

# TST Advisory Committee



July 31, 2020

- Budget Planning Session
  - Thurston County Correction Facility
  - District Court
  - Superior Court
  - Public Defense

# Thurston County Correction Facility



- Chemical Dependency Program (CDP)
- Preparing for Reentry Employment (PREP)
- Inmate Mental Health Services
  - Pre-trial & Reentry
  - Transitions & Medication Management
  - Psych ARNP
- Corrections TST Coordinator
- New Proposal: Maintenance of Psychiatric Medications

# CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY PROGRAM

Administration: Thurston County Sheriff's Office

Program Description:

Chemical Dependency Program provides substance use disorder treatment services using MoraReconation Therapy (MRT) to individuals (including Drug Court participants) held in the Thurston County Correctional Facility.

Historical Funding & Data:

	Budget	Actual	Variance	Number Served in Year	Other
2018	\$380,931	\$406,784	-\$26,378	41 Drug Court clients 79 jail participants	59% of Drug Court clients completed Phase 2 30% of jail participants graduated
2019	\$389,613	\$395,655	-\$6,402	52 Drug Court clients 69 jail participants	77% of Drug Court clients completed Phase 2 46% of jail participants graduated
2020	\$399,714	NA	NA		

# CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY PROGRAM

## 2021-2022 Key Issues:

### • Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

- The Chemical Dependency Program (CDP) accepts and provides Substance Abuse Disorder (SUD) treatment to participants who have been ordered by a Thurston County Court and/or the Thurston County Drug Court. The CDP program serves participants who come from all ethnicity groups, race and socio-economic backgrounds.
- Looking ahead, the CDP Program will continue to strive for continued equity, inclusion and diversity.
- The CDP program demographics closely mirror that of our incarcerated population as it relates to race, ethnicity and age.

### • COVID-19 Context

- COVID-19 impacted our program in several ways.
  - The Correction Facility was shut down to all Non-Essential workers on March 19, 2020, which meant that all programs and providers were not able to provide in-person services and treatment to our CDP participants. This affected all treatment programs and all volunteer programs facility wide.
  - Costs, associated with CDP, were reduced by nearly half while maneuvering through the early stages of the Shut-Down.
  - The TST Coordinator and Alternatives Professional Counseling began brainstorming ideas in an effort to resume treatment groups as quickly as possible. This proved to be a perplexing time due to technology challenges and other obstacles that we encountered.
  - Those participants in Phase II, Work Release, experienced additional challenges on March 31, when the directive to shut-down Work Release, was announced.
  - The shut-down of Work Release prompted the transition of several Drug Court participants to Electronic Home Monitoring (EHM) for the remainder of Phase II.
  - The CDP Program was resumed for on April 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  - Treatment for the Phase III participants showed only minor disruptions during this time.
  - The biggest obstacle identified was transitioning participants to EHM for Phase II participation. Releasing into the community without that transition from general population into Work Release proved to be a challenge for many of our participants.
  - The demand for services has decreased minimally. This impact is attributed to the slight reduction in population due to the COVID-19 pandemic and a reduction in court proceedings.
  - Individuals who were on the waiting list continued to be assessed and admitted into the program as space became available.

### • Other Goals/ Context

- Continue to provide quality SUD treatment while adhering to Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT) principals and fidelity.
- Continue to work with participants to guide, mentor and provide the education and tools needed to obtain, maintain and sustain their life in recovery.
- Continue to advocate and promote the CDP Program to Public Defense, Prosecutors Office and Thurston County Courts.

## 2021-2022 Budget Preview:

- request for maintenance level funding to include Contract COLA's due to this being a two year budget cycle.

# PREPARING FOR REENTRY EMPLOYMENT

Administration: Thurston County Sheriff's Office

Program Description: Preparing for Re-Entry Employment Program (PREP) provides pre-employment training workshops and services to adults with behavioral health disorders in the Thurston County Jail with the goal that participants will become gainfully employed at exit.

Historical Funding & Data:

	Budget	Actual	Variance	Number Served in Year	Other
2018	\$119,143	\$108,972	\$10,171	83	69 participants gained employment
2019	\$119,143	\$118,111	\$1,032	107	86 participants gained employment
2020	\$122,003	NA	NA	NA	

# PREPARING FOR RE-ENTRY EMPLOYMENT (PREP)

## 2021-2022 Key Issues:

### • Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

- The PREP program encompasses diversity, inclusion and equity. The population that the PREP program serves includes participants from all races, socio-economic, backgrounds and walks of life.
- Moving forward in the PREP program we continue to ensure that all participants are included and curriculum is tailored to the participants goals to include wrap around services to develop the skills necessary to be successful in their employment.
- Policies and Procedures currently support the PREP program's values of ensuring the inclusion, equity and diversity of each participant.

### • COVID-19 Context

- COVID-19 has presented significant impacts and challenges for the PREP program.
  - The shut down of much of the program for contracted staff access to TCCF eliminated the ability to provide services and classes to the Phase I participants in the Chemical Dependency Program (CDP).
  - Providing services remotely, due to the closure of the Work Source building to the public proved to be extremely challenging due to not being able to provide the support and resources to the employment seeking participants.
  - The Governor's order for the shut-down of the State, which allowed only those who were determined to be essential were allowed to work, displaced many participants who were not in essential employment.
  - The shutdown of TCCF Work Release program placed Phase I and Phase II CDP participants at a disadvantage in the ability to produce and apply for the necessary identification and documents needed for seeking employment.
  - Costs have been reduced during this time due to the limited amount of services that could be provided and not having access to the participants until transition to Phase II and Phase III.
  - The impact of COVID-19 on the demand for the services PREP provides is significant.
  - The ability to provide in-person services were very limited and the lack of in-person connection is integral to the success of the participant.
  - Navigating and troubleshooting program services proved to be challenging due to the number of community resources that were significantly diminished.
  - The difficulty of participants to access/connect with partners' services for employment and support.

### • Other Goals/ Context

- Continue to maintain, sustain and build partnerships with employers who support hiring our justice involved participants.
- Mentor, guide and provide quality education on the necessary tools, knowledge and skills needed to gain employment and success in retaining and maintaining employment to continue to be a contributing community member.

## 2021-2022 Budget Preview:

- Request for maintenance level funding to include Contract COLA's due to this being a two year budget cycle.

# INMATE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Administration: Thurston County Sheriff's Office

Program Description: This program has several components:

- Pre-Trial Release focuses on service planning (including connections to treatment and housing) to support the release of individuals with behavioral health disorders while charges are pending (when appropriate).
- Re-Entry Assistance focuses on transition planning and education for individuals in the Thurston County Correctional Facility with behavioral health disorders who will be released back into the community.
- Transitions & Medication Management ensures individuals in the Thurston County Correctional Facility with mental illness are connected to medication management to reduce symptoms that impair functioning and case management to support transition from to work release or electronic home monitoring.
- Psych ARNP Prescriber prescribes, administers, and monitors psychiatric medications for individuals in the Thurston County Correctional Facility.
- Additional funding covers the cost of Correctional Deputy time related to the TMBHASO Trueblood program.

Historical Funding & Data:

	Budget	Actual	Variance	Number Served in Year	Other
2018	\$380,015	\$254,672	\$125,343	Pretrial Release: 29 Reentry Assistance: 174 Psych ARNP: 279 Transitions & Medication Management: 111	
2019	\$350,495	\$310,580	\$39,915	Pretrial release: 13 Reentry Assistance: 206 Psych ARNP: 352 Transitions & Medication Management: 100	
2020	\$324,628	NA	NA	NA	

# PRE-TRIAL AND RE-ENTRY

## 2021-2022 Key Issues:

### • Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

- The Pre-Trial and Re-Entry program refers to services and provides information regarding available services to any of our incarcerated population who request assistance or who have been identified by other programs, within the jail, or from The Office or Public Defense and/or Prosecuting Attorney Office regardless of the clients' gender, race, religion, ethnicity or economic situation.
- The Pre-Trial and Re-Entry program has and will continue to deliver quality services to our incarcerated population regardless of gender, race and ethnicity.
- The Pre-Trial and Re-Entry demographics closely mirror the jail population.

### • COVID-19 Context

- COVID-19 impacted our program in several ways.
  - Low jail census equaled less clients.
  - Less referrals for Pre-Trial services due to many cases being referred directly to the PAO and not being booked into jail.
  - Inability to access community resources due many agencies being closed to their employees and to the public due to the Stay at Home/Stay Safe order.
  - Not able to meet with clients for individual assessment and enrollment of clients into our program(s)
  - Ability to help clients set up appointments due to clients not having access to electronic communication while incarcerated and upon their release from jail.
  - Clients continued to request services and reported an increase level of anxiety from wondering how they would gain access to services upon release from jail. This effected not only the homeless population but those with mental health, behavioral health and SUD clients.
  - Limited ability to work with clients due to being off-site without program telephones and computer.

### • Other Goals/ Context

- We receive a number of clients who request SUD assessments and there tends to be a significant wait time for this. We would like to explore Healthcare Delivery Services(HDS) offering SUD assessments to our Pre-Trial/Re-Entry clients and other clients who are not associated with the Chemical Dependency Program and/or Thurston County Drug Court Program. HDS currently has two (2) SUD professionals in the Pre-Trial/Re-Entry and Transition positions. This would directly support those clients who are being considered for Pre-Trial release or early release into inpatient or outpatient services, reducing recidivism. This would not be considered a duplication of services.

## 2021-2022 Budget Preview:

- request for maintenance level funding to include Contract COLA's due to this being a two year budget cycle.

# TRANSITIONS/MEDICATION MANAGEMENT (TMM)

## 2021-2022 Key Issues:

### • Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

- The Transition/Medication Management program works with incarcerated individuals who have substance use disorders and/or mental health services. They support the client by assisting in providing information, warm handoffs and support in engaging in community programs and resources. They also assist in setting up appointments for clients for counseling, MAT treatment and mental health treatment regardless of the clients' gender, race, religion, ethnicity or economic situation.
- The Transition/Medication Management program has and will continue to deliver quality services to our incarcerated population regardless of gender, race and ethnicity.
- The Transition/Medication Management program's demographics closely mirror the jail population.

### • COVID-19 Context

- COVID-19 impacted our program in several ways.
  - Due to jail programs being suspended we were unable to provide medication management to those clients in Work Release.
  - Reduced Work Release population resulted in less clients.
  - Limited the ability to help set up appointments for clients due to clients' limited access to electronic/telephonic communication and not being on site to work with the client on these obstacles/barriers.
  - Inability to provide connections to community services due to many offices/agencies being shutdown.
  - Unable to meet with and set up release plans with clients.
  - Education of and coordination of MAT services were impacted as we were unable to meet with or communicate with clients.
  - Opportunity to provide services to our Phase II CDP clients were diminished due to many of them being placed on Electronic Monitoring for the remainder of their program.

#### COVID-19 Demand for Program Services:

- Appeared demand for TMM services increased during COVID-19, available services diminished due to staff not able to meet with and enroll new clients into the programs.
- Clients were unable to be educated and counseled regarding the importance of medication management and to set up mental health appointments.
- Deputies assumed the responsibility of counting client medication.
- MAT clients did not get additional support on developing a healthy lifestyle and education on the different MAT programs offered in the community.

### • Other Goals/ Context

- We hope to develop schedules, systems and protocols to effectively provide services to clients in Work Release as it relates to social distancing and other cautions brought to light due to the Pandemic.

## 2021-2022 Budget Preview:

- request for maintenance level funding to include Contract COLA's due to this being a two year budget cycle.

# PSYCH ARNP

## 2021-2022 Key Issues:

- **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion**
  - Mental health does not know race, socio-economic class or in-equity. Mental health effects persons from all walks of life, race and ethnicity.
  - In the first two quarters of 2020, 73.24% of the population seen by the provider were white and 25.25% percent were persons of color. Individuals who chose not to respond was at 1.51%.
  - Thurston County Corrections and their contracted providers for Mental Health, Medical and Psychiatric services will strive to provide quality care to those incarcerated individuals who suffer
- **COVID-19 Context**
  - This funded position did not suffer many of the impacts the Correction Bureau's other TST funded programs did.
  - We went live on Tele-Psych approximately a month before COVID-19. This allowed the Psych ARNP to continue to provide are incarcerated population to be referred and/or self request to see the provider. This also allowed the provider to schedule follow-up appointments.
  - Interestingly enough, the number of referrals and self requests remained consistent even with a reduction in our jail population. 128 referrals in 2020 Quarter 1 and 117 referrals in 2020 Quarter 2.
- **Other Goals/ Context**
  - To continue to provide psychiatric services and medication to those incarcerated individuals housed at the Thurston County Correction Facility.
  - To continue to provide as short of wait time as possible to see the provider. For 2020 Quarter 2, the average wait time if seen by the provider is four (4) days. to see the provider is This wait time is far lower than in the community.

## 2021-2022 Budget Preview:

- request for maintenance level funding to include Contract COLA's due to this being a two year budget cycle.

# TST CORRECTIONS COORDINATOR

Administration: Thurston County Sheriff's Office

Program Description: Coordinates all TST-funded and related behavioral health programs in the Correction Facility and represents Corrections on a variety of behavioral health-related committees, etc.

## Historical Funding & Data:

	Budget	Actual	Variance	Number Served in Year	Other
2018	\$147,469	\$136,061	\$11,408	Separate data not collected for this program; this position coordinates all other TST programs in Corrections facility	
2019	\$172,685	\$141,261	\$31,424		
2020	\$176,668	NA	NA		

# TST CORRECTIONS COORDINATOR

## 2021-2022 Key Issues:

- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
- As the TST Coordinator I will continue to review and evaluate every individual that has been court ordered to participate in our TST and Non-TST funded programming. I will continue screen the individual for eligibility and admit those individuals into TST funded programs.
- All programs within TCCF encompass diversity, equity and inclusion as a practice.
  
- COVID-19 Context
  - This funded position suffered several impacts created due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - COVID-19 halted most of the TST funded programs that we facilitated at TCCF.
  - All jail programs, both volunteer and TST funded, were suspended on March 19, 2020 due to COVID-19 allowing only essential personnel to enter TCCF.
  - The Psych ARNP position did not suffer time loss during this time.
  - Parenting Classes provided by Family Education Support Services, Pre-Trial/Re-Entry, Transitions and the Preparing for Re-Entry Employment Program were all discontinued. The Chemical Dependency Program was discontinued for two weeks. All volunteer programs were suspended.
  - This position worked closely with Alternatives Professional Counseling to resume SUD Treatment to those in Phase I (main jail) and Phase II (Work Release). Phase III (Electronic Home Monitoring) had already engaged participants via the ZOOM format. We were able to resume Phase I and Phase II of CDP on April 3, 2020. This was important to ensure they would not have a significant lapse in SUD treatment.
  - This position also worked closely with our other TST contracted providers to provide support and to get assistance from them because I assumed some of their tasks, as it related to programs and progressing CDP Participants through their treatment.
  - I worked with Drug Court during this time as it related to Drug Court participants who were enrolled in CDP.
  
- Other Goals/ Context
  - Continue to work with my Non-TST and TST contracted programs and employees to provide the best services possible to deliver the essential support the participant needs to be a successful and contributing member of our community.
  - Continue to look at best practices and procedure in programming and treatment.

## 2021-2022 Budget Preview:

- request for maintenance level funding to include Contract COLA's due to this being a two year budget cycle.

# NEW PROPOSAL: MAINTENANCE OF PSYCHIATRIC MEDICATION

Administration: Thurston County Sheriffs Office, Corrections Bureau

Program Description: Maintenance of Psychiatric Medications for those incarcerated inmates who are directly associated with the court ordered RCW 10.77 process. This program would provide funding for those who have been court ordered to undergo a competency evaluation and if found not competent, will then go through the competency restoration process. Upon return to TCCF, from a DSHS restoration facility, TST funds would be used to purchase the prescribed psychiatric medication for the individual to maintain their competency allowing them to move through, adjudicate and complete their criminal court matters.

## 2021-2022 Key Issues:

- **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion**
  - This program would include all incarcerated individuals who have been ordered by the Court to undergo Competency Evaluation and Restoration regardless of their race, age, gender and socio-economic background.
- **COVID-19 Context**
  - Please address
    - This is an important program as it will assist with paying for medications for those who have been evaluated and determined to be not competent to assist in their legal defense. There are many individuals who are admitted to a DSHS Restoration Facility who return to TCCF and are determined competent. Several of those who return, restored, discontinue the prescribed medication due to the cost associated with it and the inability to pay for it.
    - This program is relevant in light of COVID-19 because, although population numbers are down and many cases are being referred, the numbers of individuals with Mental Health and Competency concerns have remained stable.
- **Other Goals/ Context**
  - The primary and on-going goal of this new program is to assist in maintaining the individual's restored competency in an effort to advance, adjudicate and resolve their court matters.
  - Another important goal is to reduce cost and time in custody of individuals, who refuse to continue their restoration medication, which results in the individual going through additional evaluation and restoration more than once. This would in essence could drop the wait time for restoration and would be a cost savings to the courts, the Sheriffs Office and DSHS.

## 2021-2022 Budget Preview:

- At this time we are estimating, at a minimum, \$6,000 a year.

# DISTRICT COURT



- Mental Health & Veterans Court
  - Related New Proposal: Low Risk/ Low Needs Care Coordinator
- Intensive Services Probation Counselor
  - Related New Proposal: Expansion of Intensive Probation

# MENTAL HEALTH AND VETERANS COURT

Administration: Thurston County Office Name

Program Description: Mental Health Court is a treatment court for adults charged in Thurston County with criminal activity whose behavior is related to, or affected by, mental illness.

Veterans Court is a treatment court for veterans charged in Thurston County with criminal activity whose behavior is related to, or affected by, mental illness and/or substance use disorder.

Historical Funding & Data:

	Budget*	Actual	Variance	Number Served in Year	Other
2018	\$563,900	\$527,166	\$36,734	MH Court: 45 Vets Court: 35	MH Court graduation rate: 86% Vets Court graduation rate: 100%
2019	\$510,520	\$510,195	\$325	MH Court: 51 Vets Court: 36	MH Court graduation rate: 86% Vets Court graduation rate: 85%
2020	\$534,717	NA	NA	NA	

# MENTAL HEALTH AND VETERANS COURT

## ■ 2021-2022 Key Issues:

### ■ Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

- Thurston District Court has long been committed to diversity, equity and inclusion. As we cannot solicit participants in our programs, but work with the ones who are referred, this means treating each person with respect, being open to their world view, meeting individuals where they are in life, and providing the resources and support necessary to each individual.

### ■ COVID-19 Context

#### ■ Operations/Costs

- Moving from in person to video conference hearings – no financial impact however participants have noted some loss of personal engagement between participants and team.
- Transition from in in-person to video and telephonic supervision meetings as well as increase of contact between participants and Care Coordinators – no cost impact however participants have noted some loss of personal engagement.
- Temporary halting of urinalyses for sobriety monitoring (3/21 – 6/28) – **savings** of approximately \$5000 (average) per month 3.25 months = \$16,250
- Hiring a temp to fill in for an Army Reserve/National Guard staff member who was activated for Covid-19 Response (5/1 – 8/21) Approx. \$5000 per month x 3.75 months = \$ 18,750.

#### ■ Demand

- Services to active participants was increased to make up for the reduced engagement with treatment agencies who had reduced services, community support meetings (AA/NA) which had shut down, as well as the suspension of urinalysis testing for sobriety monitoring.
- Processing of new referrals was suspended during the Covid-19 quarantine due to the program shutting down to in person services. As a result, our services to new individuals was not called for. However we have resumed processing of new referrals and will be able to achieve capacity in a short period of time.

## 2021-2022 Budget Preview:

- Requesting maintenance level funding.

# NEW PROPOSAL: MHVC CARE COORDINATOR

Administration: District Court Mental Health and Veterans Court

Program Description: MHVC Care Coordinator (Low Risk/Low Need Population)

Proposal for an additional MHVC Care Coordinator to supervise a caseload of individuals who meet the criteria for low risk/low need to enable these individuals to have the legal benefit of participating in the program with less intensive supervision. This caseload would have lower supervision levels and less frequent court hearings enabling a higher case load, and shorter time in the program leading to more turnover. This will result in the ability to serve a greater number of individuals.

This program differs from the Intensive Supervision Probation Officer in that it works with clients before there is a finding on their case (pre-disposition) and successful completion will result in a dismissal of charges.

2021-2022 Key Issues:

- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
  - Thurston District Court has long been committed to diversity, equity and inclusion. As we cannot solicit participants in our programs, but work with the ones who are referred, this means treating each person with respect, being open to their world view, meeting individuals where they are in life, and providing the resources and support necessary to each individual.
- Other Goals/ Context
  - NADCP Best Practices is to target the high risk/high needs population for entry into treatment court. As we work towards best practices, our target population should be high needs/medium risk, medium risk and need, or low risk/medium need individuals.
  - Studies show that convicting low risk and need individuals, or placing them at the same community supervision level as medium risk or high risk defendants, will lead to the lower risk participants being exposed to higher rates of non-compliance and further involvement in the criminal justice system.
  - Low risk/low need individuals should have an alternative method of disposing of their criminal case other than the intense supervision of MHVC or conviction, to encourage their movement away from further involvement in the criminal justice system.

2021-2022 Budget Preview:

- An additional \$80,000 per year is requested to cover salary and overhead costs of an additional 1.0 FTE Mental Health and Veterans Court Care Coordinator.

# INTENSIVE SUPERVISION PROBATION OFFICER

Administration: Thurston County Office Name

Program Description: The Intensive Supervision Probation Counselor (ISPC) serves individuals on probation with a diagnosed mental health or substance use disorder to promote stronger connections to treatment and recovery support services.

Historical Funding & Data:

	Budget	Actual	Variance	Number Served in Year	Other
2018	Program was new in 2019				
2019	\$153,102	\$81,410	\$71,692	35	Underspending is due to this being a new program and hiring taking several months.
2020	\$156,819	NA	NA	NA	

# INTENSIVE SUPERVISION PROBATION OFFICER

## 2021-2022 Key Issues:

- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Thurston District Court has long been committed to diversity, equity and inclusion. As we cannot solicit participants in our programs, but work with the ones who are referred, this means treating each person with respect, being open to their world view, meeting individuals where they are in life, and providing the resources and support necessary to each individual.

- COVID-19 Context
  - In person contacts with clients and treatment providers have been suspended at this time due to COVID-19. All contacts are being made via telephone or video conference. Court appearances have also been conducted via video conference. The District Court is currently working on relocating the Probation office to an area where client contacts can be made in a way where social distancing guidelines can be met. It is estimated the new space will be ready for use by August 2020. Currently, the Probation Counselor in this position is working remotely. There have been no additional costs to this program due to COVID-19. There may be some budget savings as there has been no mileage being paid due the Probation Counselor not being able to make contacts at treatment agencies.
  - There has been an increased demand for services from the clients on this caseload during the COVID-19 quarantine. As the clients are already dealing with mental health issues, we have seen an increased need for counseling, treatment, etc. Many clients have indicated they have an increased level of concern and stress due to COVID-19 and the issues related to it. Clients have been directed to the appropriate services during this time. Also, the Probation Counselor has spent much of her time communicating with clients making sure their needs are being met.
- Other Goals/ Context
  - The key goals for this position are to continue to provide needed services to the highest needs clients while adhering to the probation conditions set forth by the court. Also, to collect the most accurate data that reflects the work being done and identifying any potential areas of improvement.

## 2021-2022 Budget Preview:

- Requesting maintenance level funding

# NEW PROPOSAL: EXPANSION OF INTENSIVE SUPERVISION

Administration: District Court Intensive Supervision Probation Officer

Program Description: We are requesting an expansion of services by adding a second intensive supervision probation officer.

The Intensive Supervision Probation Counselor (ISPC) serves individuals on probation with a diagnosed mental health or substance use disorder. This counselor collaborates with mental health resources at the court, the mental health unit at the local jail, and service providers to ensure the client has access to all necessary resources.

The supervision of these clients is more intensive than traditional probation. Due to the caseload being smaller than a standard probation caseload, the counselor has more opportunity to work with the client and monitor their needs. Once needs are determined, the counselor connects the client with any needed services such as treatment, counseling, employment, transportation, and housing. The ISPC works with the treatment team to identify and address client needs before those needs have irreversible negative consequences.

This differs from the low risk/low need care coordinator by targeting post-conviction clients and helping them to not recidivate.

## 2021-2022 Key Issues:

- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Thurston District Court has long been committed to diversity, equity and inclusion. As we cannot solicit participants in our programs, but work with the ones who are referred, this means treating each person with respect, being open to their world view, meeting individuals where they are in life, and providing the resources and support necessary to each individual.

- COVID-19 Context

With the COVID-19 crisis, we have seen an increase in need for mental health services and substance abuse treatment. Clients on the standard probation caseload are exhibiting more issues with anxiety, substance abuse, depression and related mental health concerns. Even clients without a mental health diagnosis are requiring more time and assistance from the probation officers in areas of mental health. Adding a second ISPO will enable us to address the mental health issues of the community in a more thorough manner. Not only will we be more able to address another 45 clients with an MI diagnosis, but the standard probation caseload can also be more effectively helped by reducing the number of clients on the caseload.

## 2021-2022 Budget Preview:

Requesting an additional \$100,000 in 2021 for salary, benefits and equipment for a new officer; \$92,000 for salary and benefits in 2022; total for the biennium \$192,000. This assumes 1) midrange salary; 2) no increase in overall operational costs which will be shared between the two officers.

# SUPERIOR COURT



- DUI/ Drug Court
- Family Recovery Court
- Domestic Violence Case Coordination
- New Proposal: Safe Babies Court Team

# DUI/ DRUG COURT

Administration: Thurston County Superior Court

Program Description: Drug Court is a court-supervised, comprehensive treatment court program that is voluntary for non-violent adult felony offenders whose crime is related to or directly caused by substance use.

DUI Court is a court-supervised, comprehensive treatment court program that is voluntary for non-violent adult, repeat DUI offenders whose crime is driving under the influence.

Historical Funding & Data:

	Budget	Actual	Variance	Number Served in Year	Other
2018	\$792,187	\$424,129	\$368,058	DUI Court: 17 Drug Court: 153	DUI Court graduation rate 75% Drug Court graduation rate 38%
2019	\$582,847	\$488,474	\$94,373	DUI Court: 12 Drug Court: 139	DUI Court graduation rate 17% Drug Court graduation rate 35%
2020	\$614,973	NA	NA	NA	

# DUI/DRUG COURT

## 2021-2022 Key Issues:

- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
  - Thurston County DUI/Drug Court will continue developing policy and practices around diversity, equity and inclusion by:
  - Following NADCP Best Practice Standards II- “Individuals who have historically experienced sustained discrimination or reduced social opportunities because of their race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, sexual identity, physical or mental disability, religion, or socioeconomic status receive the same opportunities as other individuals to participate and succeed in the Drug Court.”
  - Providing training opportunities to DUI/Drug Court program staff around unconscious bias and cultural competency.
- COVID-19 Context
  - The impacts of COVID-19 on the DUI/Drug Court program’s operations were significant and posed barriers or challenges in the following areas:
    - Court reviews cancelled initially and resumed through remote hearings.
    - Treatment services- limited to remote sessions.
    - Alcohol and drug testing- No UA services for almost 2 months.
    - Sanctions and incentives to support participant engagement, accountability or progress.
    - Cancellation of 3 graduations.
  - What impact has COVID-19 had on costs?
    - Costs of treatment services because of capacity contract.
  - What impact has COVID- 19 has on the demand for this program’s services?
    - There were no referrals or entries to the DUI/Drug Court program from March- July.
- Other Goals/ Context
  - DUI/Drug Court is implementing a new case management system that will enhance the program in the follow ways:
    - Provide improved case coordination between all members of the DUI/Drug Court team through real time reporting.
    - Assess program benefits through case analysis (value added feature).
    - Improved accountability for DUI/Drug Court participants through advanced technology:
      - GPS and photo check in and
      - Participant notifications of treatment and court calendar activities.
  - DUI/Drug Court is implementing new Phase system and has updated program handbook.

## 2021-2022 Budget Preview:

Request for funding is for the program to maintain maintenance level.

# FAMILY RECOVERY COURT

Administration: Thurston County Superior Court

Program Description: FRC is a problem-solving court program for parents with a substance use disorder whose children are in the dependency system due to a substantiated child abuse or neglect investigation.

Historical Funding & Data:

	Budget	Actual	Variance	Number Served in Year	Other
2018	\$227,208	\$146,778	\$80,430	23	Graduation rate 36%
2019	\$196,300	\$155,401	\$40,899	23	Graduation rate 55%
2020	\$202,857	NA	NA	NA	

# FAMILY RECOVERY COURT

## 2021-2022 Key Issues:

- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
  - Family Recovery Court (FRC) examines its eligibility criteria, screening, referral, entry, and discharge processes, at least annually to ensure that bias, subjective decision making, or other factors do not contribute to disproportionate access to the FRC.
  - FRC delivers family-centered, gender-responsive, trauma-informed, and linguistically and culturally relevant services to meet participants' needs. It ensures that all participants and their children receive assessment-driven services based on their individual and family needs, and that the intensity, dosage, quality, and relevance are consistent with their needs, values, and cultural background.
- COVID-19 Context
  - FRC was prepared at the onset of COVID-19 to implement alternative procedures to maintain program operations. The following are specific mechanisms FRC has implemented during COVID-19:
    - Using the online platform "In The Rooms", FRC has created an entire virtual system where participants participate in weekly activities relating to stress management. This platform allows access to support meetings, peer support, and crisis intervention.
    - Court hearings and the majority of treatment services (including EMDR) are conducted through Zoom.
    - Processes for referrals, intakes, level applications, and other participant reporting are being conducted via mail and email.
    - The two contracted professionals on the FRC team helped ensure a smooth transition of treatment and ancillary services.
  - COVID-19 has not significantly impacted program costs.
  - It is anticipated that COVID-19 will increase demand for program services. The rising rates of substance use, domestic violence, child abuse, homelessness, and poverty connected to the circumstances of COVID-19 will likely increase the number of families entering the child welfare system.
- Other Goals/ Context
  - FRC has been nationally recognized for the promising practices implemented during COVID-19. The program was recently selected by Children and Family Futures (CFF), a national technical assistance organization, as one of three programs from around the country to feature in a live webinar event on August 5, 2020. FRC was a spotlight program for a previous CFF webinar in May 2020.

## 2021-2022 Budget Preview:

- Family Recovery Court is requesting a continuance of maintenance level funding.
- Family Recovery Court is requesting an increase in funding to provide equine-assisted recovery support to program participants. Equine-assisted recovery support is a holistic approach to substance abuse treatment that involves studying the behaviors and interactions with horses to gain insight that helps clients heal from addiction, trauma, and mental health challenges. FRC was able to run a 4-week, 4-person pilot project with HeartStrides in early 2020. All participants noted an objective improvement in their understanding and utilization of regulation skills and felt the experience was a significant part of their recovery journey. The majority of FRC participants would be able to participate in the HeartStrides Therapeutic Horsemanship program by holding three cohort sessions per year. It will cost approximately \$19,950 (\$6,650/cohort) annually for FRC to offer this opportunity.

# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASE COORDINATION

Administration: Thurston County Superior Court

Program Description: The DV Case Coordinator provides monitoring, case coordination, and referrals in domestic violence cases. The DV Case Coordinator monitors compliance with court-ordered domestic violence treatment, including ensuring that individuals are assessed for mental health and substance use treatment and services where indicated by a licensed professional.

Historical Funding & Data:

	Budget	Actual	Variance	Number Served in Year	Other
2018	\$51,262	\$33,598	\$17,664	Data not available	
2019	\$51,039	\$48,085	\$2,954	42	37% exited successfully
2020	\$54,246	NA	NA	NA	

# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASE COORDINATION

## 2021-2022 Key Issues:

- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
- Domestic violence affects people regardless of race, ethnicity, class, sexual and gender identity, religious affiliation, age, immigration status, and ability. Because victims of domestic violence may experience the abuse in culturally specific ways, service providers should consider the cultural background and the unique issues faced by the victim and their children in order to tailor services to meet their needs.
- COVID-19 Context
  - Domestic Violence Protection Order Review Hearings were suspended from the end of March until the end of May. The Domestic Violence Case Coordinator was able to work remotely and keep in contact with participants. Since these hearings have started back up they have been conducted by Zoom and the plan is to have them continue through Zoom until at least the end of the year.
  - The demand for Domestic Violence services, Substance Use Disorder services, and Mental Health services has increased immensely. Domestic Violence has been at an all time high and continues to be through this Pandemic. All of these services providers have adapted to remote services and have remained open minus a few days in the beginning.
- Other Goals/ Context
- The Domestic Violence Case Coordinator continues to look for funding options to help participants afford Domestic Violence Treatment. A lot of Domestic Violence Treatment Providers are not charging participants for services due to the pandemic, but this is not a sustainable plan. Funding to help providers and participants continues to be a goal this program is working on.

## 2021-2022 Budget Preview:

- Domestic Violence Case and Resource Coordinator is requesting a continuance of maintenance level funding.

# NEW PROPOSAL: SAFE BABIES COURT TEAM

Administration: Family and Juvenile Court/ Safe Babies Court Team

Program Description: The Safe Babies Court Team(SBCT) approach is a **community engagement and systems-change initiative** focused on reducing trauma and improving how courts, child welfare and child-serving organizations work together to support young children in the child welfare system.

Brief Description: The SBCT would consist of no more than 20 children age zero to three. The core components of SBCT include:

- Judicial and Child Welfare Leadership. Judicial and child welfare staff are trained in best practices for child development.
- Dedicated staff driving the team approach at the family and community level.
- Frequent family time, parent empowerment, and access to treatment that supports parent-child relationships.
- Early developmental screening and assessment is prioritized.
- Services to address child and parent needs are front-loaded.

2021-2022 Key Issues:

- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
  - SBCT would examine its eligibility criteria, screening, referral, entry, and discharge processes, at least annually to ensure that bias, subjective decision making, or other factors do not contribute to disproportionate access to the program.
  - SBCT would deliver family-centered, gender-responsive, trauma-informed, and linguistically and culturally relevant services to meet participants' needs. It would ensure that all participants and their children receive early assessment-driven services based on their individual and family needs, and that the intensity, dosage, quality, and relevance are consistent with their needs, values, and cultural background.
- COVID-19 Context
  - It is anticipated that COVID-19 may increase and overwhelm the child welfare system with the rising rates of substance use, domestic violence, child abuse, homelessness, and poverty connected to the circumstances of COVID-19.
  - **In the SBCT approach**, families work with a consistent point of contact throughout the process; experience a collaborative approach where parents are valued members in planning for their child's future; participate in frequent judicial hearings and experience frequent family contact with their children.
  - We anticipate operating this program like FRC. We do not anticipate significant COVID-19 related costs.
- Other Goals/Context
  - SBCT research to date has demonstrated compelling outcomes, including:
    - Children exit the foster care system **eight months earlier** than children in traditional child welfare.
    - More than 99 percent of children experience **no recurrence of maltreatment** within 12 months.
    - Children achieved the **same outcomes, regardless of ethnicity, race or time in foster care**, highlighting the potential of SBCT to close significant existing disparities in outcomes for families of color in the current child welfare system.

2021-2022 Budget Preview:

- 10/1/2021-12/31/2021 approximate request \$22,000, 2022 approximate request \$90,000
- To support the continuation of funding for an Administrative Assistant whose role is to support the judge in convening an Active Community Team, drive the quality and frequency of Family Team Meetings, and help families to access and navigate services. The position would also manage data input, monitoring, and quality assurance. The funding would also pay for local travel, training for child welfare and judicial staff. The first year of funding for this program was paid for through the Zero to Three Grant.

# PUBLIC DEFENSE



- Treatment Court Defense & Mitigation Services
- New Proposal: Public Defense Social Work

# TREATMENT COURT DEFENSE & MITIGATION SERVICES

Administration: Thurston County Public Defense

Program Description:

*Treatment Court Defense:* Screens cases for and makes referrals to treatment courts and serves as essential member of treatment court team by providing legal defense to participants.

*Mitigation Services:* seeks to connect individuals with identified mental health and substance use treatment needs to treatment services and/or therapeutic courts and reduce the duration of their incarceration as appropriate.

Historical Funding & Data:

	Budget	Actual	Variance	Number Served in Year	Other
2018	\$242,198	\$242,198	0	Treatment Court data collected via courts Mitigation Services: 31	
2019	\$317,330	\$316,996	\$334	Treatment Court data collected via courts Mitigation Services: 39	
2020	\$324,690	NA	NA	NA	

# TREATMENT COURT DEFENSE & MITIGATION SERVICES

## 2021-2022 Key Issues:

- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
  - As the BoCC's letter to the community recognizes, law enforcement needs support in interacting with community members suffering from mental illness, substance use disorder, homelessness, and many other issues related to poverty and behavioral health. The same applies to the criminal justice system when those individuals become justice involved in Thurston County. Now more than ever, we need TST funded treatment Courts and other inventions investments to address these community needs.
  - TCPD clients by definition are indigent and so many of our clients face the challenges the BoCC recognized when they enter our criminal justice system. The Board recognized a need for County organizations to re-assess their collective mindset as we strive to make our community more inclusive and equitable to those facing these challenges. TCPD has made great strides in furthering that vision but we have more work to do and need more support to do it.
  - TCPD serves all treatment courts by providing direct representation of clients both attempting to enter the programs and continued representation throughout each specific program. TCPD attorneys are responsible for advocating for all our clients not matter they background, race, gender, or any other underrepresented group to gain acceptance into a treatment Court based on a individualize need specific to each one of our clients. Although we are not the "gate keeper" for acceptance into a therapeutic court, our attorneys and staff are committed to entering any and all clients into a therapeutic court if eligible and express a desire to commit to enter.
- COVID-19 Context
  - Expenses/ Operation s
    - COVID-19 has impacted our treatment Courts in a variety of ways. Specifically, due to the health concerns and Court closures, treatment Courts were forced to make the decision to not allow new entries into each program for several weeks. Our clients that were eligible and desiring to enter one of the treatment courts were forced to wait until the Courts were safely able accommodate new clients entering. Clients suffering from mental illness, SUD, and other behavioral health issues were unable to enter our therapeutic Courts during those periods.
    - Additionally, with most of our internal staff working remotely and our office being closed to the public for several weeks, clients and attorneys were challenged to maintain consistent attorney client relationships given the pandemic.
  - Demand for Services
    - Demand for all TST funded programs has and will continue to increase as a result of COVID-19. As unemployment rates increases, access to behavioral health services continues to be challenging, and socio-economics impacts continue over the next 24 months, it would be reasonable to expect more individuals in our community will be in need of our current programs.
- Other Goals/ Context
  - Increase capacity should the demand for services increase
  - Pursue additional resources to the programs to provide early intervention points prior justice involvement
  - Incorporate dispute resolution resources in all therapeutic courts

## 2021-2022 Budget Preview:

- Requesting maintenance level funding of \$649,380 (\$324,690 per Fiscal Year)
- Includes Public Defense Attorneys Salaries/Benefits, Contracted Legal Services, Professional Services (Mitigation), Non-Legal Support Staff, and Internal Fees
- Does not include proposed Social Worker position estimated costs for 2021 and 2022

# NEW PROPOSAL: PUBLIC DEFENSE SOCIAL WORK

Administration: Thurston County Public Defense

Program Description: Thurston County Public Defense - Social Worker (FTE). This program would fund one full-time Social Worker embedded within the Department to meet our clients' behavioral health needs throughout their legal representation. The position would serve clients across the Department, including juvenile clients. Specifically, the position would connect individuals with identified or unidentified mental health and/or substance use disorder treatment needs to treatment services within the community (also in furtherance of entry into Treatment Courts), functions traditionally left to our staff attorneys. The position would work with incarcerated clients as well as those in the community pending trial. These connections to services would include meeting re-entry service gaps upon a client's release when their case is concluded. We know that clients who stabilize during the course of representation often receive better results from the justice system, i.e. less incarceration time, lesser charges from the prosecutors, etc.. Additionally, we anticipate these connections to services and stabilization efforts would positively impact housing insecurity, unemployment, and other risk factors for future criminal behavior by addressing the root causes of a client's justice involvement.

## 2021-2022 Key Issues:

- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (*Reference Point: Mitigation Services Program 2019 Stats*)
  - 2019 Percentage of Underrepresented Minorities Served = 58.4%
  - 2019 Successful Program Exit Percentage = 89.0%
  - 2019 Age Groups Served =
    - 15 – 17 = 5.6%
    - 18 – 24 = 27.8%
    - 25 – 54 = 52.8%
    - 55+ = 11.1%
    - Not Responded = 2.8%
- COVID-19 Context
  - How this new program is important/ relevant in light of COVID-19
    - The criminal justice system has received hundreds of criminal referrals throughout COVID. These new “COVID” cases could be added to an already overwhelming number of pending backlog cases. We expect this trend to continue through 2021 and into 2022.
    - I would anticipate an even greater need for behavioral health services for clients given all the impacts of COVID.
  - Any anticipated operational issues related to COVID-19 (addressing these should be built into costs)
    - None identified.
- Other Goals/ Context
  - Please fill in any other key goals/ context the committee needs to know (brief)
    - With a full-time embedded position, all professional staff and attorneys would need additional training on social work integration.
    - Establish key data points to measure performance/identify gaps within the first 6 months.
    - Within first 6 months, position must establish strong partnerships with known local providers, current justice stakeholders, and identify new partners.

## 2021-2022 Budget Preview:

- Requesting additional funding of \$196,399.22 for the biennium (FY 2021 = \$99,449.61, FY 2022 = \$96,949.61)
- Includes Salaries/Benefits, IT Equipment, Supplies, Travel, Training & Miscellaneous Expenses