

OJP DRUG COURT CLEARINGHOUSE AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT

**Tribal Drug Court/Healing to Wellness Court Activity Update: Summary Information**

**June 15, 2001**

The information presented below reflects self reported information provided by 25 of the 32 tribal drug/healing to wellness court programs which were in operation as of January 1, 2001. This information has been compiled by the OJP Drug Court Clearinghouse and Technical Assistance Project as of June 1, 2001 and, in most cases, has not been independently validated.

**I. Drug Court Activity Underway**

▪ No. of Programs Currently Operating:	32
▪ No. of Programs Planned:	48
▪ No. of Drug Courts with Alumni Groups:	1
▪ No. of Operating/Planned Tribal Drug Courts with:	
▪ Adult Drug Court Programs only	58
▪ DUI only	1
▪ Juvenile Programs Only	12
▪ Family	1
▪ Combined Juvenile and Adult Programs	8

**II. Summary Program Information**

▪ Estimated Total No. of Individuals Who Have Enrolled To Date In Tribal Drug /Healing to Wellness Court Programs:	700
▪ Estimated No. of Graduates	130

**III. Justice System Status of Participants**

	<u>Adult Programs</u>	<u>Juvenile Programs</u>
▪ Pretrial Diversion only	10%	--
▪ Pretrial Diversion in combination with other approaches	50%	20%
▪ Post Conviction only	--	20%
▪ Post Conviction in combination with other approaches	60%	30%
▪ Probation Violators only	--	--
▪ Probation Violators in combination with other approaches	20%	10%
▪ Combination of approaches	70%	30%

#### IV. Source of Participant Referrals

- From the Local Tribal Court
- From a State Court

#### Adult Programs

All  
A few

#### Juvenile Programs

All  
A Few

#### V. Summary Participant Information

##### ● Age Range (years):

<u>Adult Programs</u>		<u>Juvenile Programs</u>	
Teens	13%	Under 13:	--
20-25	21%	14-15	59%
26-35	32%	16-17	41%
36-45	23%		
46-55	9%		
over 55	2%		

##### ▪ Gender (Current Participants/Graduates)

	<u>Adult Programs</u>	<u>Juvenile Programs</u>
▪ Male:	59%	53%
▪ Female:	41%	47%

##### ● Marital Status (Adult Programs):

▪ Single:	44%
▪ Married:	24%
▪ Divorced:	7%
▪ Separated:	2%
▪ Widowed:	--
▪ Living with Significant Other:	22%

##### ● Parental Status (Adult Programs):

36% of participants were parents of minor children

##### ● Educational Status at time of Program Entry

▪ <b>Adult Programs:</b>	
No high school degree or GED	54%
High school degree or GED	28%
Some post-high school training	9%
Some college	7%
College degree	2%
Post college degree	--
▪ <b>Juvenile Programs:</b>	
Grade 6 or below	18%
Grade 7-8	77%
Grade 9-10	5%
Grade 11-12	--

- **Employment Status at time of Program Entry**

Employed fulltime	22%
Employed part-time	12%
Student	12%
Unemployed/available to work	32%
Unemployed/not seeking employment	12%

**VI. Substance Abuse Characteristics at time of Program Entry:**

- **No. of years of drug use at time of program entry**

<u>Adult Programs</u>	<u>Juvenile Programs</u>
under 2 yrs: 14%	1-6 Years Reported
2-5 yrs: 27%	
6-10 yrs: 30%	
11-15 yrs: 18%	
16-20 yrs: 7%	
over 20 yrs: 4%	

- **Reported age at first use of drugs:**

<u>Adult Programs</u>	<u>Juvenile Programs</u>	
N/A	under 9 years	50%
	10 years	17%
	11 years	17%
	12 years	8%
	13-14 years	8%
	over 15 years	--

- **Reported first drug used:**

alcohol	(all)
marijuana	(a few)

- **Drug of Choice:**

	<u>Adult Programs</u>	<u>Juvenile Programs</u>
Alcohol	All	All
Cocaine/crack	A Few	None
Heroin	A Few	None
Inhalants	A Few	Some
Marijuana	Some	A Few
Methamphetamine	A Few	None
Prescription medications	None	None

## VII. Special Needs Presented by Juvenile Drug Court Participants

<b>Special Needs of Participants Reported</b>	<b>Percentage of Reporting Programs Noting Special Needs for at least some Participants</b>
Severe substance involvement	66%
Immaturity in terms of thought processes/cognitive development	33%
History of abuse/trauma	33%
Fetal alcohol syndrome/effect of drug addicted birth	--
Academic under-achievement	33%
Participant at below grade reading level	33%
Attention deficit disorder	33%
Other learning disabilities	--
Physical health problems/allergies	--
Deficiencies in physical faculties (e.g., eyesight, etc.)	--
Low sense of personal identity/self esteem	33%
Depression or other mental health condition	33%
Unhealthy peer relationships	66%
Problems in family/living situation that need to be addressed	66%
Need for participant to develop meaningful community ties	66%

## VIII. Incorporation of Custom and Tradition in Drug Court Program

	<u>All</u>	<u>Some</u>
Art		x
Community Service		x
Counseling		x
Crafts		x
Culture Awareness		x
Language		x
Respect for Elders		x
Tradition Awareness		x
Self-help groups/awareness		x

## IX. Issues Being Addressed

	<u>Significant</u>	<u>Somewhat Significant</u>	<u>Not Significant</u>
<b>Addressing Alcohol and Drug Issues</b>			
Prevalence of Alcohol Abuse	60%	40%	--
Alcohol Prohibition	--	80%	20
Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS)	--	--	--
Fetal Alcohol Effects (FAE)	33%	50%	17%

Abuse of Other Drugs	80%	20%	--
Inhalant Abuse	60%	40%	--

	<u>Somewhat Significant</u>	<u>Not Significant</u>	<u>Significant</u>
<b>Addressing Jurisdiction and Resource Issues</b>			
Lack of criminal jurisdiction over Non-Indians	20%	20%	60%
Public Law 280	25%	50%	25%
Sentencing Limitations in the Indian Civil Rights Act	25%	75%	--
Historically strained relationship with state courts and state agencies	20%	20%	60%
Tribal members charged with off-reservation crimes	--	80%	20%
Lack of funding for tribal justice system	66%	33%	--
Lack of staff, resources, and jail facilities	50%	50%	--
High juvenile population	20%	80%	--
Rural and small community issues	50%	33%	17%
Violent offender prohibition problems	20%	80%	--

#### X. Participant Enrollment and Retention 1 Information Reported by Tribal Drug Courts

State	Jurisdiction	Juv/Adult	City	Impl. Date	Enrollment To Date	No. Of Graduates	Retention Rate2
AL	Poarch Creek Indians Tribal Drug Ct	A	Atmore	August 1998	17	7	76%
AZ	Gila River Indian Community Ct	J	Sacaton	April 2000	8		75%
AZ	Hualapai Tribal Ct	A	Peach Springs	January 1998	83	27	98%
AZ	Hualapai Tribal Ct	J	Peach Springs	January 1998	47	15	93%
AZ	[Kaibab-Paiute Tribal and Juvenile ]	J	Pipe Springs	February 1999	[9!]	NA	NA!
AZ	Pascua Yaqui Tribal Ct	A	Tucson	August 1998	10!	NA	80%!
AZ	Yavapai-Apache	J	Prescott	March 1998	73*	16*	54%*
ID	Shoshone Bannock Tribes	J	Fort Hall	October 1997	24!	NA	87%!

1 "Retention", as used in this report, is defined as the total number of current participants plus the total number of graduates divided by the total number ever enrolled.

2 **Note:** Retention rates among reporting programs vary significantly as a result of the range of eligibility criteria used by drug court programs and the nature and extent of substance abuse, prior criminal justice system involvement, and other issues presented by participants. COMPARISONS AMONG PROGRAMS SHOULD THEREFORE BE MADE WITH GREAT CAUTION.

State	Jurisdiction	Juv/ Adult	City	Impl. Date	Enrollment To Date	No. Of Graduates	Retention Rate <sup>2</sup>
MT	[Blackfeet Tribal Ct (Family)]	A	Browning	January 1998	[33!]	NA	[97%!]
MT	Ft. Belknap Tribal Ct. (Family)	A	Harlem	March 1998	29	3	67%
MT	Ft. Peck Wellness Ct	J	Poplar	May 1998	25	NA	76%
ND	Turtle Mountain Chippewa Tribal Ct	A	Belcourt	August 1999	35	14	100%
NM	Navajo National Judicial District Ct	A	Crownpoint	May 2000	33	NA	87%
NM	Navajo National Judicial District Ct	J	Crownpoint	April 2000	4	NA	75%
NM	The Navajo Nation DANA Drug Ct	A	Shiprock	May 2000	44	NA	61%
NV	Duckwater Tribal Ct	A	Duckwater	September 1997	12*	NA	79%*
NV	Duckwater Tribal Ct	J	Duckwater	September 1997	4*	4*	100%*
NC	Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians	J	Cherokee City	April 1999	15*	NA	87%*
OK	Muskogee Creek Nation Tribal Ct	A	Okmulgee	June 1999	10	2	80%
OK	Citizen Pottawatomie Nation Ct	A	Shawnee	October 2000	2	NA	100%
SD	Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux Tribal Ct	A	Agency Village	November 1997	47	11	68%
SD	Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux Tribal Ct	J	Agency Village	November 1997	47	9	64%
TX	Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo Tribal Ct	J	El Paso	April 2001	N/A	N/A	N/A
WA	Makah Tribal Court	A	Neah Bay	March 1998	32	9	78%
WA	Spokane Tribal Court	A	Wellpinit	July 1999	26	8	92%
WA	Spokane Tribal Court	J	Wellpinit	January 2000	10	NA	100%

! = 1999 data      \* = 2000 data      [] = currently inactive court

**For further information, contact:**

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