Focusing on Progress: Using Incentives to Motivate Lasting Change

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**Drug Court Decision Dollar** 

You made a good decision today



# Noteworthy Updates in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition!

#### Good News: No Real Changes, But Awesome Clarity!

- Why incentives are essential
- What behavior to reward & when
- What to do when some not so good behaviors <u>also</u> occur
- How to choose the right incentives
- How many? Is 4:1 enough?
- What to do if you don't have a budget?
- How to deliver incentives effectively



# Quick Review: Our Terrific Tools!



# **Contingency Management Works**

- A highly effective strategy that rewards positive behaviors and imposes consequences for inappropriate behaviors.
- Significantly improves outcomes:
  - Longer periods of treatment retention
  - Longer periods of abstinence
- Emphasis on seeing & REWARDing progress
- Based on decades of research, successfully applied to HR/HN treatment court populations
- But...only works if we understand proximal, managed & distal behavioral goals





#### <u>What</u> Behavior Do We Reward? <u>ALL</u> PROGRESS



Achieving <u>ALL</u> target behaviors, <u>EVERY</u> time until managed, then intermittent

- Showing up\*
- Effort\*
- Honesty\*
- Testing progress\*
- Phase Promotion, Graduation
- Treatment Progress
- Sobriety Milestones
- Recovery Support
  Achievements
- Helping Others (Clients, Community)
- Prosocial Achievements (job, GED, volunteer work)

# No Budget? No Problem!

- Most of what reward are <u>small</u> steps.
- Incentives need not be extravagant!
- Rewards can be tangible and intangible.
  - Praise & Public Recognition
  - Tokens & Kudos Cards
  - We can give things participants like or take away things they don't like.
  - Just the <u>opportunity</u> to earn a reward is motivating (fishbowl, wheel, raffles)



# Why Incentives Work

- Because they feel good, are validating, build confidence, they can have LONG-lasting effects.
- Addiction is a chronic disease with a 40-60% likelihood of recurrence
- Incentives remind: "I did it before. That means I can do it again. I can do hard things."



#### How Many is Enough? Standards: Incentives Must <u>Far</u> Outnumber Sanctions!



➢ 10:1 is better.

▶ 4:1?



Research shows <u>significantly</u> greater reductions in substance use and crime for programs that offered frequent, consistent praise and other incentives (Rossman et al., 2011).

#### Ratio of Rewards to Punishments and Probability of Success on Intensive Supervision



Wodahl, E. J., Garland, B. Culhane, S. E., and McCarty, W.P. (2011). Utilizing Behavioral Interventions to Improve Supervision Outcomes in Community-Based Corrections. Criminal Justice and Behavior, 38 (4).

# Getting to 10:1

- Doesn't mean we must find 10 positive behaviors for every 1 inappropriate behavior.
- That is not ever going to happen!
- Many incentives we use contain MULTIPLE evidence-based incentives!



# Impact Wanes Quickly: Act Fast!

- Waiting for court may likely mean missing an opportunity to motivate. Don't wait!
- Participants' situations change rapidly.
  Intervening behaviors occur. Impact can wane in a matter of hours to a couple of days!
- Team communicates throughout the week
  via email
- Empower & encourage all team members to deliver incentives <u>immediately.</u>
- The judge will review at court hearing, creating a learning opportunity for all.



	tionnaire	Name:	
		Date:_	
1. Please list thre	e of your favorite snack	s/candies	
2. If you had \$20	dollars to buy whatever	you wanted, wha	t would you buy?
3. If you had 1-3	hours of free time, what	would you really	like to do?
4. If you had 1 day	y of free time, what wou	ld you really like t	o do?
4. Please list thre	e of your favorite sober	things to do at no	me and/or with menus:
5. Please list two	people who support you	ır recovery:	
6. What are your f	favorite treatment court	incentives? (Circle	e all that apply)
6. What are your f Fishbowl	favorite treatment court Spin the Wheel	incentives? (Circle Praise, positive	e all that apply) e feedback
6. What are your f Fishbowl Gift Cards	favorite treatment court Spin the Wheel Bowling Passes	incentives? (Circle Praise, positive CS Removal	e all that apply) e feedback Curfew Reduction
	favorite treatment court Spin the Wheel	incentives? (Circle Praise, positive CS Removal	e all that apply) e feedback Curfew Reduction "A" Team/MVP

Participants must <u>like</u> their incentives! How do we know what they like? ASK THEM! Let them CHOOSE. Use a variety of incentives & MIX it up!

- Handout: Use this form to discover what your participants like.
- Form also probes interest in our recovery capital-building prosocial activities, including options for...
- ✓ Recreation/Leisure
- ✓ Social opportunities
- Group excursions
- "Things I'd Like to Try"

#### Only Works When Associated With the Behavior

- Participants often don't recognize or value prosocial behavior
- Explain WHAT we liked and WHY we liked it. HOW repeating it will impact THEIR goals. Be specific!
- Without the learning opportunity, the effect of the response is minimal at best.
- This helps them understand
  INTRINSIC REASONS to follow the rules!



#### Change the tape: Court is a place of learning, support and hope!

# Look for—and REWARD—the baby steps!



#### **All-Star Attendance**

AWARDED TO

#### JEREMY DAVIS

in acknowledgement of 30 days of perfect attendance at all Brazos County Veteran's Court scheduled appointments, office visits and court appearances. Your consistent attendance displays your commitment to success in this program and in your long-term recovery.

Rufus Stewart

Abraham Joaquin CASE MANAGER



"If NOT doing something earns a sanction, then DOING it should earn a reward."

## What's on your incentives list? Per the Standards: "These are NOT Incentives!"

- Reductions in treatment contacts or groups
- Reductions in recovery support requirements
- Reductions in testing types and frequency
- Reductions in office contacts or home visits
- Reduction in court appearances

**These are SERVICE ADJUSTMENTS**– evidence participants' hard work paid off. They are getting better & don't need as much of our attention



Ensuring they understand the difference between incentives and service adjustments builds confidence, instills hope, improves outcomes.







YOU'RE #1! GO FIRST AT COURT REVIEW



You've got it made in the shade!! Subtract 8 HOURS of community service.







# SOCIAL APPROVAL & PUBLIC RECOGNITION

PRAISE APPLAUSE CARDS, KUDOS CARDS POSITIVE PEER BOARD CERTIFICATES

# Judicial Praise & Approval

- Never underestimate the redemptive value of the relationship.
- Praise is free, easy to administer, unlimited in supply and powerful.
- Can be used immediately



Congratulations, Sarah! 🞉 **Kudos from the Peer** Support Team! Vou made the All Star board again this week!! 💥 You are doing awesome 🏰 We knew you could do it. Keep up the great work! 👏 👏 🍯

Delivered

# Other Forms of Team Approval

#### Probation/Treatment:

- Supervisor praise
- Follow-up emails, texts, FaceTime

#### Judge/Team:

- Letter home to loved one\*
- Written commendation for the file
- Cards/notes from the team
- Video messages

# Video Clip of Judge's Praise



- Sarah shared the news with her Case Manager that she went to STAR Court Movie Night with the team deputy and some of the other female participants yesterday and had a great time!
- Because Sarah got off to a rocky start, the CM wants the Judge to **immediately** reinforce the behavior with praise and encouragement.
- CM films Judge (with her phone) telling participant WHAT she did great and WHY it was great. Judge encourages Sarah to <u>repeat</u> the positive behavior.
- After filming the Judge, the CM hit "send"!
  Note: This praise technique is NOT just for judges!!



#### HANDMADE, PERSONALIZED CARDS:

Isn't it great to get something in the mail that's not a bill? What if it's something your judge and team made by hand? You might just keep it forever. Note: Great way to maintain connection (and instill hope) with participants in residential treatment. Public Recognition: Positive Peer Boards



<u>MVP's</u> Juan M. Brenda A. David S.

A posted list in court of those who are not getting a sanction. Remember, we are looking for progress, not perfection.

4 INCENTIVES IN 1: 1. Conveys approval from judge/team 2. Holds client up as a positive example 3. Invites peer approval (applause) 4. Incentives 90 first. Bonus: Powerful platform for a learning opportunity!

#### Letting <u>participants</u> choose the theme & board name is fun and avoids triggering nomenclature.





# Other Fun Ways to Use: Celebrate Phase Progression





# Making the Most of Public Recognition

- Display/announce to entire group in court
- Ask participants <u>why</u> they are on the "A" Team
- Tell participant (and audience) specifically WHAT we liked, WHY we liked it, HOW continuing the behavior will help him/ her. Tie behavior to their goals.
- "A" Team goes FIRST in court



# You Can Do a LOT With Kudos Cards: Praise, Public Recognition & Opportunity to Win

# **KUDOS CARD**



You got caught doing something AWESOME!



Why they're great:

- Conveys **SPECIFIC praise** from the team
  - Huge space (4x6") for writing, "Here's what was so great"!
- Immediate
  - Every team member including the judge, LE
    & DA has a stack of them

#### Versatile

- Bring them to court and show the judge!
- Can also be used for drawings and then returned as a keepsake reminder: "I can do hard things."
- A great option if client didn't make the "A"
  Team, but still made some good choices.

### **Practice Tip:**

All participants receive a notebook at orientation containing:

- Participant Handbook, useful forms
- A pencil pouch (for small items)
- 12+ clear plastic sheet protectors for:
  - Weekly Court Progress Reports
  - Certificates, recovery quotes
  - Homemade Cards, Kudos Cards
- Fishbowl Slips, Decision Dollars
  At the end of the program, it's a scrapbook of their recovery journey, a powerful reminder, "I can do hard things"



Don't have time to write it out?

A Checklist makes it EASY! Plenty of room for notes on the back.







#### Treatment Court Professionals

# How Important are Kudos Cards to Our Clients?

#### Most Relevant 🔹



Our court is an adult felony treatment court. Most of our participants have done well in incarceration, but not well in the community. Many have spend years in prison and on supervision.

Last year our court began giving out Kudos cards from Judge Bull's Incentives on a Dime presentation. They are a huge hit with our participants. Many have stated that the gift cards they receive are great, but the kudos cards mean the world to them. This week we added 20 more to Judge Bull's original cards. We write them out in our staffing and our Judge hands them out from the bench. I attached the word document so you can make changes for your court.

There is nothing in the world that compares to seeing grown men and women get giddy over receiving a piece of cardstock that tells them they did something right.

#### Kudos Cards: 6 INCENTIVES IN 1:

1.Immediate praise/written reminder from team member

2.<u>In court:</u> specific approval from judge/team

3. Public recognition

4. Peer approval (applause) 5. Use for a prize drawing in court 6. Tangible item to keep

# Treatment Court Certificates

We Celebrate <u>All</u> Target Prosocial Behaviors Free templates/ images created at www.canva.com





#### Use Certificates to Reward Achieving All Target Behaviors Large and Small

- Attendance\*
- Timeliness\*
- Effort\*
- Testing Progress
- Sobriety Milestones
- Program
  Completions
- Treatment
  Progress

- Recovery
  Support Progress
- Volunteerism
- Helping Others
- Employment/ School Successes
- Extraordinary Efforts
- Phase promotion
- Graduation

# Handout: So Many Things to Celebrate!











Celebrate small steps and giant leaps with certificates. They might just keep them forever.


5-6 INCENTIVES IN 1: 1. Certificate = MVP! MVPs go first. 2. <u>Specific</u> approval from judge/lean 3. Public recognition 4. Invites peer approval (applause) 5. Tangible item to keep <u>Bonus:</u> Powerful learning opportunity for all! Use notebooks!

# Making the Most of Certificates

- In court, read aloud to group. If virtual, <u>share</u> image so all can see.
- Photo op with the judge!
- It's all in the delivery. This is a BIG deal!
- **Practice tip:** Dollar Store frames make your certificates look amazing



## More Practice Tips:

- Include specific language on the certificate: WHAT, WHY, HOW.
- Any team member can present a certificate.
- Try pairing with
   "supervisor praise"
   technique.
- Always have some blank certificates on hand.

Certificate made on www.canva.com

# CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

THIS CERTIFICATE IS PRESENTED TO

David McKenzie

Leading your first Recovery Support Meeting. Your willingness to share your story demonstrates your commitment to recovery & your desire to help others. Congratulations! We are all very proud of you!

DATE

SIGNED

# **Recognition: Fun With Trophies**

#### **Recycle old trophies:**

- Baseball: "You knocked it out of the park! Home run!"
- Football: "Touchdown!"
- Bowling: "You bowled us over"

#### **DIY something crazy:**

- Recovery beast!
- Golden G.O.A.T.

Your progress and determination are impressive
You deserve this week's
G.O.A.T. AWARD
Date:
Recipient:



# **Two Ways to Reward Participants**

<section-header>

Take away things they don't like.



# Our clients are in short supply of time, money, & freedom.

### Use Incentives That Ease the Burden



## "Easing the Burden"

- Clients value rewards that give back some of their time, money, and freedom
  - Go first and leave at court, jump the lab line
  - Report to court virtually
  - Small one-time, 1-hour adjustments in curfew.
  - Discounts on fees
- Give community service

   <u>as a program requirement</u>
   (restorative justice) so you can take it away.

YOU'RE DOING GREAT! YOU EARNED A \$25 FEE DISCOUNT! **Congrats!** You have earned a **Report by** zoom Pass!

GREAT JOB! You get a VIP parking spot by the courthouse door! Keep it up!

## YOU'RE #1 ! GO 1<sup>ST</sup> AT COURT REVIEW !

You've got it made in the shade! Subtract 8 HOURS of your "Give Back" Community Service.

# Making the Most of "Easing the Burden"

- As always, ASK participants what they like.
   Let them choose from comparable rewards.
  - Ex. A curfew extension is not valued by a "home body."
- Other than in phase-ups, do not take away
   court, treatment and supervision contacts as
   rewards. These contacts are based on
   research & necessary!
  - Rewarding with occasional virtual reporting is a good compromise.
- These are great fishbowl and wheel prizes.

**Congrats!** You have earned a **Report by** Pass!



You made a good decision today!





#### I DEMONSTRATED HONESTY 50 POINTS!

# TOKENS

Decision Dollars, Chips Coupons, Points Raffle Tickets

# Tokens

- Have no economic value themselves. Their value is in what you can do with them—
   exchange them for rewards the participant chooses.
- Research: Direct correlation to longer periods of abstinence, longer program retention. Use tokens!!
- An excellent way to motivate participants to achieve target behaviors (attendance, task completion, abstinence, honesty, etc.)



# **Tips: Using Decision Dollars**

- Color code by team role: Print in different colors one for each role. Judge can see:
  - Where participant is excelling
  - Who is (and isn't) rewarding behavior
- Have a place to record behavior
- (Great reminder of success & prevents fraud!)
- After used, void them & return as keepsakes











## Choose Back-up Reinforcers & Establish Your Exchange Procedure

- Most fun: Reach out to community partners to create a treatment court "store" (housewares, cleaning products, school supplies, etc)
- May also be used in monthly gift basket raffles—the more tokens, the more chance to win.
- Let participants <u>choose</u>. They may prefer to use their tokens to reduce fees or CS.



# How do we immediately reward target behaviors?

**Everyone on team distributes:** 

- Treatment: participation, attendance, homework, testing, honesty
- Probation: OV, testing
- LE: curfew check, testing
- PD: choosing honesty
- Prosecutor: in court
- Judge: in court



# Small Tangible Reinforcers (On the Cheap)

- **Treasure Box**
- **Snack Bar**
- **Given Series Fun with Candy**
- Small items of significance



## Tangible Items: Perfect for "Early Days"



- "All this stuff seems a little juvenile. I don't think our folks would like it."
- It takes time to build an alliance with the judge and the team.
- Tangible prizes may be most impactful for high-risk or high-need individuals who tend to be impulsive and want their rewards now.
- Deliver them <u>often</u> in the beginning.
- Standards: Over time, as participants develop an alliance with staff, tangible prizes can be replaced with praise, public recognition, or tokens, which cost less.



# Yay!! Candy?



- Participants don't typically get excited about small rewards like candy and inexpensive trinkets unless we make them FUN or meaningful in some other way.
- Use humor to BUILD alliance

Create a "Wild Card" Week!

## **Treasure Chest**

- Freebies, white elephants, etc. donated by the team
- Primary value is social approval, entertainment
- Put the team DA or LE in charge of this one.
- Fun team interaction



Thanks for your commit**ivitiviti** Your hard work is noticed and appreciated.



You're doing a TEA-rific job! Keep it up!

How About a Woot-Woot Wagon!

Include healthy options, too. And soft things that are easy to chew.



# Chatham Co, GA Team's Golden Ticket Twist





- The team gives out large candy bars as incentives with DIY wrappers
- Some of the wrappers have golden tickets tucked inside that can be exchanged for prizes such as a free month of treatment!

No. 359781

### **CANDY CARDS**!

 ✓ Insider Tip: Buy "minis" after Halloween, Christmas & Valentines Day for 75% off!

 ✓ Use this one for Wild Card Week 1-2 times a year.

✓ Great Peer Support project, too



# Making the Most of Low-Value Items

- Part of the fun is the prizes are low value. Lean in. "An extra prize for the judge's lamest pun today!"
- Many of our folks don't have a lot of fun in their lives.
- Many never got to be kids.
- Court is a safe space where there will be accountability, and sanctions will be fair and understood.
- But our primary focus is on what went <u>right</u>. FLIP THAT SCRIPT!



# **Small Items Can Be HUGE**

- •Small items, delivered correctly, can have a BIG impact
- •Bracelets, coins, keychains, pins
- Can be collected, distributed for special achievements: sobriety milestones, phase ups, graduation.
- It's all in the delivery! Attach meaning and significance.



# **ME Judge's Special Bracelet Reward**

- Awarded for phase promotion
- A different bracelet for each phase:
  - Ph. 1 Believe
  - Ph. 2 Focus
  - Ph. 3 Strength
  - Ph. 4 Inspire
- BELIEVE
- Judge wears the bracelets on her wrist and personally gives the item as part of the promotion ceremony.

- Why it's great:
  - Highly personal, a special event
  - Conveys the magnitude of the achievement
  - Conveys praise from the judge
  - Holds the person up as a positive example
  - Invites
     applause
     & approval
     from peers

# **Recovery Rocks**!

- Fun, FREE team-building
   DIY project
  - Paint, Decoupage
  - Lots of ideas on
    Pinterest, Etsy &
    YouTube DIY
- Invite participants to contribute, too.
- Something else they might just keep forever



# Tangible Items: Gift Cards, Gift Certificates

- Amounts need not be large.
- Seek cards that support recovery. (No alcohol, tobacco, guns, Lotto)
- Ask clients what they like.
- Better: <u>Let clients choose</u>.
   Not everyone wants fast food, coffee, gas cards, etc.



Opportunity for Reward Fishbowl

tu i

- 6

Wheel

Raffles

## Looking for Low-Mod? Use the Fishbowl! Petry Formula: 50, 40, 10+1

Based on research, for every 500 slips:

- ✓ 250 affirmations + social approval
- ✓ 209 low-mod level reinforcers: < 4 12 hr</li>
   CS, movie passes, + 1-hr curfew, Go First in
   Court, \$1 \$10 gift card
- ✓ 40 moderate/ high-level rewards: < 12 24 hr CS, Report Virtually, Jump the Lab Line, \$25 - \$50 fee reduction, \$15 - \$20 gift card
- ✓ 1 mega prize: 60 hr CS reduction, \$50 -\$100 off fees , \$50 gift card



Petry, Nancy M., Jessica M. Peirce, Maxine L. Stitzer, Jack Blaine, John M. Roll, Allan Cohen, et al. 2005. Effect of prize-based incentives on outcomes in stimulant abusers in outpatient psychosocial treatment programs. *Archives of General Psychiatry* 62: 1148–1156.

### Opportunity to Win: Spin-the-Wheel 50-40-10 (No mega Prize)

Limitless no-cost/ low-cost prizes options!



# **No-Cost Fishbowl/ Wheel Prizes**



Standing ovation!	Two thumbs up!		
You're doing great!	You're on a roll!		
Fist bump!!	High five!		
You've got this!	Keep up the great work!		
Your hard work earned you a break!	You've got it made in the shade! Subtract		
Subtract 16 hours of community service!	30 hours of community service! Good job!		
Your hard work earned you a break!	Your hard work earned you a break!		
Subtract 4 hours of community service!	Subtract 8 hours of community service!		
Take a day off! Your hard work earned you	Your hard work just paid off!		
A REPORT BY SKYPE PASS for Court Review!	<u>Draw again</u> for another chance at a fun reward!		
Team salute!	You deserve a hand!		
Job well done—you have our attention!	Your hard work is noticed and appreciated!		
You've got it made in the shade! Subtract	Your hard work just paid off		
12 hours of community service! Good job!	—you get to jump the lab line!		
Your hard work just paid off!	Pick 1: 2 bus passes, 1-hour curfew extension		
<u>Draw again</u> for another chance at a fun reward!	or 4-hour community service voucher		
Fist bump!!	High five!		
You've got this!	Keep up the great work!		
Go to the head of the class! One FREE PASS to jump the line and go first at Court Review!	Cha-ching! It's official: you rock! Take \$25 off your next supervision fee payment!		

#### • Reductions in:

- Community service
- Fees (lab, program, sup)
- Curfew, travel restrictions
- Fast pass: court, lab
- VIP parking
- Virtual reporting
- Donated passes
  - Movies, bowling, yoga
- Decision Dollars, Treasure Chest, Snack Bar, Wheel
- Recovery books, journals
- Something crazy: DA joke, LE push-ups, baked goods
- Spin/ draw again

## Making the Most of Fishbowl/ Wheel

- Let <u>each person</u> draw/ spin for a chance at a prize.
- Make the affirmations fun and interactive for the audience, too:
  - Standing ovations, salutes, fist bumps, high five, "Do the "Wave"
  - Have the person keep their slip for their notebook



 Standing ovation!
 Two thumbs up!

 You're doing great!
 You're on a roll!

 Fist bump!!
 High five!

 You've got this!
 Keep up the great work!

# Practice Tips: MIX it up!



- Unlike sanctions, incentives must be fun, pleasant, entertaining
- "Same old thing" gets boring quickly!
- ALWAYS use the Positive Peer Board, and...
- Add something fun.
- Rotate use of additional incentives:
  - Don't be predictable.
  - Mix it up EVERY month.
  - Later phase clients attend only monthly.

#### Outcomes <u>Soar</u> When We Provide Opportunities to Earn Rewards

- We are also building citizenship, providing opportunities for growth
- Build it into phases (Ph.3)
- Provide activities that:
- ✓ Promote engagement
- ✓ Model prosocial behavior
- ✓ Encourage participants to use new treatment skills



Waukesha Drug Court **Treatment Court Helps** Participants Learn About the Team– and the Rules With **Treatment Court** Jeopardy!

Lots of praise and prizes for those who complete the challenge!

## **FREE on Google Docs!**

Treatment Team	Drug Court Handbook	more handbook	Drug Court Rules	Drug Court Testing
100	100	100	100	100
200	200	200	200	200
300	300	300	300	300
400	400	400	400	400
500	500	500	500	500

\$5 gift card for every round completed!

# Treatment Court Bingo

- Rather than mandating and punishing when it doesn't happen...
- Offer, encourage and INCENTIVIZE attending recovery support self help groups, finding a sponsor, leading a meeting, etc.
- For legal & therapeutic reasons, let clients choose where they go for recovery support activities.

#### Recovery Court's Bingo Incentive Phase 3 and 4

В	I	Ν	G	0
Attend treatment 4 times in a row on time (by phone or virtual)	Did a workout, walk or yoga three times in a week	Attend 3 online support groups a week	Engaged in meditation twice in one week	Attended 5 treatment groups by phone or virtual
Added two people to healthy support network	Demonstrated asking for help two times	Made a gratitude list twice a week for two weeks	Attended probation appointments by phone or virtual 2 times in a row	Reached out to a medical provider when needed
Called the UA line 2 weeks in a row every day	Made a coping skills list	Free	Was honest when it was hard to be	Checked in with a Peer Support person 3 times
Attended probation appointments by phone or virtual 4 times in a row	Wrote in journal 3 times in one week	Attended 2 online support groups a week	Reached out to a healthy support when struggling	Clearly demonstrating use of skills learned in treatment
3 self-care activities	Deleted phone numbers/social media attached to a negative influence	Demonstrated taking accountability	Submitted all required UAs for 3 weeks	Attended 5 online support groups in a week

Each square = 1 point A Bingo (5 in a row) = 10 points Please show documentation!

Points will add up and be turned in for gift cards or other prizes!

5 points = \$10 gift card

# Incentivizing Productivity: A Florida Judge's (Optional) Challenges

Judge gives incentives for completing short-term, well-defined challenges.

- Fitness (5K run/walk with mentors)
- Wellness (CM-led yoga, meditation, nutrition class & snack prep)
- Vocational (resume service, community partner fork-lift training/ certification)
- Literacy (Alumni Recovery Book Club: read & discuss)
- Life skills (budget class, grooming/ dressing for an interview)

Why it's great:

- Realistic and achievable
- Models/builds prosocial behavior and healthy habits



# A Georgia Team's Fitbit Challenge

- The local defense bar donated their old "steps" trackers that were still in working order.
- Participants had weekly steps
   challenges with incentives for those
   who went that extra mile!
- Create some fun awards so everyone has a chance to win.
- A great way to encourage a healthy habit and a new way to have sober fun

# **NH Holiday Raffle Incentive:** "Try Something New!"



Wondering how you can win the Christmas

#### HILLSBOROUGH **COUNTY-SOUTH DRUG COURT**

stocking? Try some new things... Try out photography Try out yoga Try out making music Try out learning the guitar Try out a cooking class Try out reading a new book Try out hiking Try out skiing Try out snowboarding

.. 🗶 ...

Try out drawing Try out Journaling Try out a zumba class Try out story writing Try out fishing Try out geotagging Try out randonauting Try out a escape room Try out a rage cage

 Try out physical fitness Try out jewelry making Try out wood working Try out crochet Try out crafting Try out painting Try out making a terrarium Try out getting a plant Try out bowling

## Create a Community Bulletin Board or Weekly Flyer

- Research fun local activities that support recovery.
- Encourage choosing an activity from the board/ flyer.
- Report to the group if it is something they enjoyed and supported their recovery.
- Reward with praise and generous incentives



Where can I get more FREE creative incentives ideas?

#### **Please Join the Facebook Group**



https://www.facebook.com/groups/TreatmentCourt

#### INCENTIVES ON A DIME



#### A GUIDE FOR MOTIVATING CHANGE ON A BUDGET

2025 EDITION

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# **Focus on Incentives**

- Discuss incentives <u>first</u> at staffing.
- Make a place for incentives on the staffing sheet.
- Tracking incentives increases use.
- Look for the little things— they are BIG things!
- Mix it up to avoid habituation.
- Sandwich: Even if a sanction, reward progress with praise and incentives.
  - Find something to reward. Instill hope.
  - Be specific: what, why, how helps our folks see intrinsic reasons to follow the rules



## Getting Team Buy-In Can Be a Challenge!

- This is not intuitive.
- It is contrary to the traditional approach in criminal court.
- But it is supported by research, and it WORKS
- Educate your team.
- Train together.
- Be persistent!

# **QUESTIONS?**

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#### INCENTIVES ON A DIME



#### A GUIDE FOR MOTIVATING CHANGE ON A BUDGET

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