

Washington State Treatment Court Opioid and Overdose Response Plan

Overview

Adult drug courts and veterans treatment courts are widely supported platforms that identify and support individuals in the criminal legal system with undiagnosed and untreated behavioral health disorders.

Through the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance, the Washington Health Care Authority (HCA) partnered with the Center for Justice Innovation (CJI) to develop and implement a comprehensive initiative called the *Washington State Treatment Court Opioid and Overdose Response Plan*. This project supports Washington State's alignment and adherence to Adult Drug Court Best Practices while ensuring equity and inclusion in access to evidence-based treatment and overdose response for people with legal system involvement.

Project design and implementation

Together, HCA and CJI implement data-driven initiatives to meet the following goals:

- Create and promote new protocols that expand state based training capacity and remote training opportunities
- Support refining of admission practices to ensure Washington's treatment courts are serving high-risk/high-need offenders
- Create comprehensive strategies to support treatment courts in addressing equity and inclusion challenges
- Improve access to Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) and other evidence-based treatments, particularly in underrepresented communities and rural jurisdictions

HCA will also build on its existing relationships with treatment courts in tribal communities and neighboring areas to create robust and tailored

programmatic responses to any identified service gaps.

Authority

Through the the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, Congress first authorized the Attorney General to make grants to states, state courts, local courts, units of local government, and federally recognized Indian tribal government to establish drug courts.

Federal award number: 15PBJA-21-GG-04140-DGCT

Budget

\$1,650,000 GF-F (October 2021- September 2025)

Key partners

- Administrative Office of the Courts
- Center for Justice Innovation
- Washington Technology Services
- Department of Social Health and Services- Research and Data Analysis
- Washington State Association of Drug Court Professionals

Oversight

Internal

Program initiatives will be managed and evaluated by the Department of Justice Grants Administrator in the Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery.

External

Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance Programs.

More information

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