

Warren County Juvenile Drug Court Implementation Evaluation

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PREFACE

The motto for Kentucky Drug Court is “A chance...A change”. Its mission is to create a criminal justice environment in Kentucky that facilitates reductions in illicit drug use and related criminal activity and promotes recovery and reintegration into society while emphasizing public safety and fair representation of all interests under the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

For adolescents, substance use is in many ways normative behavior (Kaminer & Tarter, 1999). By age 18, almost 80% of youths in the U.S. report having used alcohol, 64% report smoking cigarettes, and 50% report using marijuana at least once (Johnston et al., 1996). For adolescents, drug and alcohol abuse reduces motivation, interferes with cognitive processes, contributes to mood disorders, has implications for immediate and long-term physical health, and increases the risk of accidental injury or death (Hawkins, Catalano, & Miller, 1992; Paglia & Room, 1998). Adolescent substance use is related to less educational achievement, an increase in crimes committed by juveniles, and increased health and mental health care services use and cost. In addition, early substance use and abuse is associated with a variety of other risk factors including early and frequent sexual intercourse (which is associated with STD’s, HIV and unwanted pregnancies) as well as delinquency and later criminal activity (Ball et al., 1982; Dembo et al., 1991; Elliott, Huizinga, & Menard, 1989; Jessor & Jessor, 1977; Speckhard & Anglin, 1985).

In response to juvenile delinquency and substance abuse more than 140 juvenile Drug Courts have been established across the nation since 1995 (Cooper, 2001). However, juvenile Drug Court models are still being established, and it is not clear what works best in a juvenile Drug Court. Because the field of juvenile justice is in a constant state of flux, evaluation efforts clearly are needed to provide “snapshots” of established juvenile Drug Courts.

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Juvenile Drug Courts in Kentucky are grounded in the 16 Strategies described by the Bureau of Justice assistance in Juvenile Drug Courts: Strategies in Practice (2003). These 16 Strategies were developed by the Drug Court Standards Committee to ensure that a core set of principles were defined for all Drug Court programs. Juvenile Drug Court programs in Kentucky are expected to adhere to a programmatic model developed by the Administrative Office of the Courts that fulfills standards set forth in the 16 Strategies. Individual programs vary to a certain degree in exactly how each of these standards are fulfilled to allow flexibility to answer each jurisdiction's specific needs. Drug Court programs in Kentucky represent a team-oriented effort that brings together professionals from the criminal justice system, the treatment delivery system, the school system, and the community who are focused on combining intensive criminal justice supervision with drug abuse treatment.

Need for the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court Program.

In 2004, dangerous, non-narcotic drugs accounted for 53% of drug arrests in Warren County; synthetic narcotics accounted for 13% of drug arrests, and marijuana accounted for 31% of all drug arrests (*Crime in Kentucky, 2004*). According to the same publication *Crime in Kentucky* (2004), from 2003 to 2004, the number of juveniles arrested in Warren County for narcotic drug law offenses increased from 18 arrests in 2003 to 39 arrests in 2004. Likewise, the number of juveniles arrested for alcohol-related offenses (DUI, liquor laws, and drunkenness) jumped from 21 juveniles arrested in 2003 to 31 juveniles arrested in 2004. Given this trend in increased juvenile arrests for drug and alcohol related offenses, the need for a juvenile Drug Court in Warren County is evident.

Executive Summary

This report is a compilation of qualitative and quantitative data collected during a program evaluation of the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court Program. This report is an update of the process evaluation completed during the 2004-2005 fiscal year as well as an evaluation of participant outcomes since the inception of the program in 2003. The process evaluation included administrative interviews, focus group, court and staffing observations, and program documents review. The outcome evaluation included recidivism analyses on participants enrolled in the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court Program.

Qualitative data gathered during the process evaluation demonstrates that the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court Program is striving towards operating their program in compliance with the 16 Key Strategies outlined by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The treatment team consists of individuals who are dedicated to providing criminal justice supervision with substance abuse treatment opportunities to benefit the participants and families they serve. This court has established relationships with various community agencies to serve as resources for their participants and their families. This juvenile Drug Court also goes to great lengths to involve the parents of its participants and local schools have made themselves available to assist the Juvenile Drug Court Program in various ways such as providing attendance, grade, and discipline reports to the program coordinator.

Quantitative data gathered during this evaluation shows that the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court program has succeeded in increasing the number of participants served by their program from the previous evaluation year. However, in the three years of federal funding, only one participant had successfully graduated from the program. However, through continued evaluation and programmatic reflection, this program can continue to grow and provide a valuable service to the juveniles and families they serve.

PROCESS EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

The research methodology utilized for this evaluation include both process and outcome components. A process evaluation methodology was employed for this study because it has several advantages. One advantage is that it allows the program to not only document, but also later revisit initial steps to determine what aspects of the program are successful and if aspects of the program need revision. A second advantage is that, in conjunction with an outcome evaluation, it may explain why participants are successful or not successful in completing the program. Finally, process evaluations are essential for the development of future programs.

The research team utilized five methods of data collection for the process evaluation. The first component involved face to face interviews with the Program Coordinator and the Drug Court Judge. The interview instruments were designed to collect both qualitative and quantitative data (see Logan, Lewis, Leukefeld, & Minton, 2000). The second component in the process evaluation was a staffing/courtroom observation. The staffing/court observation allowed the research team to extract observational data regarding the interactional (exchanges between the Judge, court staff, and participants) and environmental (physical characteristics of the setting) variables of the Drug Court session. Data were coded using a protocol developed by Satel (1998), which involves coding the session on 17 specific characteristics. The third component involved reviewing the monthly statistical reports submitted by Drug Court programs to the Administrative Office of the Courts. These records allow the researchers to track case processing and caseflow through the Drug Court system. The fourth component involved reviewing the program documentation of the Drug Court. These data included copies of the grant application, handbooks provided by the Drug Court to its participants, and the policy and procedure manual for the Drug Court program. Finally, the last component in the process evaluation was a researcher led focus group of all Drug Court team members. The goal of the

focus group was to synthesize a comprehensive description of program elements using a “logic model” approach.

The outcome evaluation employed methods to examine the effects of Drug Court treatment on participants. One source of information used to assess these outcomes included during-program treatment data from participant files. Specific variables extracted from files included urinalysis data, phase promotion/demotion data, sanction/reward data, and graduation/termination data. A second source of information used to assess program outcomes were Criminal History Records obtained from CourtNet. Information extracted from CourtNet files provided recidivism data on Drug Court participants.

Geographic Location and Context of the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court.

The Warren County Juvenile Drug Court program serves juveniles in the judicial district encompassing Warren County, Kentucky. Warren County is located in the Pennyrile and Western Coal Fields regions of the state (Kentucky Atlas & Gazetteer, 2005). The estimated population for the county for 2004 was 97,168 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2006), and the racial ethnic breakdown for Warren County was 87% Caucasian, 8.6% African American, 2.7 % Hispanic, and 1.4% Asian in 2003. It is estimated that approximately 23.1% of the population in Warren County is under 18 years of age.

FINDINGS: DURING PROGRAM IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

The findings presented in this section comprise the information gathered from the Administrative and Judge interviews, focus group, court observation, and participant files. These data were examined and are presented within the context of the 16 strategies presented in *Juvenile Drug Courts: Strategies in Practice* (BJA, 2003).

Strategy #1. Collaborative Planning – Engage all stakeholders in creating an interdisciplinary, coordinated, and systemic approach to working with youth and their families.

The Warren County Juvenile Drug Court team has developed a cohesive unit that involves community-based stakeholders. During the planning and implementation stages of the Drug Court, this team worked together to develop policies and procedures which would guide not only the daily operations, but also the overall philosophy of the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court Program.

The Juvenile Drug Court team includes representatives from law enforcement, the court system, the treatment community, and the education community. The overall goal of these stakeholders is to ensure that participants receive intensive supervision and treatment. The team developed program goals, participant rules and regulations, and a phase structure to guide the program in achieving these goals and objectives. These goals and objectives are also provided to the participants in order to guide program expectations, as well as what behaviors may be cause for sanctions and/or termination from the program. Finally, the phase structure details the requirements participants will have to meet in order to successfully complete the Juvenile Drug Court program including number of counseling sessions, court sessions, urine screens, and other treatment activities required of each participant during each of the three phases. Additionally, the phase structure provides minimum lengths of time each participant will remain a given phase.

All of the above information has been incorporated into the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court Participant Handbook (revised October 12, 2004). Within this handbook, participants and their families are familiarized with the description of the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court program, the participant goals, the costs related to the program, participant rules and regulations, and the phase structure of the program. Additionally, detailed explanations of program requirements such as individual, group, and family counseling sessions, community supervision meetings, school, GED, and work-related requirements, and random drug screening requirements are provided. To ensure that both participants and their families understand the Participant Handbook, an orientation meeting is held with the Coordinator who explains this Handbook in detail.

Each of the participants on the treatment team has their own unique role to play in the lives of the participants and their families. At the treatment team meetings held prior to court sessions, each team member contributes their knowledge and expertise in order to tailor treatment strategies for each participant. By having such a diverse and active treatment team, the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court program is able to attack the multi-faceted problems facing the youth in their program as a unified force.

Strategy #2. Teamwork – Develop and maintain an interdisciplinary, nonadversarial work team.

The primary goal of the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court is to combine criminal justice practices with treatment-oriented services. The first step in accomplishing this goal was to develop an interdisciplinary treatment team. The Warren County Juvenile Drug Court treatment team currently has 37 members representing community agencies, criminal justice agencies, treatment agencies, and educational agencies. The treatment team has community service representation from the Bowling Green Technical College, the Boys and Girls Club of Bowling Green, and a citizen representative. From the justice community, the team has representation

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from the Court Designated Workers office, District Court, Bowling Green Police Department, Circuit Court's Office, Warren Juvenile Detention, County Attorney's Office, Department of Juvenile Justice Alternatives to Detention, and the Warren County Drug Task Force. From the treatment community, the team has representatives from Lifeskills, Inc., Bellewood Presbyterian Home, Rivendell Behavioral Health, and the Cabinet for Health & Family Services. Finally, from the educational community, the treatment team has representation from Warren County Day Treatment and Bowling Green City Schools. Such a broad representation on the Drug Court team allows the Warren Juvenile Drug Court the opportunity to provide a vast array of comprehensive services to their clients and their families.

Direct services to the participants are provided by the Drug Court Coordinator who began working with the Warren County Juvenile team in May of 2004. The Coordinator is responsible for conducting assessments of juveniles referred to the Juvenile Drug Court program, gathering background information on the juveniles (such as criminal records checks), maintaining case files of all juveniles active in the program, conducting home and school visits, collecting urine screens when appropriate, and reporting participant progress to the treatment team at weekly staffings. The Coordinator is the front-line contact person between the juveniles and the Juvenile Drug Court team.

The Judge volunteers his time to serve on the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court team. The Judge participates in both the weekly staffings and Juvenile Drug Court sessions in his District courtroom.

Strategy #3. Clearly Defined Target Population and Eligibility Criteria – Define a target population and eligibility criteria that are aligned with the program’s goals and objectives.

The Warren County Juvenile Drug Court program has had active participants since October of 2004, and have continued to refine the eligibility criteria for their program.

Capacity and Case flow: The goal of the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court is to provide treatment and supervision to a maximum of 15 juvenile clients. Since October of 2004, the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court has enrolled a total of 17 participants into their program. They currently have 10 active participants. The table below summarizes the demographic characteristics of their participants.

Table 1: Demographic Characteristics of Warren County Juvenile Drug Court

Demographic Characteristic:	Number of Participants: (N =17)
Race:	
Caucasian:	14
African-American:	2
Bi-Racial	1
Gender:	
Male:	13
Female:	4
Age:	
14 Years Old:	1
16 Years Old:	1
17 Years Old:	6
18 Years Old:	5
19 Years Old:	4

Referral, eligibility, and admission procedures. The Warren County Juvenile Drug Court is currently functioning as a post-adjudication court. Participants are referred into the program by the Juvenile Drug Court Judge, who also serves on the Juvenile Court bench. While there are two other Juvenile Court Judges who see youths on their juvenile dockets, the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court are currently not accepting any referrals from these Judges. The defense attorney who works with the Juvenile Drug Court team also makes referrals to the program.

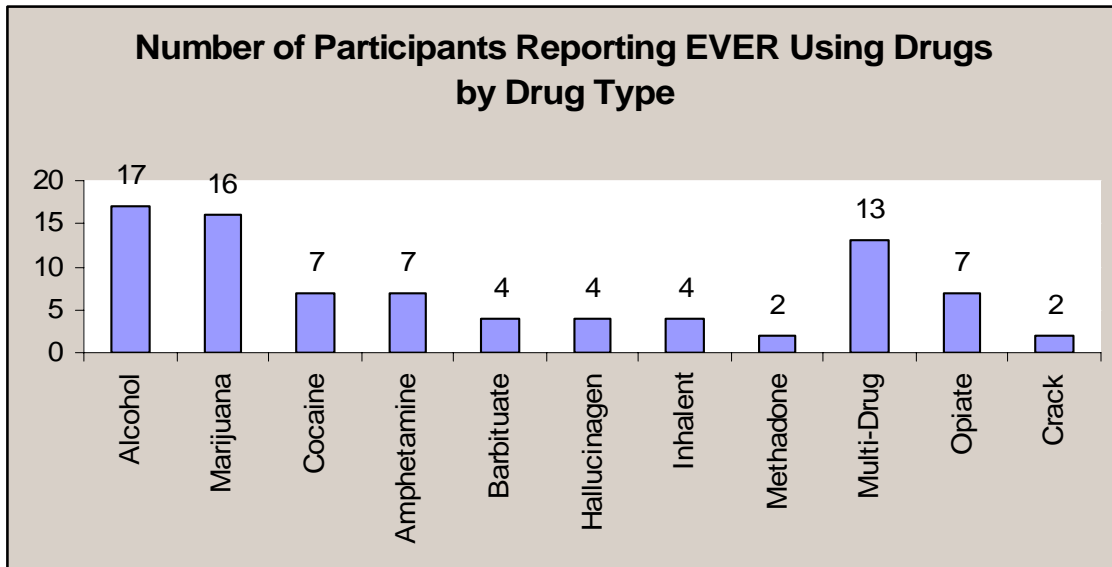
To be eligible for the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court program, youth must be between the ages of 13 and 17 years of age. If a juvenile is close to turning 18 years of age and the team feels they are appropriate for the program, the team may petition the Judge to have jurisdiction extended beyond 18 years of age. For juveniles to be eligible for the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court program, they must have committed a public offense, have substance abuse issues, and be a resident of Warren County. The Warren County Juvenile Drug Court will not accept youth who have committed violent and/or sexual offenses, status offenses, or youth who are charged with trafficking offenses. However, if a juvenile is charged with trafficking in substances to support their own substance use they will be considered for the program.

When a participant is referred into the program, the Coordinator meets with the youth to determine their eligibility. The Adolescent Intake Assessment (AIA; Logan, Messer, and Minton) is used to assess eligibility based upon substance abuse of each of the potential participants. The AIA is administered either in the Warren County Detention Center, or at the Juvenile Drug Court office, and is typically completed within 10 days of the referral. A juvenile is notified one to two days after the assessment is made if they are accepted in to the program and will have their first court appearance within seven days (depending on the Drug Court docket). Once a youth is determined to be eligible for the Juvenile Drug Court program, the youth and his/her parents are required to attend a two-hour orientation session with the Coordinator in

which the handbook is reviewed and explained to the youth and his/her parents. Finally, both the participant and his/her parents are required to sign a written agreement of participation.

Results from the AIA show that most participants in the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court have a myriad of drug use experiences. Of the 17 participants to date in the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court, 100% (N = 17) reported ever having ever used alcohol, 88.9% (N = 16) report having ever used marijuana, 38.9% (N = 7) report ever using cocaine, amphetamines, and opiates, 22% (N = 4) report ever using barbiturates, inhalants, and hallucinogens, and 11% (N = 2) report ever using methadone and/or crack. A total of 72.2% (N = 13) report ever being a multi-drug user. The figure below demonstrates these results.

Figure 1 : Number of Participants Reporting EVER Using Drugs by Drug Type



The AIA also asks youths at what age they began using each substance identified as having EVER being used by the youth. The substances of choice for preteens are inhalants, with 11 of the 17 participants reporting using inhalants at age 11. At age 13, the participants reported increasing use of alcohol, hallucinogens, and opiates. In addition to alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, amphetamines, and opiates are the substances of choice for participants in the Warren County

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Juvenile Drug Court. The table below demonstrates at what ages the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court participants reported first use by drug type.

Table 2: Reported Age at First Use by Drug Type

Drug:	Age at First Use:								
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Alcohol	0	1	0	1	5	6	3	1	0
Marijuana	3	0	1	1	1	3	5	0	0
Cocaine	0	0	1	1	1	2	0	1	1
Amphetamines	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	2	1
Barbiturates	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	1
Hallucinogens	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	1	1
Inhalants	0	0	11	0	1	0	1	1	0
Methadone	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Multiple Drugs	0	0	1	0	2	3	5	2	0
Opiates	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	1	1
Crack	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	3	2	14	5	15	17	22	10	5

Strategy #4. Judicial Involvement and Supervision – Schedule frequent judicial reviews and be sensitive to the effect that court proceedings can have on youth and their families.

The Judge for the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court is one member of an extensive, diverse treatment team. While he presides over the Drug Court sessions, he is also a voting member of the treatment team. Judge Potter has 5 ½ years experience on the Judge’s bench, and while he has no prior experience with substance users and/or abusers, he feels he has gained significant knowledge and understanding about the issues they deal with. The Judge noted that the major difference between Juvenile Drug Court and other treatment programs is the amount of supervision provided to the participants. The Juvenile Drug Court program provides intense supervision through increased drug testing and appearance at court sessions as well as increased treatment given through outpatient group and individual counseling.

Juveniles are expected to appear before Judge Potter once a week during their participation in the Juvenile Drug Court program. The Judge issues sanctions and/or rewards that the team has discussed and voted on during staffing sessions. Judge Potter feels that sanctions “punish the clients for negative conduct as well as engrains a sense of rehabilitation in them that teaches them they cannot act negatively without consequences” (personal communication). On the flip side of that, Judge Potter feels that rewards “shows the kids that they can benefit from compliance—they don’t have to be bad to have fun. A lot of these kids think that drugs is the only way to have fun” (personal communication). The Judge also indicated that he can get a true sense of the success of participants from the bench through the participants’ attitudes, appearance, level of communication, as well as from reports during staffing regarding school attendance and grades, and reports on compliance with Drug Court rules and treatment. A true level of success for Judge Potter to feel the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court is successful is three-fold, “a lack of repeat offenders, reduction in drug use among participants, and improvement in school and social skills” (personal communication).

Strategy #5. Monitoring and Evaluation – Establish a system for program monitoring and evaluation to maintain quality of service, assess program impact, and contribute to knowledge in the field.

This report is a result of a two-year process and outcome evaluation conducted by the University of Kentucky Center on Drug and Alcohol Research. This report is submitted per Bureau of Justice Assistance requirements for an externally-conducted process and outcome evaluation of all federally-funded Drug Courts.

One piece of this process evaluation is a researcher-led focus group consisting of the Drug Courts treatment team members. This focus group follows a Logic Model approach (adopted from Harrell, 1996) which allows the Drug Court to participate in its own program development and evaluation. The researchers asks the treatment team to identify the key

components of their program in Year One and allows them to opportunity to re-visit these components in the second year evaluation to examine how the key components have changed, program effectiveness and what obstacles they felt the program still needed to overcome in the future. Program evaluation is an integral part of the program development process and is essential to program sustainment.

The end result of this focus group is a graphic representation of the important elements of the team's mission. The team was asked to identify their target population, short- and long-term program goals, therapeutic activities, community resources, participant characteristics, factors that influenced their activities, and concerns regarding program operations.

Target Population. The treatment team was first asked to identify their target population, i.e., who the program was designed to serve. During the initial focus group, clients had yet to be enrolled in the program. Now that the program is functional, the target population was more clearly defined by treatment team.

Juveniles accepted into the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court program must be between the ages of 13 and 17 years of age. If a participant is going to turn legal age during their participation and the team feels they are appropriate for the program based on the other selection criteria, the team may accept the youth with the intent to request the Judge to extend juvenile court jurisdiction past the legal age of 18 so the client can remain in the program. Potential candidates must be charged with a public offense and demonstrate substance abuse issues. It was pointed out that the offenses juveniles are charged with do not necessarily have to be drug offenses. A juvenile may commit various offenses with the intention of supporting a substance abuse problem such as theft by unlawful taking and forgery, or commit various offenses while using substances such as criminal mischief or wanton endangerment. The team has stated that they would not allow drug traffickers into the program; however, if it can be demonstrated that

the juvenile was trafficking substances to support his/her own substance use, then the team may make an exception. Finally, the team would like their participant population to be representative of the racially and ethnically diverse community it serves.

Short-Term Goals: The Warren County Juvenile Drug Court team recognized that the identification and completion of various short-term objectives was necessary in order to realize its long-term goals and program mission. Year One goals mostly focused on programmatic issues the team was facing, including urine testing, developing linkages with employers and service providers, and client recruitment. These goals have been achieved by the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court since the last focus group. Therefore, the treatment team's goals are more client-focused.

Client-based short-term goals identified by the treatment team are now based on personal experiences the team has had with their clients. The team realizes that the first and foremost goal has to be for the clients to achieve abstinence. The team believes that by helping juveniles achieve abstinence, other goals, such as stabilizing their home situation, developing positive self-esteem, improving grades and academic performance, and learning to make better choices in their lives will be achievable. One programmatic goal the team discussed was working with higher education institutions for scholarships or other incentives for their participants.

Long-Term Goals: The team mentioned specific client-based goals they hoped to achieve through the Drug Court program which centered on helping participants produce positive changes in their lifestyles. Most of the long-term goals identified were also client-based. The team reiterated that abstinence was the number one long-term goal. In addition, the program hopes participants will be deterred from criminal behavior, develop assertive decision-making skills, develop relapse prevention strategies for themselves, and be able to sustain their treatment via self-help community groups after graduation. As participants grow in the program, they

would ultimately like to see successful participants become mentors for newcomers into the program.

Programmatic goals for the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court program are based upon client-based services. First, the team would like to find ways to build in more parental components in order to assist parents in becoming more involved and invested in their child's treatment and successes in order to begin building a supportive family dynamic. Secondly, the team would like to increase the educational goals for their participants including obtaining higher grades, graduating from high school or completing their GED. Finally, the team would like to sustain itself by becoming adopted into the State budget.

Therapeutic Activities. The team was next asked to identify activities the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court conducts that assists the participants with their efforts to recover from substance abuse and dependence, and further progress towards participants' long-term goals. The team described a comprehensive menu of activities, services, and interventions that contributed to therapeutic successes. A majority of the activities discussed were consistent with requirements outlined in the Phase structure of the program. The coordinator provides constant monitoring of the youth in the home, community, and school. Home and school visits are conducted by the Coordinator and/or law enforcement at least three to four times per week. In addition to this, participants received two to three hours of individual counseling per week, one to two hours of group counseling per week, in-home and office family therapy sessions (if needed), and random urine screens up to three times per week (or more as needed). Participants also receive treatment through the rewards and sanctions that are issued by the Juvenile Drug Court. Rewards are given to participants who are in compliance with requirements and are being phased up. Sanctions are given to participants who are not in compliance with requirements. Sanctions also allow the Coordinator to provide an immediate response to negative behavior,

such as putting a youth in detention who has a positive urine screen or putting a youth who broke curfew on yard restriction until the next court date. It is the hope of the court that the use of sanctions condition the youth to understanding that behaviors not in compliance with program rules will have negative (and immediate) consequences.

Community Resources. The Warren County Juvenile Drug Court identified many businesses and organizations that came on board to serve the Drug Court participants. They currently have two treatment providers; Lifeskills, Inc., which provides outpatient therapy to the youth, and Rivendell, which is a behavioral health facility providing in-patient, psychiatric services. Children’s Crisis Stabilization also provides stabilization services to the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court. The team also recognized the efforts of the local school system, high schools and GED programs that attend treatment team meetings. While the educational representatives do not attend every team meeting, one team member stated that “their time is so taxed anyway, but they are there when you need them.” The team recognized the Bowling Green Police Department as an invaluable asset to their program stating that they provide curfew checks, community supervision, and act as a referral source for the program. Additionally, the team members identified the Court Designated Workers’ Office as being the “frontline” for referrals, since that is often where the juveniles enter the court system. The team also identified various community organizations that provide services to their program including Community Action Agency, Family Preservation Program, Family Reunification Program, basic self-help groups such as AA, Al-ANON, Al-ATEEN, NA, etc. The team recognized the contributions of the Department of Juvenile Justice and the Cabinet for Families and Children for assistance with sanctioning and referrals. One team member stated that “we have a web of support if we get into other issues that come, such as if the family has dysfunction problems that the Cabinet can

address. The lack of territory has been good; no one has been “claiming” territory over certain issues”.

Individual Characteristics. The team was asked to identify background characteristics of their Drug Court population. By examining these characteristics, the treatment team can cater to the unique service needs and resources required for the Drug Court program. At the focus group last year, the program only had one active participant. Now that they have worked, in some capacity, with 17 clients, they had a better understanding of the home situation and cultural norms and values of the youth. The first client characteristic the team identified was that most participants had an inherent fear of both succeeding and failing. Another problem the youth face is that the parents do not see themselves as part of the problem nor the solution. Parents in the program have to be just as involved in the process as the youth, and for many, that is a struggle when the blame is put wholly on the youth. Many of the attitudes of the youth are also problematic; for example, threat of time served in detention is not a deterrent. As well, many youth believe smoking marijuana is just part of growing up and is therefore a normative behavior. Finally, the team stated that most of the youth have a distorted attitude towards any type of authority figure.

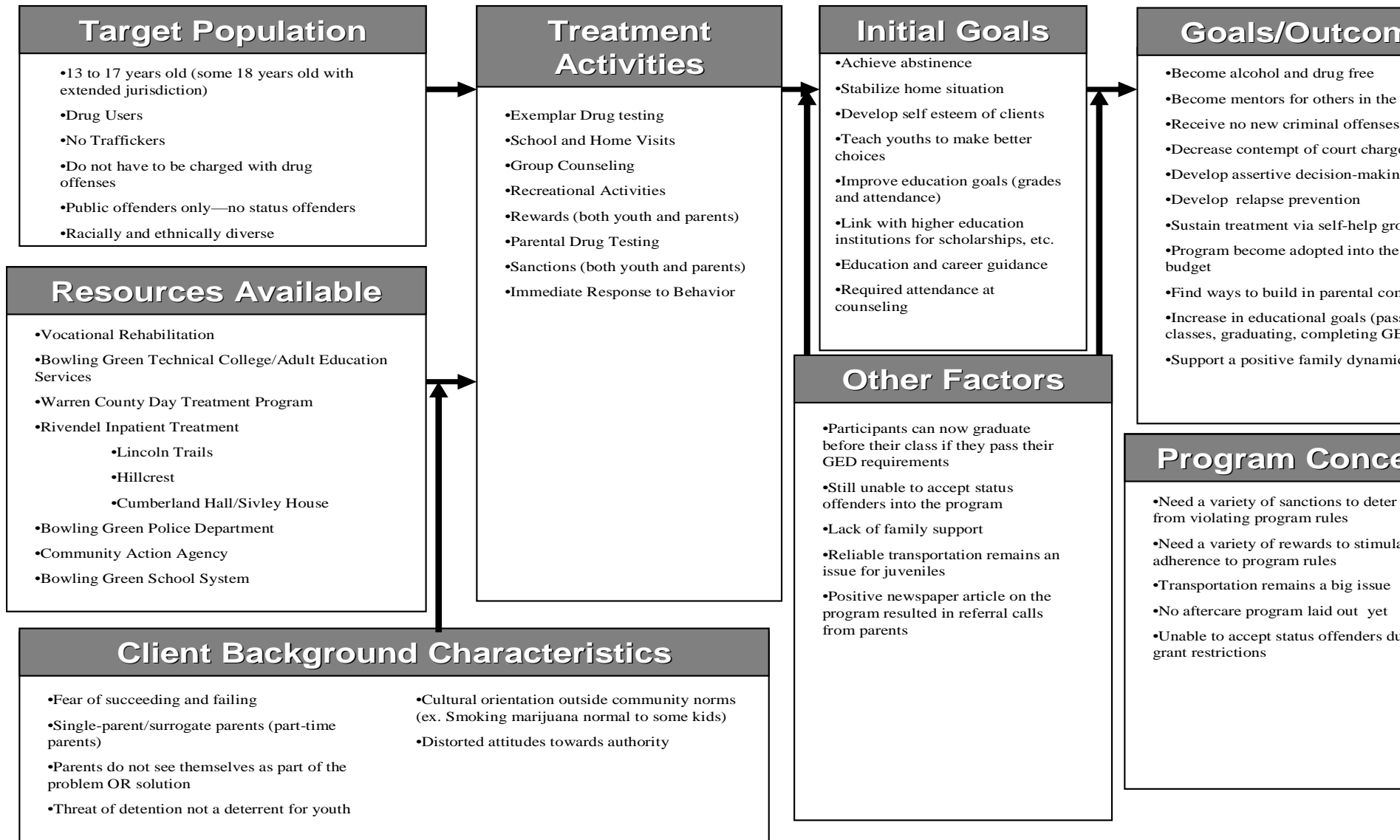
Other Influences. The team was next asked about influences outside the Drug Court which have had an impact on the program. Transportation was identified as a looming issue. The parents are responsible for transporting their children to all appointments; however, that is not always possible. The Coordinator stated that one participant walked several miles to one of his counseling appointments because he did not have a ride and did not want to be sanctioned. The caseload of this court has been negatively affected by their inability to accept status offenders into their program. Initially their goal was to accept status offenders, but due to funding restrictions, they had to revamp their recruiting methods to accept only public offenders. Finally, this program continues to struggle with families of their juvenile participants being supportive of

their children or the program. The treatment team indicated it is this lack of family support that hampers the ability of the participants to be invested in the program since the youth rely on their parents for transportation to their drug court appointments and reinforcement of positive behaviors.

Outside of these negative factors impacting the program, the team did report two positive factors which have impacted the program in the past year. First, there have been a number of positive newspaper articles about the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court program that have resulted in some referral calls from parents wanting to get their children enrolled in the program. Second, a law changed in Kentucky which affected students graduation from GED classes. Previously, students who were taking GED classes were prohibited from officially “graduating” until the year of their official class was set to graduate. This affected participants who completed GED classes from gaining full-time employment, since most employers require a high school diploma. Now, participants are able to graduate immediately upon completion of their GED classes, and this has opened up the doors to gainful employment for several participants.

Program Concerns. The Warren County Juvenile Drug Court team was finally asked to identify any program concerns. The Drug Team again stressed their inability to accept status offenders into the program. They also felt that they needed to develop a variety of sanctions to deter youth from violating program rules, since incarceration did not appear to be a viable deterrent, as well as develop a variety of rewards to stimulate adherence to the rules. The team was also concerned that they had only graduated one participant to date and did not have an aftercare program. And finally, transportation remains an issue for the program.

Figure 3: Logic Model



Strategy #6. Community Partnerships – Build partnerships with community organizations to expand the range of opportunities available to youth and their families.

The Warren Juvenile Drug Court has networked with various community, justice, education, and treatment related agencies to assist in providing services to the juvenile participants and their families. As can be seen from the description of their treatment team, the program has a committed team of individuals from several community, criminal justice, treatment, and educational based agencies to provide a wide range of services to their participants.

The Juvenile Drug Court program has a contractual relationship with Lifeskills, Inc. to provide outpatient therapeutic treatment to juveniles enrolled in the program. Additionally, Rivendale provides in-patient therapeutic services, when necessary. Even though the program has not utilized any in-patient services thus far, a representative from Rivendale actively attends and participates in the weekly treatment team meetings. Additionally, Rivendale is working on forming a juvenile AA/NA program for juvenile participants. At this time, the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court program doesn't refer participants to those programs to avoid mixing adult and juveniles.

The Coordinator stated that the Juvenile Drug Court program has a wonderful working relationship with the school system and the local Technical College. Releases are given to the school system immediately upon a juvenile's enrollment in the program to access attendance records, grades, progress reports, and disciplinary records. The Bowling Green Technical College attends all weekly treatment team meetings in case referrals are made to them.

The Bowling Green Police Department has assigned one officer to the Juvenile Drug Court program. This officer provides nightly curfew checks on participants involved in Juvenile Drug Court. The officer is also responsible for providing curfew checks for juveniles on

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probation with the Department of Juvenile Justice, which helps to create a triangle of information sharing among law enforcement, the Department of Juvenile Justice, and the Juvenile Drug Court program.

Various community organizations have come forward to assist the Juvenile Drug Court. The Local Delinquency Prevention Council allows the Coordinator to attend their community meetings. This council is made up of school personnel, local businesses, and University officials. In addition to being able to promote the Juvenile Drug Court program in that arena, it also allows the Coordinator to stay informed about delinquency issues facing the community, make linkages with potential employers for participants or their parents, as well as linkages with University officials for scholarship or other opportunities. The Kiwanis Club of Bowling Green has also supported the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court program by starting “Shirt Drive”. The Club was informed that one of the requirements of the program was that participants had to wear collared shirts to all Juvenile Drug Court functions, so they have begun a collection of collared shirts to be donated to the Juvenile Drug Court for their participants. The Juvenile Drug Court program also has access to self-help groups in the community such as AL-ANON, AL-ATEEN, and AA and NA for the parents if necessary. Finally, local employers have shown to be supportive of hiring participants enrolled in the Juvenile Drug Court program; specifically the Coordinator mentioned Wendy’s, McDonald’s and Burger King. These employers have allowed the participants the flexibility to partake in the activities that are required of Drug Court participants and have also allowed the Coordinator to make site visits. The Coordinator stated that “it’s a big responsibility on the part of the employer to hire these participants because they do have commitments which are different than other employee’s. These employers don’t buy into the stereotype that these are bad kids”.

Strategy #7. Comprehensive Treatment Planning – Tailor interventions to the complex and varied needs of youth and their families.

The Warren County Juvenile Drug Court program strives to meet the diverse needs of the youths and their families enrolled in the program. The team meshes criminal justice practices with therapeutic-based treatment to provide the juveniles both accountability for their actions, as well as treatment opportunities to recover from drug abuse/dependence and other unhealthy lifestyle habits.

Program Goals: Program goals were established by the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court treatment team to provide youth an outline of what the program hopes to accomplish. The primary goals for all participants are to learn to be drug free and adopt a drug-free lifestyle, to learn coping skills, and to develop skills that will enable participants to reduce criminal activity. Through program activities, it is expected that participants will remain in school or be actively seeking their GED or employment opportunities, attend all group, individual, and family treatment sessions, and pay all financial obligations. Table 3 below shows the Participant Goals for the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court.

Table 3: Participant Goals

Participant Goals:	
You and your family must commit to successfully addressing the following goals:	
1.	To learn to be drug free.
2.	To learn better ways of coping with life's circumstances.
3.	To adopt and adjust to a completely drug-free lifestyle.
4.	To develop non-criminal ways of thinking and adopt a non-criminal pattern of living.
5.	To have no unexcused absences or tardies from school or work.
6.	To enhance educational opportunities and/or employment or vocational training.
7.	To attend individual and group treatment sessions.
8.	To develop socially accepted behavioral skills.
9.	To increase and enhance self esteem and motivation.
10.	To identify the warning signs of use and relapse and develop a relapse prevention plan.
11.	To accept responsibility for all behavior.
12.	To accept responsibility for all financial obligations.
<i>Warren County Juvenile Drug Court Participant Handbook Revised March, 2006</i>	

Phase Structure: Like all Kentucky Drug Courts, the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court is divided into three distinct phases, each with a separate set of goals and requirements, and the minimum length of time required for achieving these goals. The phase structure of the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court is intended to help the participant reach their long-term goals and objectives in more manageable increments. A detailed description of these three phases is presented in Table 3 below. Phase I is designed to last a minimum of 10 to 12 weeks, Phase II a minimum of 16 weeks, and Phase III a minimum of 24 weeks, for a total of approximately 50 - 52 weeks, or approximately one year.

Table 4: Phase Requirements for Warren Juvenile Drug Court

Phase I – Eight to ten weeks minimum:

Minimum requirements:

- Prompt attendance at all court hearings
 - Minimum of one (1) hearing every week.
- Prompt attendance at all assigned individual, group, and family treatment sessions.
- Provide all requested urine specimens
 - Inability to provide specimen within thirty (30) minutes of request will be considered a positive screen and will result in immediate sanctions.
- All urine specimens, excluding the initial specimen, must reflect no use of drugs or alcohol.
- Attend all events assigned by the Warren Juvenile Drug Court Staff, presiding Warren Juvenile Drug Court Judge and/or Warren Juvenile Drug Court Treatment Providers.
- Attend school with no unexcused absences or tardy and/or maintain Court approved employment and/or vocational training.
- Complete and submit all homework assignments made by the Warren Juvenile Drug Court Staff, presiding Warren Drug Court Judge and/or Warren Juvenile Drug Court Treatment Providers.
- Develop a payment plan and begin making compensation to satisfy any Court and/or treatment related financial obligations (i.e. compensation, crime victim's fund, and public defender fees, treatment, fees, etc.).
- Submit and comply with all referrals made by the Warren Juvenile Drug Court Staff, presiding Warren Juvenile Drug Court Judge and/or Warren Juvenile Drug Court Treatment Providers.
- Remain drug and alcohol free.
- Refrain from being in the presence of others who may be using drugs or alcohol.
- Phase I curfew is, unless otherwise directed by Warren Juvenile Drug Court Staff or presiding Warren Juvenile Drug Court Judge or the person exercising legal custodial control over you or the person with whom you are living:
 - 6:00 PM Sunday – Thursday
 - 8:00 PM Friday – Saturday

Phase II – Four (4) Months minimum:

Minimum requirements:

- Prompt attendance at all court hearings
 - Minimum of one (1) hearing every week.
- Prompt attendance at all assigned individual, group, and family treatment sessions.
- Provide all requested urine specimens.
 - Inability to provide specimen within thirty (30) minutes of request will be considered a positive screen and will result in immediate sanctions.
- All urine specimens must reflect no use of drugs or alcohol.
- Attend all events assigned by the Warren Juvenile Drug Court Staff, presiding Warren Juvenile Drug Court Judge and/or Warren Juvenile Drug Court Treatment Providers.
- Attend school with no unexcused absences or tardy and/or maintain Court approved employment and/or vocational training.
- Complete and submit all homework assignments made by the Warren Juvenile Drug Court Staff, presiding Warren Drug Court Judge and/or Warren Juvenile Drug Court Treatment Providers.
- Continue making compensation to satisfy any Court and/or treatment related financial obligations (i.e. compensation, crime victim's fund, and public defender fees, treatment, fees, etc.).
- Submit and comply with all referrals made by the Warren Juvenile Drug Court Staff, presiding Warren Juvenile Drug Court Judge and/or Warren Juvenile Drug Court Treatment Providers.
- Remain drug and alcohol free.
- Refrain from being in the presence of others who may be using drugs or alcohol.
- Phase I curfew is, unless otherwise directed by Warren Juvenile Drug Court Staff or presiding Warren Juvenile Drug Court Judge or the person exercising legal custodial control over you or the person with whom you are living:
 - School Year:
 - 7:00 PM Sunday – Thursday
 - 8:00 PM Friday – Saturday (10 pm for participants 17 and older)
 - Summer:
 - 8:00 PM Sunday – Thursday (10 PM for participants 17 and older)
 - 9:00 PM Friday – Saturday (10 pm for participants 17 and older)

Phase Structure (cont'd)

Phase III—Six (6) Months minimum:

Minimum requirements:

- Prompt attendance at all court hearings
 - Minimum of one (1) hearing every week.
- Prompt attendance at all assigned individual, group, and family treatment sessions.
- Provide all requested urine specimens.
 - Inability to provide specimen within thirty (30) minutes of request will be considered a positive screen and will result in immediate sanctions.
- All urine specimens must reflect no use of drugs or alcohol.
- Attend all events assigned by the Warren Juvenile Drug Court Staff, presiding Warren Juvenile Drug Court Judge and/or Warren Juvenile Drug Court Treatment Providers.
- Attend school with no unexcused absences or tardy and/or maintain Court approved employment and/or vocational training.
- Complete and submit all homework assignments made by the Warren Juvenile Drug Court Staff, presiding Warren Drug Court Judge and/or Warren Juvenile Drug Court Treatment Providers.
- Continue making compensation to satisfy any Court and/or treatment related financial obligations (i.e. compensation, crime victim's fund, and public defender fees, treatment, fees, etc.).
- Submit and comply with all referrals made by the Warren Juvenile Drug Court Staff, presiding Warren Juvenile Drug Court Judge and/or Warren Juvenile Drug Court Treatment Providers.
- Remain drug and alcohol free.
- Refrain from being in the presence of others who may be using drugs or alcohol.
- Phase I curfew is, unless otherwise directed by Warren Juvenile Drug Court Staff or presiding Warren Juvenile Drug Court Judge or the person exercising legal custodial control over you or the person with whom you are living:

School Year:

- 8:00 PM Sunday – Thursday (9 PM for participants 17 and older)
- 9:00 PM Friday – Saturday (11 pm for participants 17 and older)

Summer:

- 9:00 PM Sunday – Thursday (11 PM for participants 17 and older)
- 9:00 PM Friday – Saturday (11 pm for participants 17 and older)

*Warren County Juvenile Drug Court Participant Handbook
Revised October 12, 2004*

The Drug Court team has established the minimum amount of time necessary for participants to complete each phase. Data collected from the monthly statistics show that since October of 2004, the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court program has promoted a total of nine participants from Phase I to Phase II, and a total of nine participants from Phase II to Phase III. The figures below demonstrate these findings.

Figure 3: Promotions from Phase I to Phase II

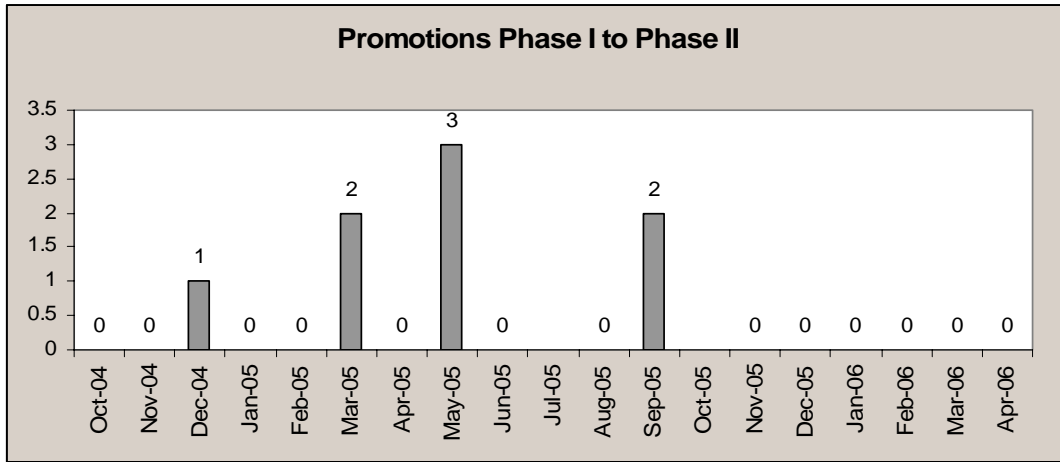
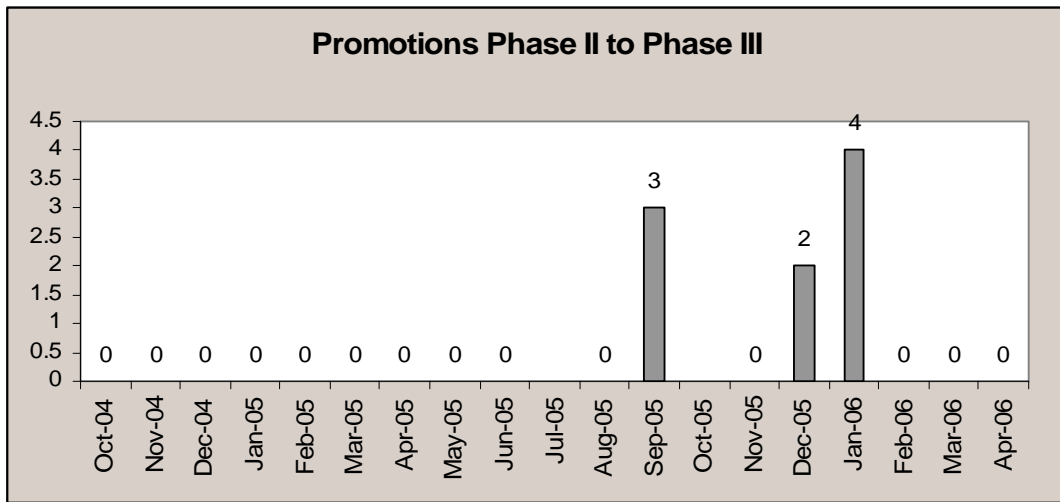


Figure 4: Promotions from Phase II to Phase III



Strategy #8. Developmentally Appropriate Services – Tailor treatment to the developmental needs of adolescents.

The Warren County Juvenile Drug Court program has a myriad of services designed specifically for juvenile clients. Each participating provider or resource is aware of the special needs of juveniles and every effort is made to work cohesively to meet those needs. The approach of this program is to balance criminal justice supervision with therapeutic treatment activities to promote the social, emotional, and physical health of their participants.

Staffings and Court Sessions. Each week, the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court treatment team meets prior to the Drug Court sessions for a “staffing”. Typically in attendance at these staffings are team members who have participants attending Drug Court that day. The Coordinator stated that the Deputy Prosecuting Attorney only attends the treatment meetings when a youth is facing possible confinement as a sanction. All members of the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court treatment team have a vote when deciding the appropriate action to take with a participant, including the Judge. The Judge feels that his being an equal voting member is fundamentally important to the process because “there are so many different facets of substance abuse; therefore, it is imperative to have the input and consensus of everyone on the team when it comes to making decisions about the treatment of their participants” (personal communication). Additionally, the Judge feels that for him to have absolute power when it comes to imposing sanctions may very well negate the purpose of having a treatment team.

During the staffing, the Drug Court Coordinator presents an update to the treatment team on participant urine screens, school reports, home visits, and any other information which he has collected during the prior week. Each person in attendance at the treatment team staffing actively contributes to the discussion of participants. If sanctions and/or incentives are warranted, they are discussed and agreed upon by the treatment team.

Drug Court sessions are held at 4 pm every Thursday in the Judge’s District courtroom. After the staffing session, each treatment team member remained present in the Courtroom. The Judge has all juveniles sit in the jury box with their parents and he addresses the group as a whole. If necessary, the Judge will address individuals, pointing out positive outcomes that have occurred since their last session as well as any negative occurrences. The Judge indicates that sometimes he wears his robe, and sometimes he does not. He feels that addressing the

participants down from the bench makes him more approachable to the youth. Because the Judge holds his sessions in this manner, it was not possible to acquire any quantitative data (such as time spent with each participant, etc.) during the court observation.

Treatment. The Warren County Juvenile Drug Court team attempts to tailor treatment to meet the individual needs their young clients. The Coordinator talks with the school about each participants level of functioning. To this end, the treatment team incorporates various therapeutic activities to ensure comprehensive treatment interventions are being administered to their participants.

Individual and group counseling sessions are required of participants enrolled in the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court program. While family counseling is not mandatory, it is often employed as a treatment tool. Lifeskills provides the outpatient therapy and Rivendell Behavioral Health provides in-patient psychiatric care for juveniles. According to the monthly statistics submitted to the AOC, a total of 17 family sessions, 119 individual counseling sessions, and 475 group counseling sessions were provided to participants from October 2004 through April 2006. Figure 5 shows the number of individual counseling sessions and Figure 6 shows the number of group counseling sessions by month as reported by the Warren Juvenile Drug Court Coordinator (Note: Data missing for July 2005 and October 2005).

Figure 5: Individual Counseling Sessions by Month.

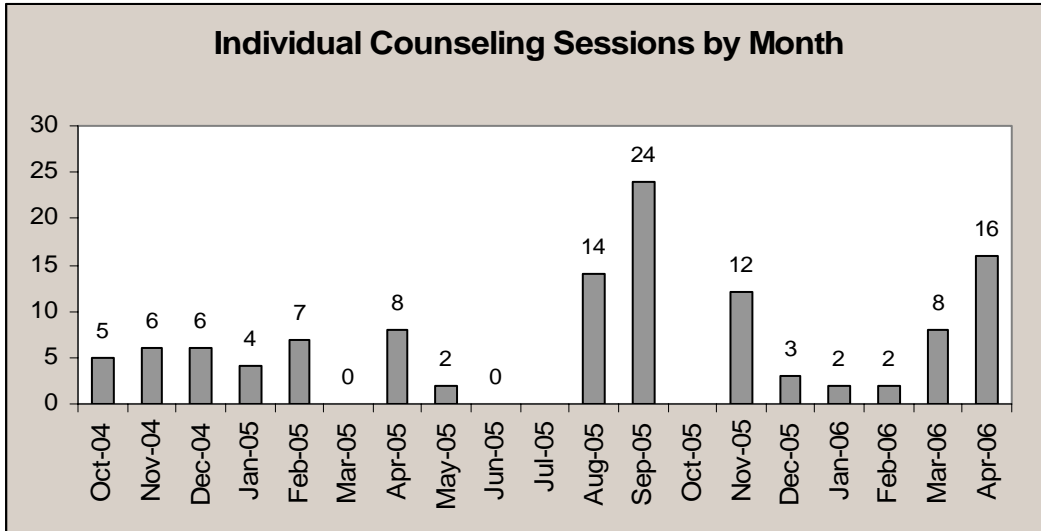
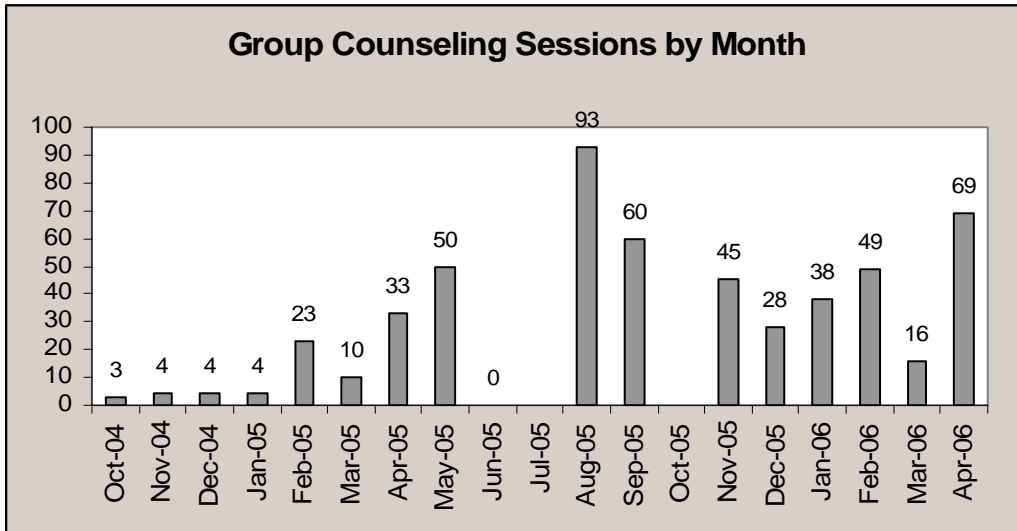


Figure 6: Group Counseling Sessions by Month.



Strategy #9. Gender-Appropriate Services – Design treatment to address the unique needs of each gender.

The Warren County Juvenile Drug Court currently has only one active female participant; therefore, no gender-specific services have been designated at this time. The Coordinator did state that the treatment provider has existing female groups; therefore, this female was able to be accommodated in an existing gender-specific group.

Strategy #10. Cultural Competence – Create policies and procedures that are responsive to cultural differences and train personnel to be culturally competent.

The current racial composition of the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court is nine Caucasians and one African-American. The Drug Court has not specifically sponsored or attended trainings on cultural differences or cultural competency as a team. However, within their own professional capacities, the Coordinator felt that each team member has received appropriate training on these issues. For instance, law enforcement has routine trainings on cultural issues, and other members of the team attend such trainings in their own professional capacities.

Strategy #11. Focus on Strengths – Maintain a focus on the strength of youth and their families during program planning and in every interaction between the court and those it serves.

The Warren County Juvenile Drug Court recognizes that parents play a very large role in the lives of the juveniles participating in their program. The majority of the participants are, for the most part, dependant upon their family for the basic necessities of life as well as for acceptance and guidance. These factors helped guide the requirements set forth by the Juvenile Drug Court team when they began planning their program.

Parents play an integral role in the participation of their child in the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court program. Parents are required to attend the orientation session and agree to assist their child in participating in the program. It is also required that parents not only transport

their child to the Juvenile Drug Court sessions, but also attend sessions themselves. The Warren County Juvenile Drug Court team feels that involving the family of the juvenile participant in the process helps in formulating family cohesion, and also attempts to provide services to families who may not otherwise ask for help. The Juvenile Drug Court program also makes referrals to social service agencies, educational agencies, and counseling agencies to assist families in getting assistance.

Strategy #12. Family Engagement – Recognize and engage the family as a valued partner in all components of the program.

The Warren County Juvenile Drug Court recognizes the important role families play in the lives of their participants and have weaved their participation throughout the Drug Court program. The team identifies the involvement of the family as a “wholeness approach”. The initial involvement of parents in the program is through a family orientation session where families spend about two hours going through the participant handbook discussing both the participants’ and parents role in successfully navigating the Drug Court program. At the orientation meeting, parents must sign an agreement stating that they are willing to participate in the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court program as stipulated in the handbook. Parental participation includes being required to attend every Drug Court hearing with their child, submitting to drug tests upon request, and consenting to being searched upon request (including their residence, car, and person). Parents can also be sanctioned through the Drug Court. If parents fail to comply with their imposed sanction, the Judge can file a contempt of court charge against them. Family counseling sessions are also provided, but only on an as-needed basis as determined by the treatment provider or upon request of the family. According to the monthly statistics submitted to AOC, there have been 17 family counseling sessions provided to date.

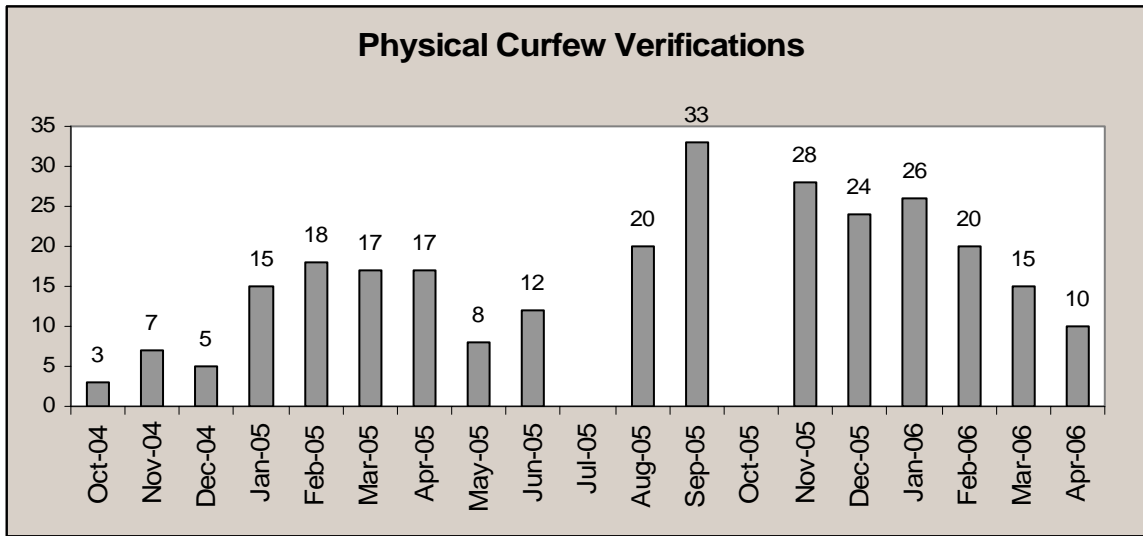
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Other family members are also encouraged to attend the court sessions (such as siblings, cousins, etc.). The rationale being that the problems the participants face are typically cyclical; therefore, by allowing younger generations to attend they can reap the same benefits that the participants do as well as possibly replace a typically negative perception of the judicial system with a more positive one.

One way the Coordinator tries to reach out to the families is by visiting their homes as often as possible. Because of the participants' school schedule, required drug testing, and counseling sessions, requiring the participants to attend another appointment was not working. In order to further the parental commitment, the team has tried to minimize the amount of transporting that they have to do. Additionally, the Drug Court team feels that people are more comfortable in their own home versus the formal environment of the Drug Court office and are more likely to be open and honest about potential issues the participant may be facing.

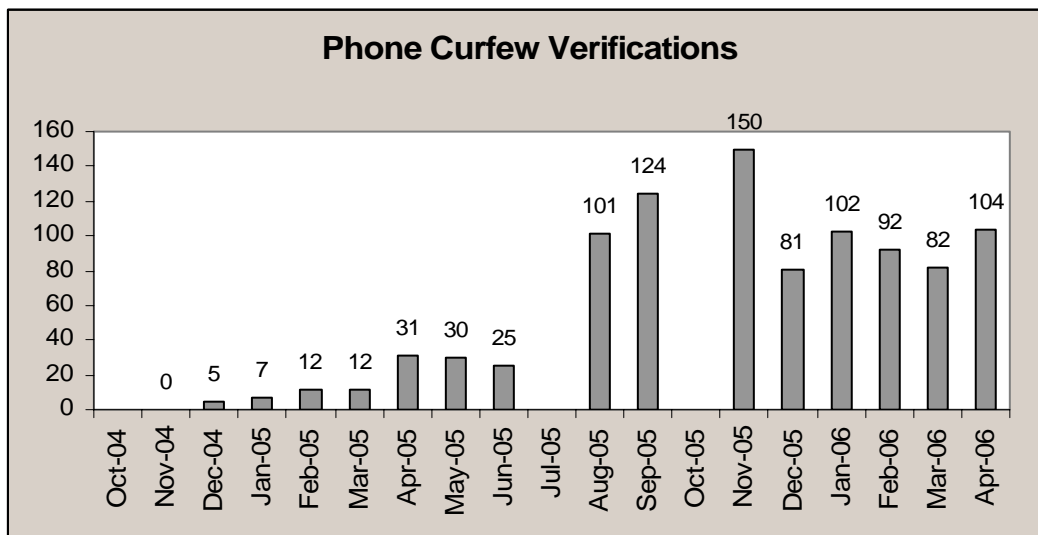
Because the juvenile participants are under curfew restrictions as a requirement of the Juvenile Drug Court program, it is a responsibility of the Coordinator to ensure that the curfews are being maintained. Physical curfew checks (where a home visit is actually made) are occasionally completed by the Coordinator, but are most often completed by the law enforcement officer assisting the Juvenile Drug Court program. A total of 278 physical curfew checks have been completed by the Coordinator and law enforcement official. The figure below shows the breakdown of curfew checks by month.

Figure 7: Physical Curfew Checks per Month



As the number of clients enrolled in the program grows, physical curfew checks become less frequent. Therefore, the Coordinator also conducts telephone curfew checks to ensure curfews are being followed by participants. The Coordinator has reported a total of 958 phone curfew verifications in the monthly statistics. The figure below summarizes these contacts per month.

Figure 8: Phone Verifications per Month



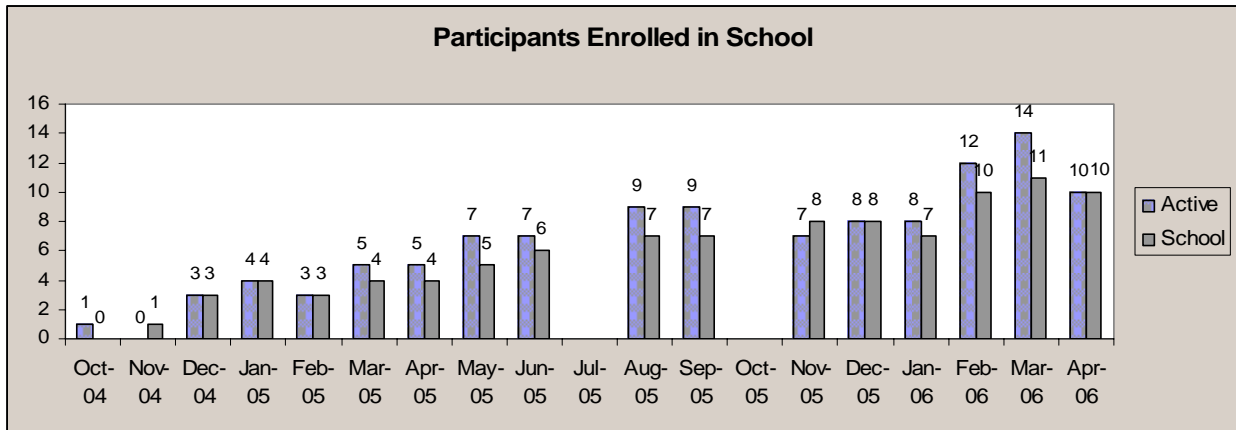
Strategy #13. Educational Linkages – Coordinate with the school system to ensure that each participant enrolls in and attends an educational program that is appropriate to his or her needs.

The Warren County Juvenile Drug Court has an established relationship with the local school system. Releases of information are given to the school system immediately upon enrollment in the Drug Court program. This release allows the Drug Court team to access various types of information from the school including attendance records, grades, and behavior and disciplinary reports. The Coordinator also makes regular contact with the youth at the school in order to build relationships with the educational providers. The Coordinator has also developed a relationship with the Director of Pupil Personnel at each school; therefore, they are often able to access the required data without putting extra strain on the school staff. The Coordinator states that because school personnel often have many responsibilities, they are not able to regularly attend treatment team meetings. The team would ideally like to have a regular member from the school system attend each meeting, but understand the constraints on their time. The Coordinator did note that the school system does provide input on the progress of each student in their program.

In addition to the traditional school system, a representative from the Bowling Green Technical College maintains an active role on the treatment team. The representative from the College regularly attends all treatment team meetings so that in the event a referral is made, he will have a better understanding of what his/her needs are.

As a requirement of the Juvenile Drug Court program, participants are required to be regularly attending school, attending GED classes or be employed working a minimum of 25 hours per week. Based on the monthly statistic data, most participants active in the program were enrolled in school programs. The figure below demonstrates these findings.

Figure 9: Number of Active Participants Enrolled in School Programs



Strategy #14. Drug Testing – Design drug testing to be frequent, random, and observed. Document testing policies and procedures in writing.

Random drug testing is a critical component to any Juvenile Drug Court program.

Currently, Exemplar is conducting the urine screens for the program. Participants call the 888 number every morning, and a recorded message will let them know if their “phase” is being tested that day. Exemplar conducts the screens at the Adult Drug Court office in Bowling Green, immediately following the adult drug testing to avoid any contact with adult participants.

Testing during the week is at 5:15 pm except on Tuesday and Wednesday when testing is at 5:30 pm. Tests done on the weekend are conducted at 10am.

Since October of 2004, the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court has conducted 240 urine screens for a total of 2507 panels. The figures below demonstrate these findings (*NOTE: are not available for July 2005 and October 2005*).

Figure 10: Drug Screens Per Month

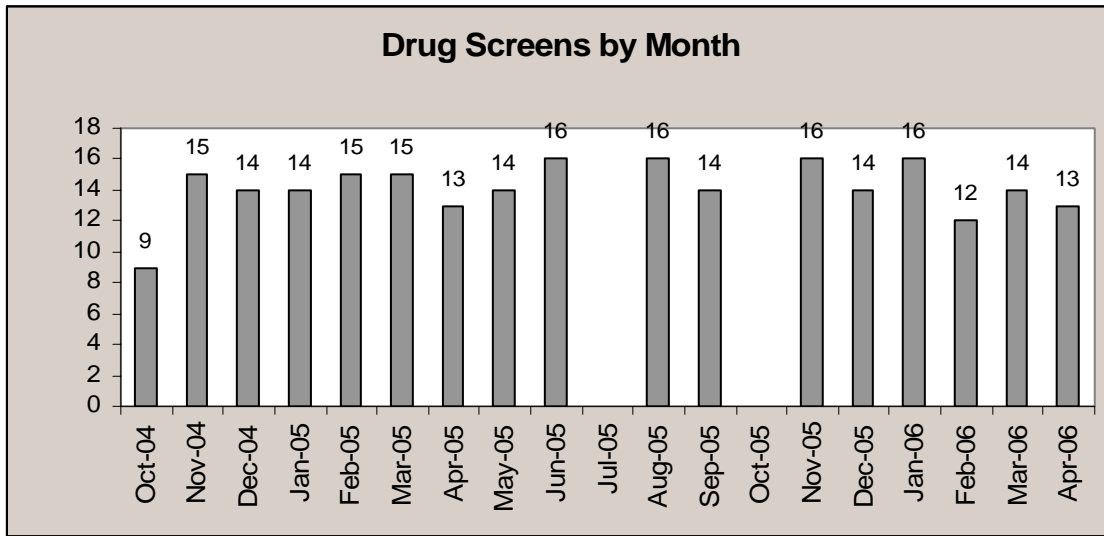
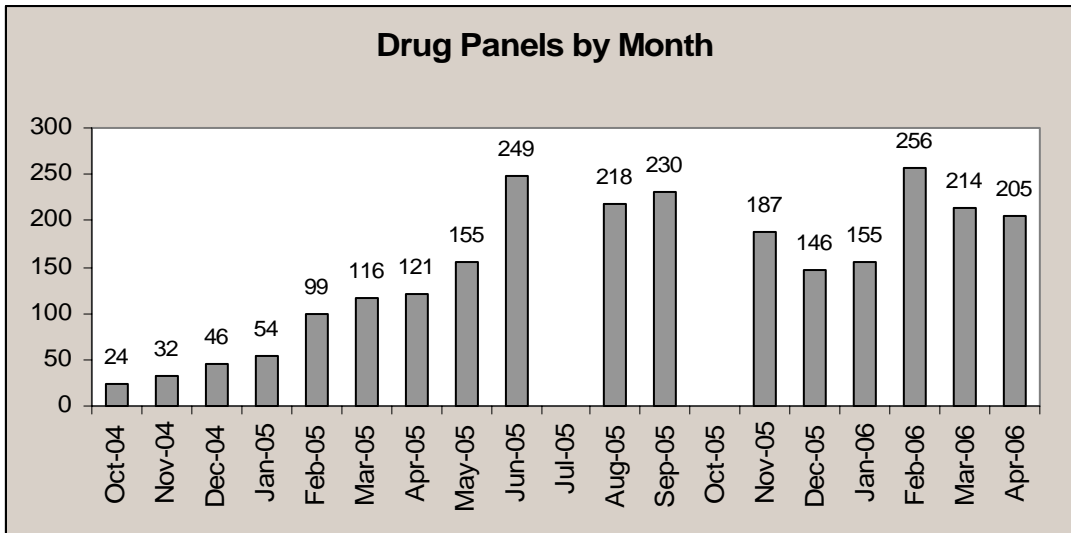


Figure 11: Drug Panels by Month



According to the data extracted from the participant files, there have been a total of 10 positive urine screens since they have been in operation. One person tested positive for cocaine, five (5) persons tested positive for marijuana, three (3) persons tested positive for alcohol, and one (1) person tested positive for other drugs. Pick-up warrants are issued immediately for participants who are shown to be positive for drugs and they are held in detention until the team can discuss appropriate sanctions.

Strategy #15. Goal-Oriented Incentives and Sanctions – Respond to compliance and noncompliance with incentives and sanctions that are designed to reinforce or modify the behavior of youth and their families.

Each new Drug Court participant and their family is given a participant handbook at program entry that details the operation of the program, policies and procedures, rules, and what each participant can expect and what is expected of them in return. Table 5 presents a list of rules imposed on participants when they enter the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court program.

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Table 5: Participant Rules and Regulations

Any violation of participant rules by you and/or your family will be reviewed by the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court Program Specialist and the presiding Warren County Juvenile Drug Court Judge who may, at their own discretion, impose sanctions. These sanctions may include, but are not limited to, increasing individual and/or group treatment session requirements, additional written assignments, increase in community service hours, issuance of a summons to appear for a court hearing, placement in secure detention, termination from the program, or any other reasonable sanctions designed to help you and your family.

1. Appropriate clothing is expected at all times.
 - a. When attending Court, you must wear a polo style or button down shirt or blouse, pants or skirt that extends to the knee, and shoes (i.e. shirts and mini skirts will not be permitted).
 - b. Sunglasses will not be worn inside the Warren Justice Center, any Warren Courtroom or the Warren Juvenile Drug Court Office.
 - c. Clothing bearing drug or alcohol related themes, or promoting or advertising alcohol or other drug use will not be permitted.
 - d. No clothing indicating gang affiliation or involvement shall be worn at any time while involved as a participant or family in the Warren Juvenile Drug Court.
 - e. The chewing of gum will not be permitted in the Warren County Justice Center or the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court Office.
 - f. Per Kentucky Revised Statutes, tobacco use will not be permitted by any person under the age of 18 years.
2. You shall notify the Warren Juvenile Drug Court Staff of your physical address, phone number and/or living arrangements and any subsequent changes.
3. You and your family must attend all events mandated by your participation in the Warren Juvenile Drug Court. These events may include, but are not limited to, court hearings, community supervision meetings, individual and/or group counseling sessions, urine tests, educational consultations, etc.
 - a. You must arrive on time and may not leave early.
 - b. If you are late, you may not be allowed to attend the event, and thus shall be considered absent.
 - c. Any excused absence from any event will be at the discretion of and must have the prior approval of Warren Juvenile Drug Court Judge.
 - d. All unexcused absences or tardies will result in immediate sanctions thereby delaying phase advancement and graduation from the program.
 - e. Arrangements must be made to make up any and all missed events prior to your next court appearance.
 - f. The effort you put into each event will determine the benefits you receive.
 - g. You shall adhere to the specific rules of each event and to show respect toward yourself, other participants, and even facilitators.
 - Failure to follow event rules and/or displaying a lack of respect will result in immediate sanctions as determined by the Warren Juvenile Drug Court Staff and/or presiding Warren Juvenile Drug Court Judge.
 - h. Active participation is mandatory in every event.
4. The following behaviors will not be tolerated:
 - a. Violence or threats of any kind.
 - b. Use and/or possession of drugs and/or alcohol.
 - c. Use and/or possession of tobacco products.
 - d. Belligerent, aggressive, or argumentative behavior or speech.
 - e. Possession of any type of weapon.
 - f. Inappropriate sexual behavior, comments, or harassment.
5. Your family and/or friends cannot loiter on the premises of the Warren Justice Center, the Warren Juvenile Drug Court Office, or at the site of any treatment provider. If you family and/or friends are providing transportation, they shall drop you off, and then return to pick you up at the end of your event.
6. Your immediate family (i.e. the person exercising legal custodial control or the person with whom you are living) will be required to attend all court hearings and family counseling sessions.
7. You may only reside with the persons who have been approved by the Warren Juvenile Drug Court Staff or a presiding Warren Juvenile Drug Court Judge.
8. The Warren Juvenile Drug Court must first approve any carrying of a cellular phone and/or pager.
 - a. In certain circumstances the Warren Juvenile Drug Court Staff may restrict or prohibit the carrying and use of cellular telephones and/or pagers.
9. You shall, within twenty-four (24) hours notify the Warren Juvenile Drug Court Program Specialist, of any arrest or contact with law enforcement.
10. You shall, within twenty-four (24) hours notify the Warren Juvenile Drug Court Program Specialist of any pending court hearings or court financial obligations.
11. Any form of suspected child or adult abuse, neglect or dependency shall be immediately reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency and/or the Department for Health and Family Services.
12. You shall maintain socially appropriate behavior at all times while participating in the Warren Juvenile Drug Court.
13. You will be permitted, during court hearings, to show support and encouragement to fellow participants by applause, but only during appropriate times.
 - a. Your behavior is considered a sign of the progress, or lack thereof, you are making toward your recover.
14. You shall be assigned a daily curfew.
 - a. Any exceptions, including employment commitments, to your specified curfew must have the prior approval of the Warren Juvenile Drug Court Program Specialist.
15. Any violation of the Warren Juvenile Drug Court rules and regulations will result in immediate sanctions.
 - a. These sanctions may include, but are not limited to, increasing individual and/or group treatment session requirements, additional written assignments, increase in community service hours, issuance of a summons to appear for a court hearing, placement in secure detention, termination from the program, or any other reasonable sanction designed to help you and your family.
 - b.

Incentives and Sanctions. Incentives and sanctions are used in Drug Court programs to achieve various goals. Incentives aim to provide not only tangible rewards (such as movie tickets, gift cards, etc.) but also intangible rewards (such as applause from the treatment team or a handshake from the Judge) to let the participants know they are making progress towards their success. Sanctions, on the other hand, provide constant reminders to the juveniles that there are consequences for their actions.

Incentives. The Warren County Juvenile Drug Court provides incentives to participants who are showing success in their program. Intangible rewards utilized by this program include applause from the treatment team, juveniles, and family members, telephone calls from the Judge, and handshakes from the Judge when they are progressing. At this time, the evaluator has no information regarding the tangible incentives provided to participants.

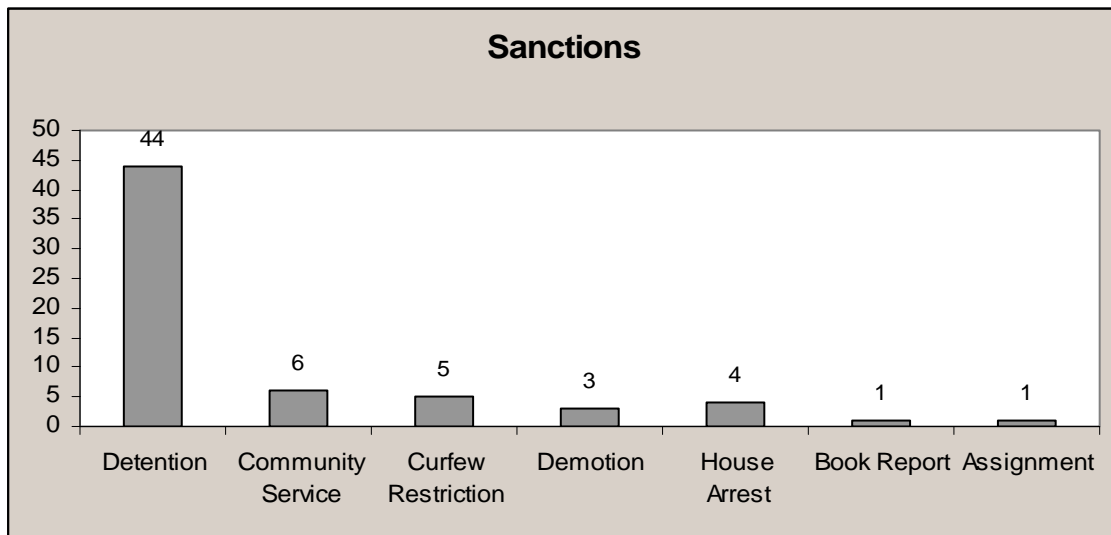
Participants who successfully complete the treatment plan as outlined by the program are rewarded for their hard work by graduating from the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court program. To date, one participant has graduated from the Juvenile Drug Court program. This graduate was in the program for a total of 430 days (approximately 14 months). This corresponds to a graduation rate of 14 %.

Sanctions. The Warren County Juvenile Drug Court team recognizes the fact that juveniles differ greatly from adults in their thinking and motivational processes. The team attempts to tailor the sanctions to not only fit the infraction, but the individual as well by taking into consideration the circumstances surrounding the infraction, who the youth's parents are and what their involvement is in the process, and whether the infraction is a legal offense or a programmatic offense. The team believes that there are fundamental differences between a legal infractions (such as using drugs or committing a new offense) and programmatic infractions

(such as missing a group session or not completing a homework assignment). The team feels that legal infractions must be dealt with immediately and firmly; and programmatic offenses must be more therapeutic in nature. The Judge tells the juveniles that there are no standard sanctions in juvenile Drug Court—the sanctions are tailored to each individual. The team does impose one strict sanction no matter what the circumstances: detention is used for positive urine screens. However, the length of the detention is determined on an individual basis.

According to the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court monthly statistics, detention was the most commonly utilized sanction, with a total of 44 given. Phase demotion is also a sanction used by the Warren Juvenile Drug Court for participants who are not compliant with program rules and requirements. Demotion was used as a sanction a total of three (3) times. Other sanctions included community service (N = 6), curfew restriction (N = 5), house arrest (N = 4), and book reports and other assignments (N = 2). The figure below shows these results.

Figure 12: Sanctions



Termination. When a participant is repeatedly noncompliant with program rules, they may be terminated from the Juvenile Drug Court program. Upon termination from the program, the participant returns to juvenile court for further disposition and is committed to the Division of

Juvenile Justice. Since their funding in July of 2003, the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court program has terminated a total of seven (7) participants for noncompliance with the rules of the Juvenile Drug Court program. Two participants were terminated for failure to comply with the Juvenile Drug Court rules and requirements. Four participants were administratively discharged from the program. Two participants aged out of the Juvenile Drug Court program, and because they had not committed felony offenses, could not be transferred to the Adult Drug Court program. One participant was administrative discharged because of new charges/new offenses being filed.

Strategy #16. Confidentiality – Establish a confidentiality policy and procedure that guard the privacy of youth while allowing the drug court team to access key information.

The Warren County Juvenile Drug has designed policies and procedures to protect the privacy of each participant and their family while in the Juvenile Drug Court program. One way in which the Juvenile Drug Court protects their participants and their families is by having them sign releases of information at intake which authorizes them to access their criminal records, school records, and any other pertinent information necessary for their treatment. The authorization states that only information that is pertinent to their program needs will be collected and this information will only be shared with persons involved in their treatment. Additionally, court sessions and staffing meetings are closed to the public in order to ensure the confidentiality of the participants and family members.

Recidivism

During program recidivism was low in the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court. Only one client was charged with a misdemeanor while participating in the program, and this charge was ultimately dismissed. For participants that were at least 18 years of age as of June 2006 (N = 6), adult criminal records were requested from the State of Kentucky. None of the participants had been charged.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The Warren County Juvenile Drug Court is striving to develop a program that adheres to the 16 Key Strategies set forth by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The program provides recovery-oriented services and intensive supervision to non-violent juvenile offenders with drug abuse problems. While the program only has a small number of active clients, the program has succeeded in gaining community-wide support for their Juvenile Drug Court program. Their planning team consists of representatives from criminal justice agencies, educational entities, treatment providers, social service agencies, and various local businesses.

Strengths. One great success of the program is the large network of community support they have established. The program has garnered support from the criminal justice system, local treatment providers, the educational system, local businesses, and the community at large. The program has also found success with local employers that are willing not only to hire juveniles involved in the Juvenile Drug Court program, but who are also willing to provide them with flexible schedules to meet the requirements of their participation.

Weaknesses and Recommendations. The major weaknesses of the Warren County Juvenile Drug Court are the low participation and graduation rates. While the number of active participants have vastly improved since the previous evaluation, only 17 participants have been

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treated over a three year period. Furthermore, only one has graduated from the program.

Therefore, based upon information collected from Drug Court team members and the data

reviewed for this evaluation period, the following recommendations are offered:

- 1) Continue operation of Juvenile Drug Court in accordance with the 16 Key Strategies.
- 2) Continue to develop strategies to increase the number of referrals made to the Juvenile Drug Court program.
- 3) Continue to develop strategies to maintain active participants in the Juvenile Drug Court program.
- 4) Examine program requirements and make the necessary changes in order to improve program participation and graduation rates.
- 5) Pursue transportation opportunities for Juvenile Drug Court participants to facilitate participant travel to Juvenile Drug Court-related appointments.
- 6) Establish a systematic method of recording sanctions and rewards for quantitative measuring.
- 7) Continue to cultivate and enhance community networks supportive of the Juvenile Drug Court program in Warren County.
- 8) Continue to work with local news media to raise awareness and knowledge in the community regarding the Juvenile Drug Court program.
- 9) Continue to develop strategies to enhance the involvement of families in the Juvenile Drug Court program.
- 10) Pursue opportunities to explore gender appropriate services for when those needs may arise.
- 11) Pursue opportunities to enhance cultural competencies among treatment team members.
- 12) Increase use of alternative sanctions; not rely as heavily on detention as a sanction.

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