

Summit County Juvenile Court BHJJ FY2012-13 Proposal Abstract

The Summit County Juvenile Court in collaboration with the County of Summit Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board, The Village Network, Child Guidance and Family Solutions (CGFS), The Center for Innovative Practices of Case Western Reserve University (CIP), Mental Health America of Summit County (MHA), True North Ministries and East Akron YMCA propose to continue the use of Integrated Co-occurring Treatment (ICT) through CGFS under the direction of the CIP, the Village Network's Trauma—Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) and further support both interventions through the use of MHA Parent Advocates for caregivers and mentors for youth as provided by True North Ministries and East Akron YMCA. These services will continue to be directed at a particular population of significantly impaired, serious juvenile offenders in an effort to prevent their commitment to ODYS institutions, to deliver these services in the home and community, to address mental health/emotional disturbances and/or substance abuse/using for both the youth and their families and ultimately to positively affect behavior, improve coping skills, provide safe and healthy alternatives and prepare these youth and families to function positively and productively in the home and in the community.

The court and its partners will continue to provide ICT to approximately 10-12 additional youth per year who would not qualify for such services through the Crossroads program and the Village Network's comprehensive mental health and wrap-around home-based services—Trauma-Focused--Cognitive Behavioral Therapy to 20 additional youth and their families per year as a way to successfully divert this population from ODYS commitment. According to ODYS and SCJC records, 132 youth juvenile offenders from Summit County were admitted in FY2009 (more than 40 of these offenders were revoked while on parole), the year before BHJJ programming was implemented. During the first year of BHJJ and Targeted RECLAIM programming (both of which served the population presenting the combination of characteristics common to those typically committed to ODYS), commitments fell to just 47 in FY2010. Through May, 2011 only 38 youth have been committed during the first full year of BHJJ implementation. In all, under this proposal, the court and its collaborative partners will commit to serving 30 youth per year and aims at a minimum 75% success rate in terms of commitments to ODYS, which equates to successfully diverting at least 23 serious juvenile offenders per year from ODYS commitment or 46 total during the 2-year funded period. For an average commitment period of 6 months at the current estimated cost of \$330.00/day that equates to more than \$2.7 million not spent on institutionalization for the 2-year period. Coupled with the ongoing Targeted RECLAIM initiative, the SCJC expects to maintain a commitment total of no more than 40 youth per year in fiscal years 2012 and 2013.

These services are now and will continue to be further supported by the SCJC Behavioral Health Court Docket which devotes two sessions per week (and additional sessions as needed), including one evening session to accommodate traditional work schedules of involved parents, to youth involved in BHJJ and Targeted RECLAIM programming. A system of incentives/supports and sanctions is utilized by the assigned Magistrate to promote full engagement of both youth and parents/caregivers.

All youth referred to the SCJC BHJJ program are felony offenders who have been placed on probation and/or suspended commitments to ODYS. SCADM acts as the administrative agent for the BHJJ program with support from the juvenile court.