

CASES

Transitional Case Management Recidivism Outcomes

The goal of the TCM program was to demonstrate that through linkage to mental health and substance abuse treatment, participants would have reductions in criminal justice involvement, arrests and convictions. Recidivism analysis was conducted for all participants admitted through DCP, arraignments and criminal court, July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2009, (n=104) that received at least one community case management session. The analysis compares participant recidivism across time for successful and unsuccessful program participants. This is the most objective measurement approach because it reflects outcomes for everyone intended to benefit from the program and not just the participants that achieved positive results. We compare criminal justice involvement for each participant 12 months pre-program to 12 months post-program admission. We break out this data by distinct characteristics relevant to recidivism, including Operation Spotlight, homelessness, program admission on “harm against a person” offenses, and participant baseline criminal justice history.

Rationale for Measurement Periods

The 12-month pre- and post-measurement periods are intended to reflect the short-term duration of the TCM program. The average length of program enrollment for the participants in the recidivism analysis was 135 days and the average number of face to face case management contacts was 12 sessions.

Changes in Arrests and Convictions (Participants admitted July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2009)

	Pre-Admission		Post-Admission		Percent Decrease
	(1 year)		(1 year)		
n = 104	N	%	N	%	
Any arrests	104	100%	76	73%	27%
Arrests (Mean)	3.83		2.60		32%
Any Convictions	103*	100%	73	71%	29%
Convictions (Mean)	3.72		2.38		36%

*One program participant received a CPL 730 dismissal

Operation Spotlight Participants (Admitted July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2009)

	Pre-Admission		Post-Admission		Percent Decrease
	(1 year)		(1 year)		
n = 48	N	%	N	%	
Any arrests	48	100%	41	85%	15%
Arrests (Mean)	5.10		3.46		32%
Any Convictions	48	100%	39	81.00%	19%
Convictions (Mean)	5.02		3.21		36%

Homeless Participants (Admitted July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2009)

	Pre-Admission		Post-Admission		Percent Decrease
	(1 year)		(1 year)		
n = 53	N	%	N	%	
Any arrests	53	100%	42	79.00%	21%
Arrests (Mean)	4.40		3.34		24%
Any Convictions	53	100%	41	69.00%	23%
Convictions (Mean)	4.25		3.11		27%

Participants Arrested and Convicted of Harm Against a Person Offense

	Pre-Admission		Post-Admission		Percent Decrease
	(1 year)		(1 year)		
N = 19	N	%	N	%	
Any arrests	19	100%	12	63%	37%
Arrests (Mean)	3.21		1.74		46%
Any Convictions	18	100%	10	56%	44%
Convictions (Mean)	2.89		1.63		44%

Discussion

The preliminary recidivism analysis of re-arrest and convictions for TCM participants show moderate and consistent reductions. Overall, participants experience a 32 percent reduction in re-arrest. The reductions in re-arrest were also consistent for the higher-risk Operation Spotlight participants.

One of the main differences between the participants that experienced re-arrests compared to the participants that were not re-arrested 12-months post-TCM program enrollment was the baseline number of average lifetime arrests. The participants re-arrested had an average of 33 lifetime arrests compared to 17 for the group that was not re-arrested.

Arrest status one year post admission to TCM and the average number of lifetime arrests		
Arrest Status	N	Average number of lifetime arrests
Rearrested one year post admission to TCM	76	33
Not rearrested one year post admission to TCM	28	17