

Sacramento County Dependency

Drug Court:

Specialized Treatment and Recovery Services (STARS)

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Session 1—Evidence Based Practice

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Sacramento County's Comprehensive Reform

Five Components of Reform

1. Comprehensive cross-system joint training
2. Substance Abuse Treatment System of Care
3. Early Intervention Specialists
4. Recovery Management Specialists (STARS)
5. Dependency Drug Court

Reforms have been implemented over the past eleven years

Sacramento County Dependency Drug Court Model

Flow chart that shows the different hearings that parents attend and the various points of intervention for the STARS program. When the child is taken into custody, the parent must attend a detention hearing followed up by a jurisdictional hearing. At both of those hearings, the judge may refer the parent to the Early Intervention Specialist for assessment and referral to the STARS program. Once in the STARS program, a parent returns to the court during 30, 60, and 90 day hearings for their progress.

STARS

- Specialized
- Treatment
- And
- Recovery

- Services

STARS Goals

- Effect client change by removing barriers to treatment and providing support
- Provide CPS/Dependency Courts with accurate and reliable documentation

The 5 Points of Success

- Integrity
- Positivism
- Servant Leadership
- Customer Service
- Professionalism

Obstacles to Change

- Late-stage addiction
- Resistance to “the system”
- Lack of hope
- Fathers often dismissed in dependency cases

Achieving our Goals

- Intake
- Support
- Philosophy
- Intangibles

Intake

- Parent is immediately assessed for AOD issues at Detention Hearing. Each parent is assessed individually, to help break denial surrounding significant other.
- Facility location
- Rapid intake

Intake

- Immediate access to treatment
- Immediate contact with Recovery Specialist – gender specific

Three Strategies for Working with Parents

- Use of Motivational Interviewing Techniques
- Role-modeling
- Accountability

Role Models

- Recovery Specialists are:
- Certified addiction specialists
- Believable and approachable
- Comfortable with some self-disclosure
- Non-punitive in approach

Accountability

- Our belief is that when we combine an empathetic, supportive environment with one that stresses accountability, we are able to create change in a profound way.

Sacramento Family Treatment Court Evaluation Findings

Children and Family Futures

4940 Irvine Blvd.

Suite 202

Irvine, CA 92620

714/505-3525

<http://www.cffutures.org>

Treatment Admission Rates***

This slide contains a bar graph that shows the treatment admission rates for participants in the dependency drug court and comparison group. The rate value in each category is as follows:

Comparison (n=111): 53.2

DDC (n=1738): 84.8

***p<.001

Treatment Discharge Status*

This slide contains a bar graph that shows the treatment discharge status for participants in the dependency drug court and comparison group. The percent value in each category is as follows:

Satisfactory Discharge for Comparison (n=146): 56.8 percent

Satisfactory Discharge for DDC (n=3725): 65.1 percent

Unsatisfactory Discharge for Comparison (n=146): 43.2 percent

Unsatisfactory Discharge for DDC (n=3725): 34.9 percent

Treatment Discharge Status by Primary Drug Problem***

This slide contains a bar graph that shows the treatment discharge status for participants in the dependency drug court and comparison group. The percent value in each category is as follows:

Primary Drug Problem	Satisfactory (in percent)	Unsatisfactory (in percent)
Heroin (n=181)	50.3	49.7
Alcohol (n=623)	71.3	28.7
Methamphetamine (n=2039)	66.1	33.9
Cocaine/Crack (n=465)	60.2	39.8
Marijuana (n=465)	61.9	38.1

***p<.001

24-Month Child Placement Outcomes

This slide contains a bar graph that shows the child placement outcomes for participants in the dependency drug court and comparison group. The percent value in each category is as follows:

Group	Reunification***	Adoption**	Guardianship***	Continued Reunification Services***	Long-Term Placement***
Comparison (n=173)	27.2	31.8	13.3	1.7	18.5
DDC (n=1346)	43.6	22.6	4.5	14	3.3

p<.01; *p<.001

24-Month Child Placement Outcomes by Parent Primary Drug Problem

This slide contains a bar graph that shows the 24 month child placement outcomes for participants in the dependency drug court by primary drug problem. The percent value in each category is as follows:

Primary Drug Problem	Reunification*	Adoption***	Guardianship	Continued Reunification Services*	Long-Term Placement*
Heroin (n=39)	38.5	41	7.7	2.6	10.3
Alcohol (n=232)	45.3	27.6	7.3	15.5	4.3
Methamphetamine (n=763)	52	24.5	6.2	14.4	2.9
Cocaine/crack (n=177)	41.8	30.5	4	15.8	7.9
Marijuana (n=246)	48.4	23.6	7.3	16.7	4.1

Time to Reunification at 24 Months

This slide contains a bar graph that shows the time to reunification at 24 months for participants in the dependency drug court. The percent value in each category is as follows:

Comparison (n=47): 300.7 in days

DDC (n=587): 280.8 in days

24-Month Cost Savings Due to Increased Reunification Rates Preliminary Findings

- Takes into account the reunification rates, time of out-of-home care, time to reunification, and cost per month
- 27.2% - Reunification rate for comparison group children
- 43.6% - Reunification rate for court-ordered DDC group children
- 221 Additional DDC children reunified
- 33.1 – Average months in out-of-home care for comparison group children
- 9.4 - Average months to reunification for court-ordered DDC children
- 23.7 month differential
- **\$10,049,036 Estimated Savings in Out-of-Home care costs**