Engages a team** of professionals working together in non-adversarial roles

What are the goals of a juvenile drug court?

- Provide **immediate** intervention, treatment, and structure



What are the goals of a juvenile drug court?

- **Improve** juveniles' level of functioning



What are the goals of a juvenile drug court?

- Provide **skill building** that will aid youth in leading substance-free and crime-free lives



What are the goals of a juvenile drug court?

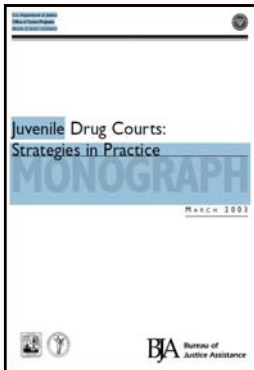
- **Strengthen families** of drug-involved youth





What are the goals of a juvenile drug court?

- Provide **immediate** intervention, treatment, and structure
- **Improve** juveniles' level of **functioning**
- Provide **skill building** that will aid youth in leading substance-free and crime-free lives
- **Strengthen families** of drug-involved youth
- **Promote accountability**



Guidance for Juvenile Drug Courts: *The 16 Strategies*

- Created by practitioners, researchers, and educators
- Brought together by the National Drug Court Institute (NDCI) and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ)
- A guide to planning, operating, and implementing juvenile drug courts

The 16 Strategies

- Collaborative Planning
- **Teamwork**
- **Defined target**
- **Judicial involvement**
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Community Partnerships
- **Comprehensive TX**
- Developmentally appropriate services
- Gender appropriate
- Cultural competence
- **Focus on strengths**
- Family engagement
- Education linkages
- **Drug Testing**
- **Goal-oriented incentives and sanctions**
- Confidentiality



Core Concepts

Structure

Program and
Treatment
Design

Target
Population

Monitoring
and
Evaluation

Incentives
and
Sanctions



Agree or Disagree ?

- Parents are an obstacle to success for young people in the court system



Agree or Disagree ?

- Every community needs a juvenile drug court



Agree or Disagree ?

- Some drug problems are not serious enough for admission to a juvenile drug court



Core Concepts

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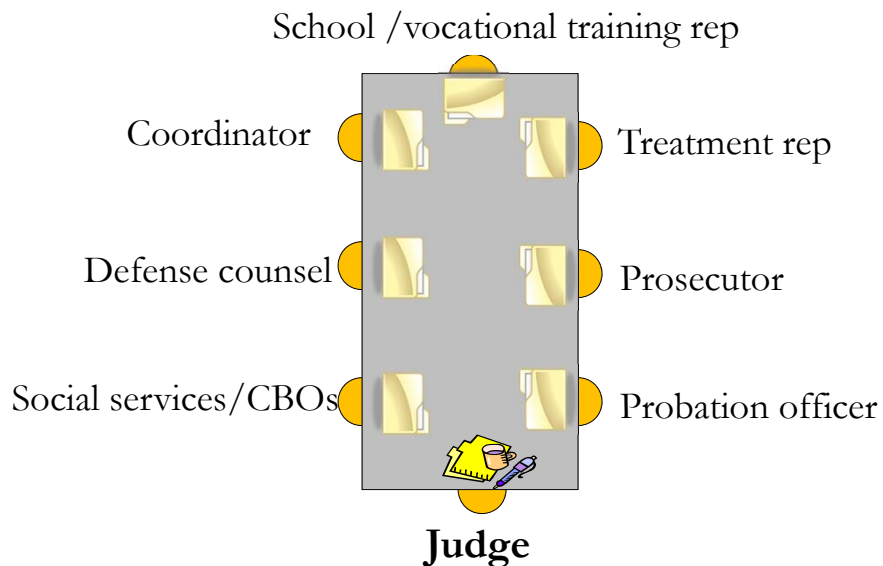



STRUCTURE


Comprehensive Planning and Revising

- Do we need a JDC?
 - Data collection
 - Court and probation experience
 - Treatment and programming resources
- What kind of investment does it require?
 - Staff resources
 - Money

Who makes up a juvenile drug court team?



- 
-
- What challenges do you experience or could you foresee in bringing 5-8 people to the table to discuss cases and make decisions?
 - Jot your ideas down in chat

- 
-
- Why is the team so important in the effective operation of a Juvenile Drug Court?

What questions do you have about the roles each professional plays on the team?

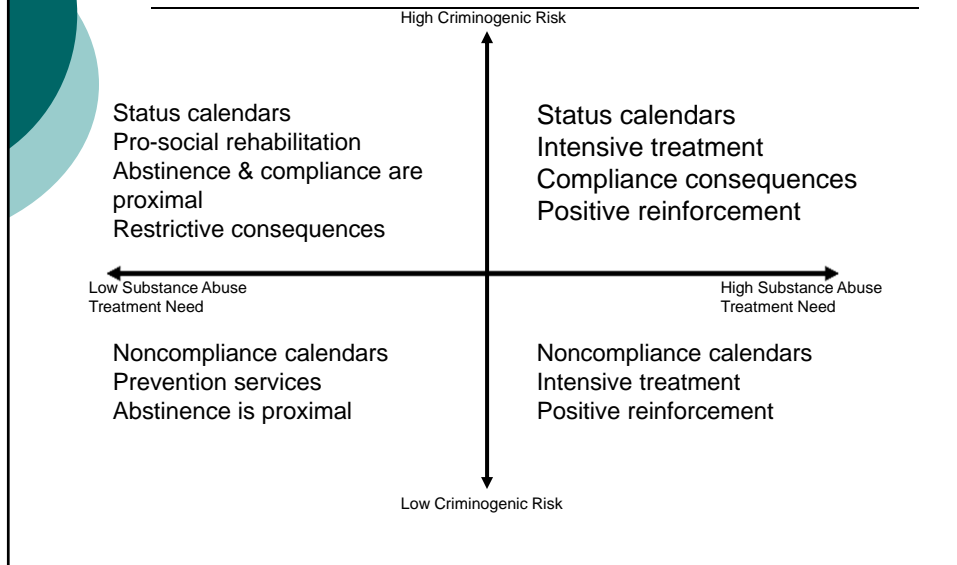


Please enter your questions in the Chat Room!

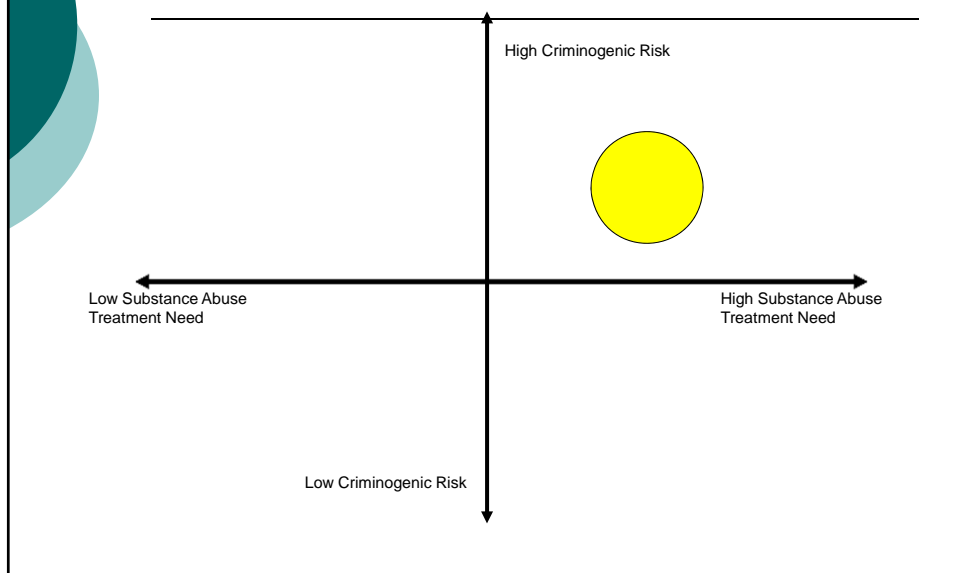
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**TARGET
POPULATION**

Targeting the Correct Population

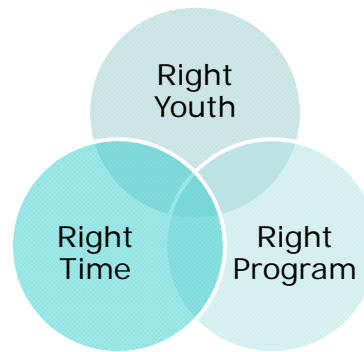


Which Youth Are Right for the JTDC?



Three Keys to Successful Youth Interventions

- Match the Right **Youth**
 - Assess Static Risk
 - Assess Dynamic Risks
 - Determine Amenable to treatment
- To the Right **Program**
 - Evidence-based
 - Matched to Individual Needs
 - Implemented with Integrity
- At the Right **Time**
 - Responsive to youth's current state of mind
 - Enough time to be effective



Determining Eligibility Criteria

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○ Right Kid

- Age range
- Chronological history
- Probation history
- Risk Level
- Needs Level

○ Right Time

- Program length
- Drug use history
- Recent drug use

○ Right Program

- Services we can provide
- Treatment options
- Diagnosis
- Supervision level
- Case Management



Good, Better, Best

Good	Better	Best
Written target population and eligibility population	Data driven qualifiers and disqualifiers	Team only accepts youth who meet the data driven target population
Referral sources have information about target population and referral process	Referral sources are trained in target population and eligibility criteria	Team monitors their target population and eligibility criteria and adjusts or modifies according to changes in their community
	Target population and eligibility criteria match the services in your community	

What are the payoffs for families and organizations in having a JDC?



For more information:

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