



NUTS AND BOLTS OF QUARTERLY REPORTING: HOW DATA DRIVES PROGRAM OUTCOMES

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AGENDA

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- Welcome and introductions
 - Why do we collect data?
 - GA Standards and Best Practices
 - We don't operate in a vacuum
 - What do we collect?
 - Is it working?
 - Are we adhering to standards and best practices?
 - Pitfalls



WHY DO WE COLLECT DATA?

DUAL PURPOSES



PROGRAM PURPOSE

- Case flow
- Participant progress
- Staffing
- Sanction and termination hearings
- Monitoring
- Self-evaluation

STATE PURPOSE

- Research
- Funding
- Politics
- Resources
- Sustainability
- Law/statute

3 MAIN REASONS



So we can track what our participants are doing and respond appropriately (and timely) to their behavior



So we can see if what we are doing is working



So we can improve what we're doing

GOOD NEWS!



TRACKING PARTICIPANT PROGRESS DURING COVID-19

WHAT TO COLLECT AND WHY



APRIL 2020

- The data you need to track participant progress...
- is the same data you need to find out if what you are doing is working, and
- is the same data you need to find out how to improve what you are doing.



**SO, WHAT DOES
GEORGIA HAVE TO SAY
ABOUT IT?**





USING DATA TO OPTIMIZE PROGRAM OUTCOMES

GEORGIA STANDARDS AND BEST PRACTICES



- **Monitoring and evaluation measure the achievement of program goals and gauge effectiveness**
 - **8.2** Participant data shall be monitored and analyzed on a regular basis (as set forth in a formal schedule) to determine the effectiveness of the program.
 - **8.5** Feedback from participant surveys, review of participant data, and findings from evaluations should be used to make any necessary modifications to program operations, procedures, and practices.
 - **8.8** Courts shall collect, at a minimum, a mandatory set of performance measures determined by the Council of Accountability Court Judges which shall be provided quarterly to the Standards and Certification Committee.



**LET'S TAKE A CLOSER
LOOK...**



KEY COMPONENT #3:

-
- Eligible participants are identified early and promptly placed in the drug court program.

- Georgia Drug Court Standards:

- **3.6** Participants being considered for a drug court shall be **promptly** advised about the program, including the requirements, scope, and potential benefits and effects on their case.
- **3.7** Participants should begin treatment as soon as possible; preferably, no more than **30 days** should pass between a participant being determined eligible for the program and commencement of treatment services.

- Certification Application:

- **Adopted Standards Benchmark 3.5**

- Members of the drug court team and other designated court or criminal justice officials shall screen cases for eligibility and identify potential drug court participants.

- **Certification Requirement 3.5**

- Detail the average length of time from the date the person is arrested until they are enrolled into the program.
 - 1. Less than 30 days
 - 2. Greater than 30 days
 - If greater than 30 days, ensure an explanation of process and procedure is attached.



PITFALL!

THE BENEFIT? CASE FLOW ANALYSIS

-
- Identify bottlenecks in arrest to program entry timeline
 - Most common finding in peer review
 - Good for stakeholder education
 - Team effort

- Arrest
- Referral
- Legal review/screening
- Program review/screening
- Eligibility determination
- Staffing approval
- Decline/denial/acceptance
- Orientation
- Treatment start

DATA
POINTS TO
CONSIDER
- DATES

BACK TO DUAL PURPOSES

MEASURABLE GOAL STATEMENT

COUNTY A DRUG COURT

GOAL 1: To provide early screening, assessment and court intervention.

- **Objective 1:**
 - Eligible offenders, who express interest and are referred to the program, will receive substance abuse evaluation/assessment of risk/needs within 14 days of arrest, subject to the policies of other circuits.
- **Objective 2:**
 - Selected participants will receive court intervention within 14 days of arrest.

OUTCOME MEASURES:

- Percentage of eligible offenders receiving substance abuse evaluations and assessments of risk/needs within 14 days of arrest.
- Percentage of eligible offenders receiving court intervention within 14 days of arrest.

OPTIMIZING DATA UTILIZATION

- **Outcome Measure 1:** Percentage of eligible offenders receiving substance abuse evaluations and assessments of risk/needs within 14 days of arrest.
 - To determine eligible pool:
 - Referrals
 - Risk Assessment Results
 - Program/legal Screening
 - Eligibility Denial Reason
 - To determine timeframe for eligible pool:
 - Arrest date
 - Referral date
 - Program/Legal screening dates
 - Risk assessment date
 - Eligibility determination date



LET'S TAKE A STEP BACK...

AND DON'T SAY JUST
WHAT YOU'RE REQUIRED
TO COLLECT.

WHAT DO/SHOULD WE
COLLECT?

STATUTORILY MANDATED DATA POINTS

Moderate and
high-risk
participants

Drug test
results

Positive drug
test results
(substance)

Employment
data

Graduates

Terminations

Recidivism

REQUIRED DATA TO BE ENTERED



- For all referrals/participants
- For participants accepted into the program
- Court-type specific

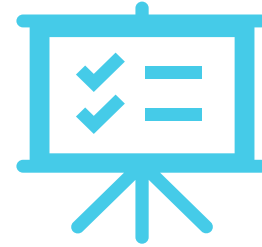
AND THEN
THERE'S A
WORLD-WIDE
PANDEMIC

NOW
WHAT?

FIRST...TRACK WHAT YOU ARE DOING



Track major policy and practices changes



Key Component 8:

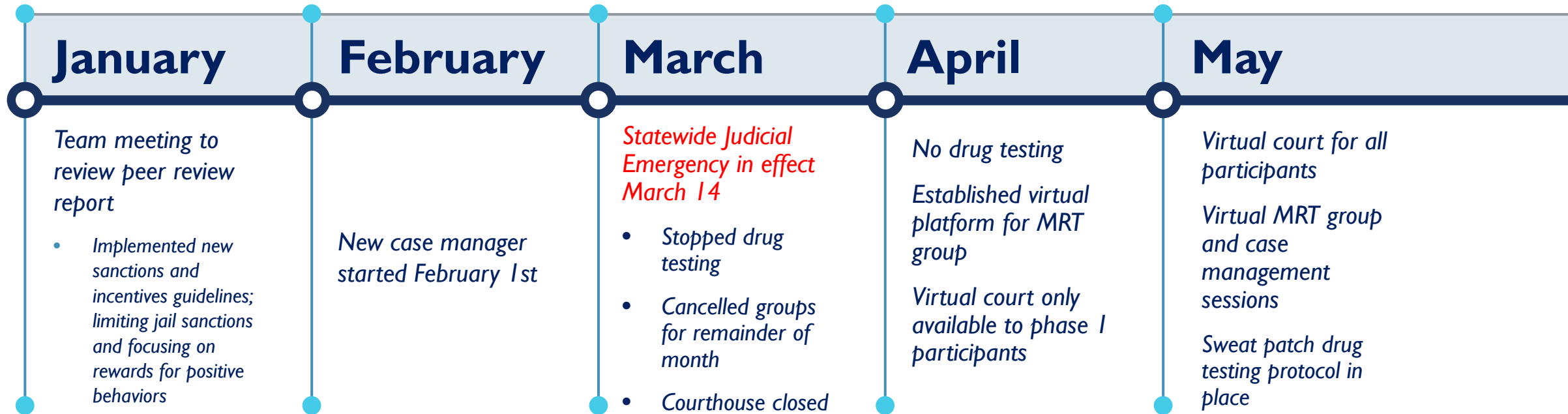
Courts should track significant changes in program policies, to include the change that was made and the date the change went into effect, to monitor the effectiveness of those changes, and to inform future changes in policy and practice.

KEY DATA

-
- Include policy change and dates for when you made those changes
 - Dates – allow you to determine affected participants
 - Compare outcomes pre- and post-change

SAMPLE TIMELINE

Program Operations





LOTS OF
CHANGES HAVE
BEEN MADE...

Virtual court sessions

Virtual treatment

Virtual support groups/peer support

Virtual/phone supervision

New drug test method(s)

Stopped drug testing

Stopped jail sanctions



**WHAT HAVE YOU
CHANGED AND WHEN?**



WHAT DO/SHOULD WE COLLECT?

- Track what you are doing (including any changes)
- **Collect what your participants are doing**

WHAT ARE YOUR PARTICIPANTS DOING?

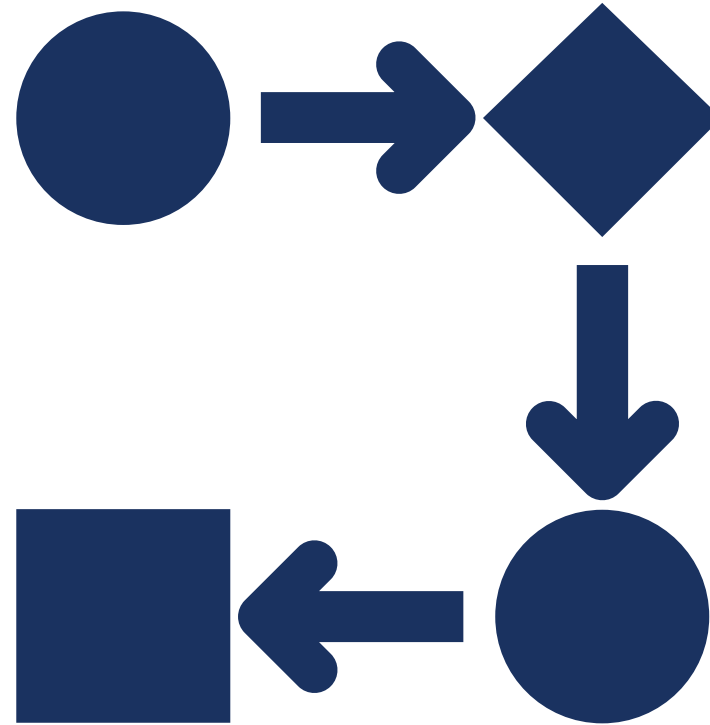
Information about the activities you require of participants (many of these are what YOU are doing)



These are the same kinds of data points you would collect regardless of the pandemic!

| | | | | | | |
|----------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|-------------|
| Court hearings | Drug tests | Incentives | Sanctions | Treatment | Case management | Supervision |
|----------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|-------------|

How are the
changes
you've made
affecting your
participants?





CONSULT YOUR DATA!




**SOME CHANGES
MAY BE
BENEFICIAL.**


PARTICIPANT &
PROGRAM
PERFORMANCE
MEASURES

HOW DO WE KNOW
WHAT'S WORKING?

What percentage of participants attend treatment consistently? What is the average number of treatment sessions attended/missed per week?



What percentage of participants attend case management appointments consistently? What is the average number of case management appointments that have been missed?



What is the percent of positive drug tests?

SHORT- TERM PROGRESS

MID- TO LONG-TERM PROGRESS

What percent of participants are employed or in school?



What percent of participants drop out/are terminated in Phase I, or 2, or...X?



Do average risk and need scores decrease over time?



What is your graduation/commencement rate?



ARE WE FOLLOWING BEST PRACTICES AND STANDARDS?

AND HOW DOES THE PANDEMIC PLAY INTO THIS?



KEY COMPONENT #4:

DRUG COURTS INTEGRATE ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG TREATMENT SERVICES WITH JUSTICE SYSTEM CASE PROCESSING.

Georgia Drug Court Standards:

- **1.12** Participants should have contact with case management personnel (drug court staff or treatment representative) **at least once per week during the first twelve months** of treatment to review status of treatment and progress.
 - Phase
 - Case management session date

KEY COMPONENT #5:

ABSTINENCE IS MONITORED BY FREQUENT ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG TESTING

Georgia Drug Court Standards:

- **5.1** Participants shall be administered a **randomized drug test a minimum of twice per week** until the final phase of the program. A standardized system of drug testing shall continue until completion of the program.
 - Phase
 - Drug test date

- **5.5** Drug screens should be analyzed as soon as practicable. Results of all drug tests should be available to the court and action should be taken as soon as practicable, ideally within **48 hours** of receiving the results.
 - Drug test date
 - Drug test result
 - If positive, Sanction date

EXAMPLE POLICY/TEAM MEETING DISCUSSIONS

HOW DO WE USE THESE DATA
EFFECTIVELY?

KEY COMPONENT 3

Do participants who are identified and referred early “do better” in Phase I than those that take longer?

- Less/no positive drug screens
- Few/no sanctions
- Phase-up on time

How has the pandemic impacted our timeline?

- Arrest → referral
- Referral → screening
- Screening → plea
- Acceptance → start of treatment

KEY COMPONENT 5

What is our average drug testing per week, per participant, for each phase pre-pandemic and current?

What do our drug test results look like now vs before the pandemic?

In looking at our positive drug test results per phase, do we need to increase treatment/contact for those phases with more positives?



**ADDITIONAL SAMPLE
GOAL, OBJECTIVE, AND
MEASURABLE OUTCOME
STATEMENTS**



GOAL 2: TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE COURT SUPERVISION.

- **Objective 1:**

- 100% of the participants will receive intensive court supervision including regular hearings, tracking of progress, and progressive sanctions and incentives.

- **Objective 2:**

- At least 85% of participants receiving program services will reduce the frequency of alcohol and other drug use as measured by urinalysis testing results.

- **Objective 3:**

- 65% of eligible participants will complete the program successfully.

- **OUTCOME MEASURES:**

- Percentage of program participants who demonstrate reductions in alcohol and other drug use as measured by clean urinalysis test results.
- Percentage of eligible participants completing the program.

GOAL 3: TO PROVIDE AN INTEGRATED PROGRAM OF DRUG TREATMENT, SUBSTANCE ABUSE EDUCATION, AND REHABILITATION SERVICES.

■ Objective 1:

- 100% of the participants referred will receive inpatient or outpatient substance abuse treatment at any given time as measured by treatment provider verification reports.

■ Objective 2:

- 90% of the participants who complete the program will be employed upon graduation as measured by employment verification reports.

■ Objective 3:

- 100% of the graduates with less than a high school degree will improve literacy skills or earn a GED prior to program completion as measured by educational verification reports.

■ OUTCOME MEASURES:

- Percentage of program participants receiving outpatient and/or inpatient substance abuse treatment.
- Percentage of program graduates who are employed
- Percentage of program participants who have increased literacy skills and/or completed a GED.



PITFALLS

WHERE DO THINGS GO WRONG AND HOW DO I OVERCOME THEM?



Acceptance, eligibility, decline

Rules for referral vs acceptance

CASE FLOW

DATA ELEMENTS REQUIRED

- Referral
 - SID
 - Referring Charge
 - Referral Source
 - Referral Date
 - Review/Screening Legal Date
 - Arrest Date
 - Date of Birth
- Decision
 - Eligibility Date
 - Eligibility Denial Reason
 - Decline/Denial Date
 - Decline/Denial Reason
 - Staff Approval Date
- Acceptance
 - Plea Date
 - Acceptance Date
 - Acceptance Type
 - Risk Level
 - Demographic Information

Dates

Status

EXITS



OVERVIEW OF RESOURCES

WHERE DO I GO FOR HELP?



DATA COLLECTION MANUAL

- Outlines process
- Provides data definitions
- Includes an example intake data collection form

DATA COLLECTION TOOLKIT

- Provides practical guidance
- Sample forms, workflow guides, and best practices lists

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



CONCLUSION

- “The \$2.65 million cut to accountability court grants is completely restored to allow the courts to continue diverting more non-violent offenders from jails or prisons to successful rehabilitative programs within communities. The restoration in funding equates to 1,901 participants who can be served through an accountability court instead of possibly going to prison. Accountability courts have a 3-in-4 success rate for graduates. The restoration of funding to the accountability courts represents \$34.8 million in diversion savings and \$6.7 million in economic impact.”

CONTACT US!

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