

# An Introduction to MCAO Diversion Programs



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# Let's start a conversation

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- Email [diversion+subscribe@groups.io](mailto:diversion+subscribe@groups.io)

Listserv for diversion questions



# MCAO Diversion Program Menu

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1. Felony Diversion Program (Started May 2020; Combined Previous Felony Programs)
2. Serious Mental Illness – Felony Diversion Program
3. Animal Cruelty Diversion Class or Program
4. Parenting Skills Education Diversion Program
5. Justice Court Education Class
6. Tobacco Education Class
7. Check Enforcement Program
8. Domestic Violence Excessive Response Program (Scheduled to begin in 2-3 weeks)



# A Brief History of Felony Diversion in Maricopa County

- Drug Diversion
  - Prefile
  - Postfile
- Issues
  - Prefile
  - One size fits all



# Lessons Learned from Implementing a New Program

- Getting buy in from your attorneys
- Getting feedback from the defense
- Communicating a positive paradigm shift



# Diversion Program Fundamentals

1. Robust contracts w/community behavioral health organizations
  - Monitored by MCAO staff
  - Must consider ability to pay
2. Contractors deliver evidence-based programs/principles
3. Offenders assessed using the validated Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS) which determines an offender's:
  - Overall Level of Risk to Reoffend – Low, Moderate, High, Very High
  - Criminogenic Needs
4. Monthly statistics and program evaluation



## LOW Risk Offenders with a <sup>2</sup>MODERATE to HIGH level of Substance Abuse Criminogenic Need; CN Score: 3,4, 5, or 6

### TRACK ONE

#### LOW Risk Offenders Go To:

##### Drug Treatment: Early Intervention Substance Abuse Education/Treatment

- 2-hour groups, 1x per week for 10 sessions; all sessions must be completed
- Case management services available if needed
- Required drug testing
- Curriculum: *Group Treatment for Substance Abuse: A Stages of Change Therapy Model (ten specific lessons for all participants)*

### OR

### TRACK TWO

#### LOW Risk Offenders Go To:

##### Drug Treatment: Lapse/Relapse Prevention Program

- Geared towards those who have had success in past SA education or treatment, but have returned to substance use
- 2-hour groups, 1x per week for 10 sessions; all sessions must be completed
- Case management services available if needed
- Required drug testing
- Curriculum: *SAMHSA: Counselor's Manual for Relapse Prevention with Chemically Dependent Criminal Offenders*



**MODERATE to VERY HIGH Risk Offenders with a <sup>2</sup>MODERATE to HIGH level of Substance Abuse Criminogenic Need; CN Score: 3,4, 5, or 6**

### TRACK THREE

#### MODERATE Risk Offenders Go To:

##### Drug Treatment – Standard Outpatient Program (SOP)

- 2-hour groups, 2x per week for total of 20-34 sessions; all sessions must be completed
- Required: at least one post-group case management session
- Individual counseling/Case Management services available
- Required drug testing
- Curriculum: *Hazelden's Living in Balance* – completion of 12 Core Sessions with supplemental supportive sessions (8 to 22) as needed based upon individual needs.

**OR**

### TRACK FOUR

#### HIGH/VERY HIGH Risk Offenders Go to:

##### Drug Treatment – Intensive Outpatient (IOP)

- 50 sessions in total, 3-hour groups: Phase I is 3x per week, stepdown to Phase II is 2x per week, then stepdown to Phase III is 1x per week, for up to two years; all sessions must be completed
- Required 3-12 individual sessions
- Individual counseling/Case Management services available
- Required drug testing
- Curriculum: *Criminal Conduct and Substance Abuse*
- Referrals to inpatient and other higher end services may be possible





## LOW to VERY HIGH Risk Offenders with a LOW to HIGH Level in all other <sup>2</sup>CN's (Primary Focus is not Substance Abuse)

### TRACK FIVE

#### LOW Risk Offenders Go To:

##### Cognitive Behavioral Intervention: LOW

- 2-hour groups, 1x per week, for 12 sessions; all sessions must be completed
- Individual counseling/Case Management services available
- Drug testing available
- Curriculum: *Decision Points* (5 lessons and required accompanied activities)

### OR

### TRACK SIX

#### MODERATE to HIGH/VERY HIGH Risk Offenders Go To:

##### Cognitive Behavioral Intervention: MODERATE to VERY HIGH

- 2-hour groups, 2x per week for 25 sessions; all sessions must be completed
- Individual counseling/Case Management services available
- Drug testing available
- Curricula: *Decision Points* (5 lessons and required accompanied activities = 12 sessions); Texas Christian University's *Unlock Your Thinking: Open Your Mind* (8 sessions) and *Getting Motivated to Change* (5 sessions)



# WRAP-UP AND QUESTIONS