



Cowlitz County Health & Human Services Departments

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Board of County Commissioners

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Cowlitz County Criminal Justice Treatment Account (CJTA)

Final Plan 10/1/19 – 9/30/21

Submitted by: Cowlitz County Local CJTA Panel

Date: 11/1/19

CJTA Panel

Representative Signature

[Handwritten Signature]
Rodge Bastien

Date

8 Nov 2019

Board of County Commissioners

Chairman Signature

[Handwritten Signature]
Joe Gardner

Date

11-13-19

History

In March of 2018, counties were given the choice to directly administer Criminal Justice Treatment Account (CJTA) funds or allow them to remain with the regional Behavioral Health Organization (BHO). Cowlitz County opted to administer the CJTA funds and formed a local CJTA panel which developed a local plan for the period October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019. This document represents Cowlitz County's first 2 year CJTA plan, effective October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2021.

Introduction

The Cowlitz County Board of County Commissioners decided to administer CJTA funds locally, and assigned the CJTA contract to Cowlitz County Health & Human Services (CCHHS). CCHHS is generally responsible for matters of public health including, communicable disease, environmental health, developmental disabilities, homeless/housing services, and behavioral health. CCHHS continues to work closely with Cowlitz County Superior Court and the Cowlitz County Drug Court to plan for the utilization of CJTA at the county level. Through this partnership, we have an established CJTA panel, which includes the recommended membership and provides input to the CJTA plan.

Plan

Cowlitz County has ten agencies who are licensed to provide Substance Use Disorder Treatment services in this community, with six of those agencies providing services to the Medicaid population. Currently, two of those providers are utilizing CJTA funds. Cowlitz County continues to pursue partnership with other providers as well to ensure drug court clients have

access to treatment and can be successful in the drug court program. CJTA will be utilized to provide at minimum: assessments in the jail, treatment in the jail, transportation, outpatient treatment (gap coverage or not covered) for individuals and groups, urinalysis testing, and recovery support services.

The local panel will review utilization data to understand how the CJTA funds are being utilized including the type of services provided, number of treatment episodes, and number of individuals served. During SFY 19, CJTA funds supported 4,842 treatment episodes that included SUD assessments, outpatient treatment, intensive outpatient treatment, case management, transportation, and urinalysis testing. Data on services provided utilizing CJTA funds will continue to be reported monthly on the types of services provided. We look forward to the additional data collection and reporting features that the state is supporting Counties with this year, which includes a Quarterly Progress Report and a Programmatic Treatment Report. The enhanced data will allow us to have a broader picture of the services provided.

Special Projects

Moral Reconciliation Therapy® (MRT) is an evidenced based therapy program that will continue to be used. MRT is a cognitive-behavioral approach administered through a group setting. The curriculum focusses on life skills topics such as substance abuse, domestic violence, trauma, parenting, job skills, and others with the goal of reduced recidivism and relapse prevention.

Seeking Safety is another evidenced based program that will be utilized by CJTA. This counseling model can be administered individually or in a group setting and addresses trauma and addiction simultaneously. Achieving safety is the goal of this program, safety in relationships, thinking, behavior, or emotions.

The panel has interest in continuing to explore how CJTA might be able to support Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) in the Drug Court system and in the jail. Currently, Cowlitz County Drug Court is working on policies and procedures around MAT and are exploring potential prescribers. The jail has implemented a limited amount of MAT in the jail and is currently exploring ways to expand what is able to be offered for MAT services in the jail.

Cowlitz County therapeutic court and treatment professionals take advantage of professional development opportunities whenever possible to build on their knowledge of best practices for therapeutic court programs and treatment services. The panel will continue to explore how CJTA funds will be best utilized to support the ongoing efforts of Therapeutic Court programs and treatment services in Cowlitz County.

Match Requirement

Cowlitz County uses local funds to support mental health and/or substance use disorder treatment and services both in the community and within Therapeutic Court programs. Cowlitz County will be able to use these local funds to meet the CJTA match requirement.