



SAN FRANCISCO COLLABORATIVE COURTS

PROGRAM ACTIVITY REPORT 2015

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
COLLABORATIVE COURTS DIVISION

Lisa Lightman, Director
Kristine King, Program Analyst
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INTRODUCTION: SPOTLIGHT ON HOUSING

Our 2015 Annual Activity Report focuses on the importance of transitional housing for clients in our collaborative court programs. The lack of stable housing for criminal justice-involved adults is associated with high rates of substance abuse relapse, failure to meet court-ordered community supervision requirements, and recidivism. In San Francisco, rapidly declining access to affordable housing has reached crisis levels, placing homeless and marginally housed adults in the criminal justice system at considerable risk for these adverse outcomes.

Once collaborative court clients re-enter the community from jail, the shortage of safe, stable housing remains a primary challenge and the central focus of case management services. For clients with mental illness and/or substance abuse, obtaining stable housing is an even greater hurdle to overcome.

The importance of housing in service delivery is substantiated by the Judicial Council of California's *Task Force for Criminal Justice Collaboration on Mental Health Issues Report* which recommends that "...appropriate housing in the community at the time of release is critical for successful reentry...since it serves as the foundation from which this population can access treatment and supportive services."¹

Given the city's deepening housing crisis and the importance of stable housing in treatment and recovery, San Francisco's Collaborative Courts focused their resource efforts on securing grants to address the housing shortage. In 2015, we received three substantial grants: \$600,000 from the Judicial Council of California through the Recidivism Reduction Grant, \$350,000 from the Judicial Council for the Parolee Revocation Court, and \$200,000 from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) for Behavioral Health Court.

All three grants provided a total of 29 transitional housing units for our clients in 2015.

Recidivism Reduction Grant/Judicial Council of California

The Recidivism Reduction Grant (\$600,000) enabled the court to start a new housing program. In partnership with the Tenderloin Housing Clinic (THC) and their expert staff, the program provides **17 housing units** at the Broadway Hotel. Collaborative court clients from Behavioral Health Court, Drug Court and the Community Justice Center work closely with THC housing support staff to find permanent housing in the city and the surrounding community. Since the program's start in June 2015, 58 collaborative court clients have been referred, 25 have been placed in housing, and three have successfully exited the program to permanent housing.

California Corrections and Rehabilitation/Judicial Council of California

In 2015, the Superior Court received \$350,000 for the Parolee Revocation Court for **5 housing units** for parolees under supervision with a history of substance abuse and/or mental illness.

Bureau of Justice Assistance

A 2015 Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) grant for Behavioral Health Court provides an additional \$200,000 for **7 housing units** for our Housing and Employment Recovery Options (HERO) program, an innovative housing and employment opportunity for clients with serious mental illness. At the point of reentry from jail, BHC clients choose the HERO program and secure housing as a stabilizing option as they pursue employment that matches their interests or previous employment skills. This new grant builds on a previous 2012 federal grant; currently the court is engaging in a study of all HERO clients to understand long term success. The 2012 HERO pilot program served 44 BHC clients, and achieved a client recidivism rate of only 20% (defined as re-arrest). More than half of the HERO participants who obtained employment were able to secure jobs for three months or more, and 30% for 6 months or more.

¹ Task Force for Criminal Justice Collaboration on Mental Health Issues: Final Report: Administrative Office of the Courts, Center for Children, Families and the Courts, April, 2011.

ADULT PROGRAMS

ADULT DRUG COURT

OVERVIEW

Drug Court is a felony court that provides intensive judicial supervision and case management to non-violent offenders with substance use disorders. Drug Court has its own treatment clinic, the Drug Court Treatment Center, located one block from the criminal court. Drug Court is a 10-to-12 month program that includes regular court appearances, outpatient and residential treatment, and regular drug testing. Since its inception in 1995, Drug Court has worked with nearly 5,000 defendants.

NEW PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Court has seen a significant decrease in its felony caseload over the past 5 years. In 2015, there were 3,249 felony complaints filed in San Francisco, roughly half the 6,025 felony complaints filed in 2010.

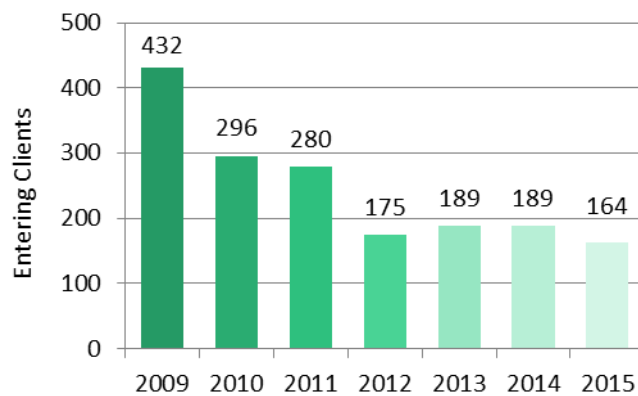
In November of 2014, California voters passed Proposition 47, "Reduced Penalties for Some Crimes Initiative," which mandates misdemeanors instead of felonies for "non-serious, nonviolent crimes", unless the defendant has prior disqualifying convictions. Currently, the Court's Research Unit is examining the impact of California Proposition 47 on the San Francisco Drug Court. A statistical analysis of participating demographic profiles and volume in conjunction with employee accounts of changes within Drug Court will help to reveal any ramifications of the measure. This project is set for completion in June of 2016.

PROGRAM ACTIVITY

Clients Served

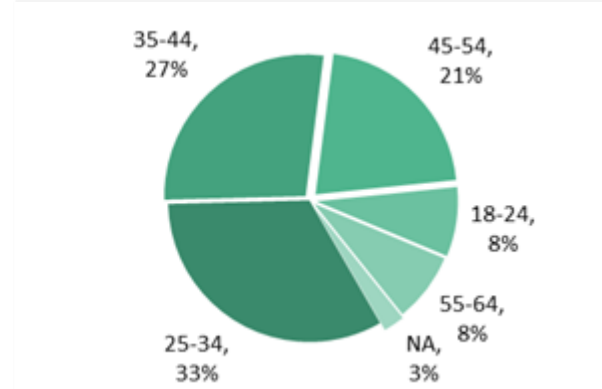
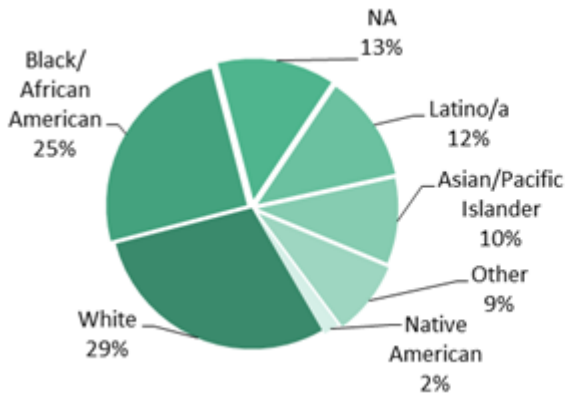
In 2015, 164 clients entered Drug Court. Overall, 258 clients had at least one court date scheduled in Drug Court in 2015.

DRUG COURT: ENTERING CLIENT VOLUME



ENTERING CLIENTS: ETHNICITY N=164

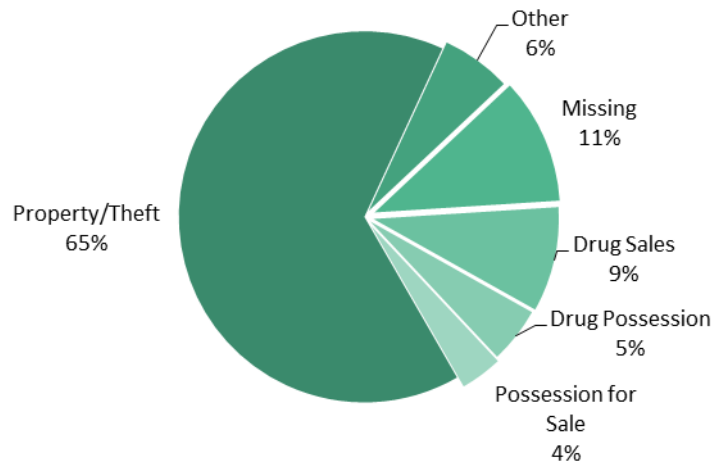
ENTERING CLIENTS: AGE N=164



Ethnicity and Age

Twenty-nine percent of entering clients were White, 25% were Black/African American, 12% were Latino/a, 10% Asian/Pacific Islander, 9% identified themselves as Other, and 2% were Native American. The majority of clients (33%) were between the ages of 25-34, 27% between the ages of 35-44, 21% between the ages of 45-54, 8% were between the ages of 18-24 and 55-64. Nearly three quarters (74%) of entering clients were male, 13% were female. Remaining gender information was missing.

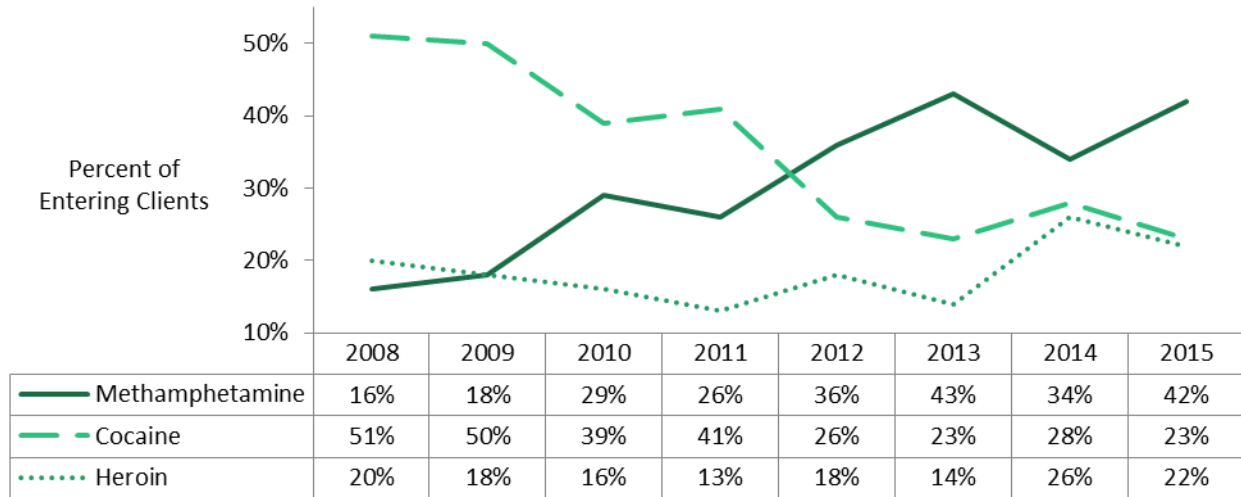
DRUG COURT: PRIMARY CHARGE (N=164)



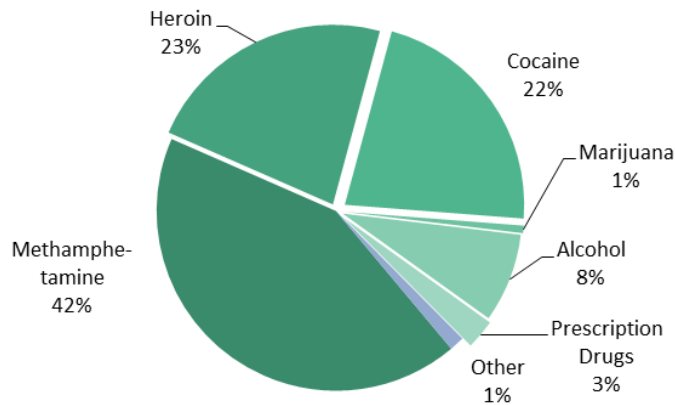
Legal Characteristics

Sixty-five percent of entering clients had a property/theft primary charge (e.g. penal code sections 459, 484, 487, 530.5A, 550 B1, 594, or vehicle code section 10851), an 18% increase from property/theft related primary charges in 2014. Eighteen percent of entering clients had drug related primary charges (drug possession, possession for sale, and drug sales), a 47% decrease from 2014. Twenty-nine percent of drug court clients entered with a "pre-plea" status, while 30% entered with a "deferred entry of judgement." Eighty-four percent of Drug Court clients were incarcerated at entry. Thirty-five percent of entering clients faced "motion to revoke" probation.

ENTERING CLIENTS: DRUG OF CHOICE TRENDS



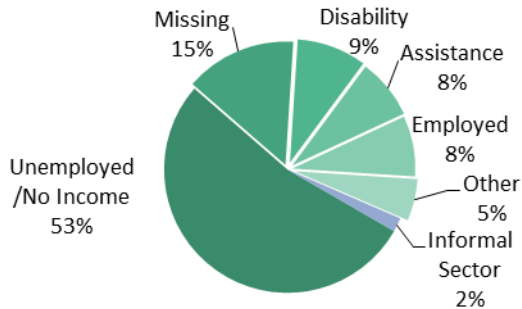
ENTERING CLIENTS: DRUG OF CHOICE



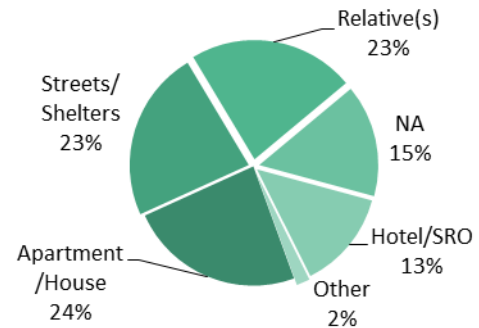
Primary Drug of Choice

In 2015, the majority of entering Drug Court clients (42%) reported Methamphetamine as their primary drug of choice. Heroin (23%) was the next preferred drug of choice, with Cocaine (22%) trailing close behind. This continues to reflect the nationwide spike in opiate use, as well as trends in San Francisco. Heroin overdose deaths increased in 2013 and 2014, according to the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

DRUG COURT: LIVING SITUATION AT ENTRY (N=164)



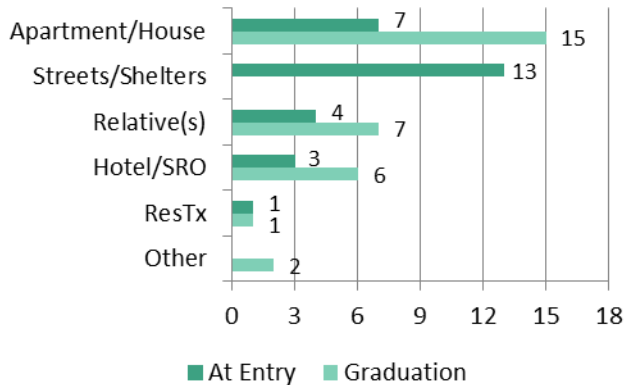
DRUG COURT: INCOME SOURCE AT ENTRY (N=164)



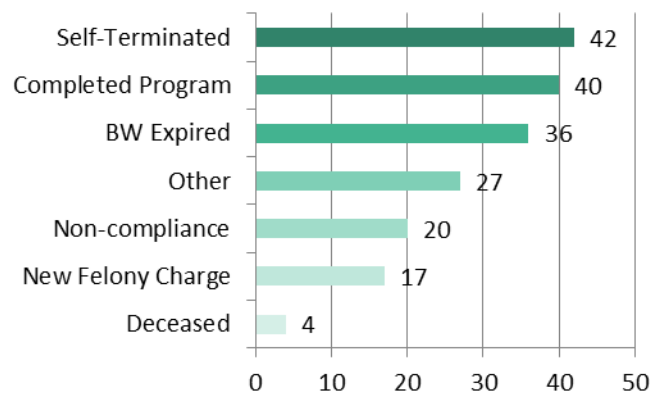
Living Situation and Income

The majority (53%) of clients reported having no income upon entering Drug Court. Only 8% of entering Drug Court clients reported employment as their primary income source. Thirty-six percent of clients reported being homeless or living in a hotel/SRO upon entering Drug Court, a 16% decrease from 2014. Nearly half (47%) reported living in an apartment/house or with a relative(s).

GRADUATED CLIENTS: LIVING SITUATION AT ENTRY AND AT EXIT



DRUG COURT: CLIENTS BY EXIT TYPE (N=186)



Graduating Clients – Before and After

Upon graduating, no clients reported that they were living on the streets or in shelters, and the rate of clients living in an apartment/house more than doubled. Employment rates for graduates increased 90%, compared to a 10% employment rate at the time they entered Drug Court. Twelve graduates successfully reconnected with their children upon graduation.

Exiting Clients

Forty clients graduated from Drug Court in 2015. Another 146 clients exited Drug Court unsuccessfully throughout the year. Forty-two clients “self-terminated,” or opted out of Drug Court services.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COURT

OVERVIEW

Established in 2003, Behavioral Health Court (BHC) addresses the complex needs of mentally ill defendants, including those with co-occurring substance use disorders. An individualized treatment plan is developed for each client, including psychiatric rehabilitation services, medication management, supportive living arrangements, substance use treatment, supported employment, and intensive case management services. Participation is voluntary.

NEW PROGRAM INFORMATION

In October of 2015, a federal grant funded the Mentoring and Peer Support Program (MAPS) for BHC and Drug Court. The overarching goal of the program is to enhance client outcomes for substance use, mental health, employment, and housing, while supporting participating peer mentors to receive job training. The program exclusively focuses on substance using clients with severe and persistent mental illness who are exiting the jail. The MAPS program employs, trains, and supports a diverse peer team consisting of 1 full-time Lead Peer Mentor and 5 half-time Peer Mentors who utilize evidence-based practices to encourage, support, and foster treatment success and recidivism reduction among the participants.

PROGRAM ACTIVITY

Assessments

In 2015, Jail Health Reentry Services administered 473 clinical assessments² on 293 defendants. Following the initial clinical assessment, 176 defendants were referred to BHC for legal eligibility assessments.

One hundred and thirty nine defendants were denied BHC services based on clinical assessment results. The most common reasons for clinical denial were: defendant not amenable to services (43%); defendant not diagnostically appropriate (30%); and defendant resides out of county (10%).

DENIAL REASON	
Not amenable	43%
Not diagnostically appropriate	30%
Other	14%
Out of county resident	10%
Too decompensated	2%
Noncompliant with in-custody treatment plan	1%

Entering Clients

Mental Health Diagnosis

To be eligible for BHC, a defendant must present with an Axis I diagnosis per the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5). Of the 40 clients who entered the program, the most common primary diagnoses were Schizophrenia (35%) and Psychotic Disorder (15%). Twenty-four entering clients (60%) were diagnosed with a co-occurring substance use disorder.

DIAGNOSIS – ENTERING CLIENTS	
Schizophrenia, Paranoid Type	35%
Psychotic Disorder NOS	15%
Bipolar Disorder	13%
Schizoaffective Disorder	5%
Major Depressive Disorder	2%
Other	2%
Missing	28%

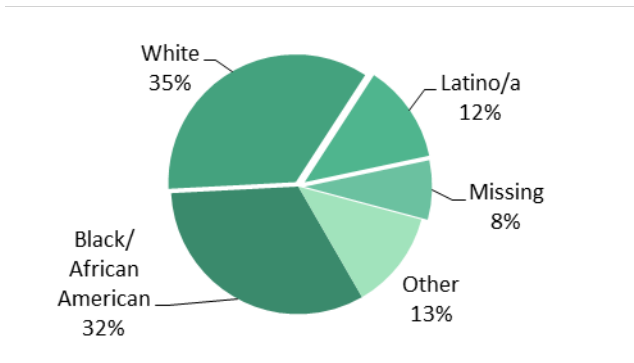
² These figures do not include assessment appointments that were inconclusive and required an additional assessment.

Legal Eligibility, Ethnicity and Gender

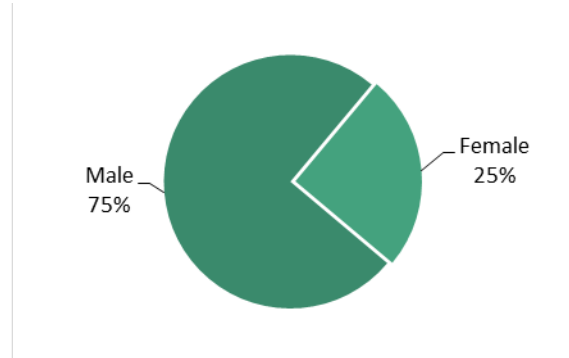
In 2015, 59 individuals were found legally eligible to participate in BHC; forty officially entered BHC. Throughout the year, 225 defendants had at least one court date scheduled in BHC.

The majority (75%) of entering clients were male, and 25% were female. Thirty-five percent of clients were White, 32% were Black/African American, 13% Other, and 12% Latino/a.

BHC ENTERING CLIENTS:
ETHNICITY (N=40)



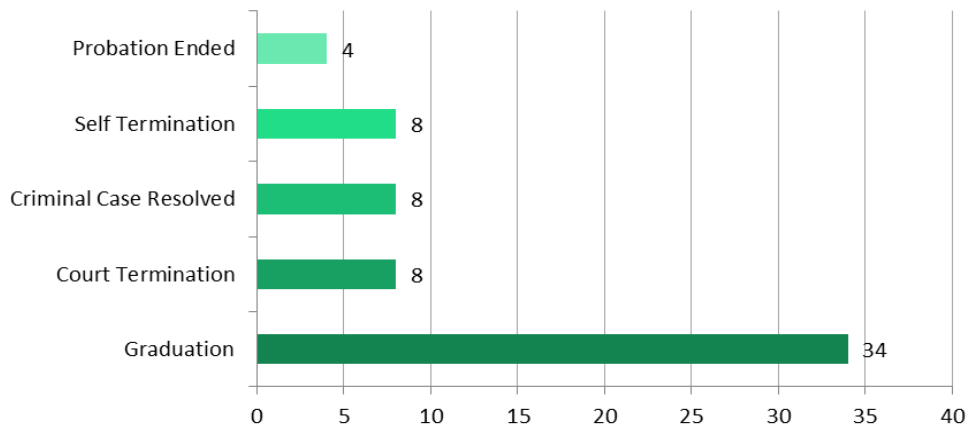
BHC ENTERING CLIENTS:
GENDER (N=40)



Exiting Clients

In 2015, 62 clients exited BHC. Fifty-five percent of clients completed the program and graduated, 13% of clients self terminated, 13% of clients were terminated by the court, 13% of clients had their criminal case resolved, and 6% of clients successfully completed their probation.

BHC: CLIENTS BY EXIT TYPE (N=62)



Clients with Unique Needs

Clients participating in BHC have unique needs and personalized treatment plans; officially graduating doesn't necessarily define whether or not a client has achieved success in the program. For example, a client who has successfully completed their probation or has credit for time served may voluntarily exit the program before becoming eligible for graduation.

MISDEMEANOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COURT

OVERVIEW

Established on June 23, 2015, Misdemeanor Behavioral Health Court (MBHC) is a collaborative court designed to serve misdemeanants with complex mental health needs. The goal of the court is to identify and engage participants with severe mental illness in community services by providing them with case management and access to mental health services. Housing is also provided. Participation in this program is voluntary.

NEW PROGRAM INFORMATION

MBHC developed to improve engagement with misdemeanants whose short jail stays made it difficult to enroll in Behavioral Health Court (BHC). Representatives from the Court, the Sheriff's Department, the Office of the Public Defender, the Office of the District Attorney, Adult Probation Department, Jail Re-entry Services, and UCSF/Citywide Forensics collaborated to create MBHC. The goals of MBHC are to:

- Increase engagement with mental health treatment providers
- Increase compliance with court-supervised treatment plan
- Reduce criminal justice system involvement as measured by fewer arraignments for new offenses.

PROGRAM ACTIVITY

Designing MBHC was a collaborative effort and BHC partner agencies agreed to staff the court with in-kind personnel. The Sheriff's Department expanded existing case management programs (Pre-trial's Court Accountable Homeless Services and the No Violence Alliance (NOVA), which includes mental health services provided by Citywide). To augment housing, the Sheriff's Department received the Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction Grant (MIOCR) and UCSF Citywide Forensics utilized a grant awarded from the Battery Powered Foundation. Grant funding supports an average of six months of transitional housing for 114 participants over 3 years.

Clients Served

Between June 23 and December 31 of 2015, 18 individuals were enrolled in MBHC. A review of the incarceration history for these individuals reveals that in the 12 months prior to their enrollment in MBHC, they had a combined total of: 3022 jail bed days (an average of 168 days each); 73 psychiatric emergency room visits; and 127 inpatient psychiatric hospital bed days. This data highlights that MBHC works with clients with complex mental health needs, frequent jail stays, and a history of not effectively engaging in community treatment.

Initial Results

As of December 31, 2015, the following reflects activity since program inception.

- Fifteen of the original 18 participants were still enrolled in MBHC
- Three participants were terminated from MBHC and returned to criminal court
- Ten participants were placed in transitional housing; three in residential treatment programs

COMMUNITY JUSTICE CENTER

OVERVIEW

Established in 2009, the Community Justice Center (CJC) is a criminal court and social service center that serves San Francisco's Tenderloin, Civic Center, Union Square, and South of Market neighborhoods. Clinical staff members are available onsite to assess social service needs related to defendants' underlying offenses and to develop individualized treatment plans for defendants determined eligible for CJC services. CJC clients are connected with treatment for substance use, mental health, and/or primary health issues. CJC includes a restorative justice component that allows CJC clients to complete community service hours (voluntary or court-ordered) and give back to the community. CJC clients have completed 11,313 community service hours since 2011.

The California Superior Court, Department of Public Health, Office of the Public Defender, Office of the District Attorney and Adult Probation all have staff located at the CJC's service center. CJC staff work with a majority of clients who generally have a persistent level of chronic homelessness, substance abuse and mental health issues, requiring higher levels of care and case management.

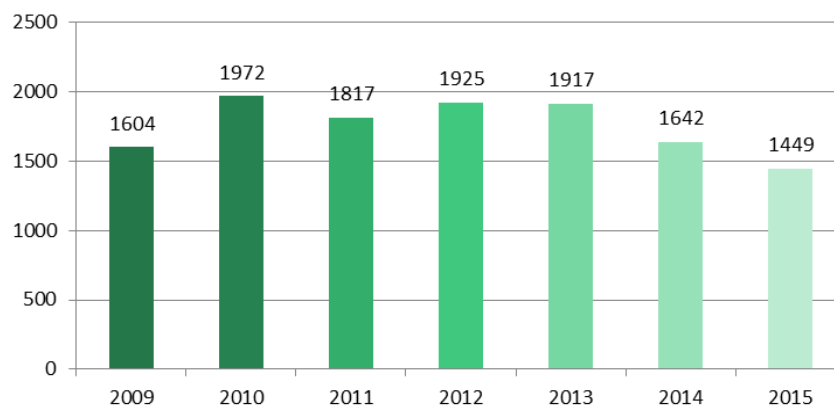
NEW PROGRAM INFORMATION

As one of four national mentor community courts, the CJC hosted many visitors to observe case conferencing and court in 2015. Most prominent were two large delegations from China: (1) Deputy Director of Secretariat, Commission of Politics and Law of the Communist Party of China's Central Committee, and (2) municipal and provincial officials from the Liaoning High People's Court Delegation. Both delegations expressed an interest in using the CJC model to develop more restorative justice programs.

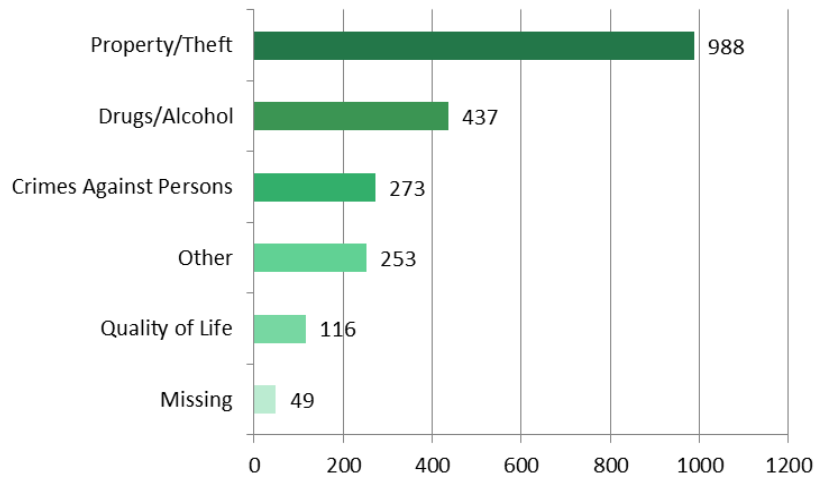
PROGRAM ACTIVITY

In 2015, a total of 1,449 defendants had at least one court date scheduled in the CJC, representing a volume of approximately 2,116 cases. The CJC has served a total of 12,326 clients since 2009.

CJC: TOTAL CLIENTS SERVED



CJC: 2015 CASES (N=2116)



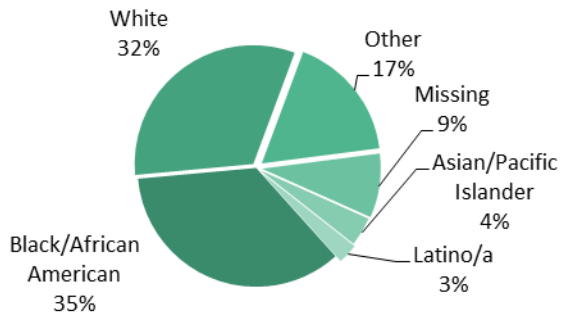
Charges

The CJC had a total of 2116 cases (including multiple charges) in 2015. Nearly half (47%) were property/theft related charges, with drugs/alcohol related charges accounting for 21% of the case load.

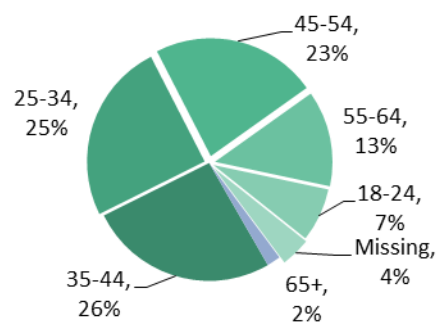
Clients Served

Five hundred and eighty four clients received services provided through a case manager, including, but not limited to services such as supported housing, medically assisted treatment, individual counseling, and group therapy.

CJC: ETHNICITY (N=584)



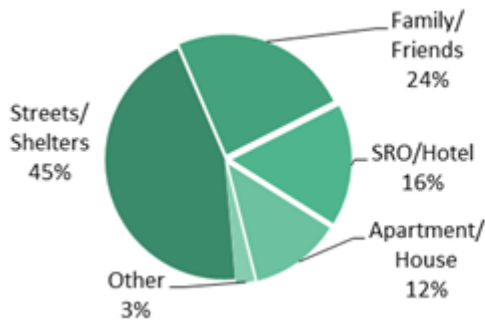
CJC: AGE (N=584)



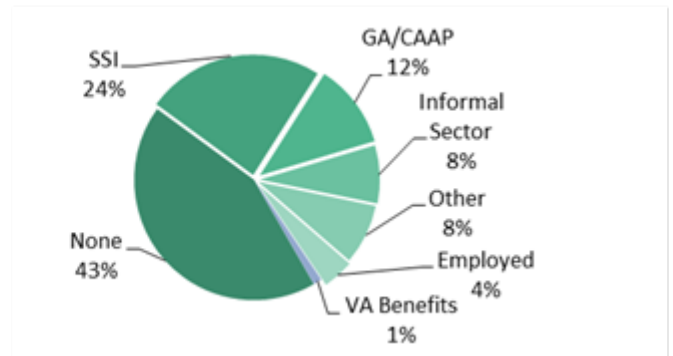
Ethnicity and Age

The majority (35%) of clients receiving case manager services were Black/African American, 32% were White, 17% Other, 4% Asian/Pacific Islander, and 3% were Latino/a. Twenty-six percent were between the ages of 35-44, 25% between the ages of 25-34, 23% between the ages of 45-54, 13% between 55-64, 7% between 18-24, and 2% of clients were age 65 or older.

CJC: LIVING SITUATION AT INTAKE (N=632)



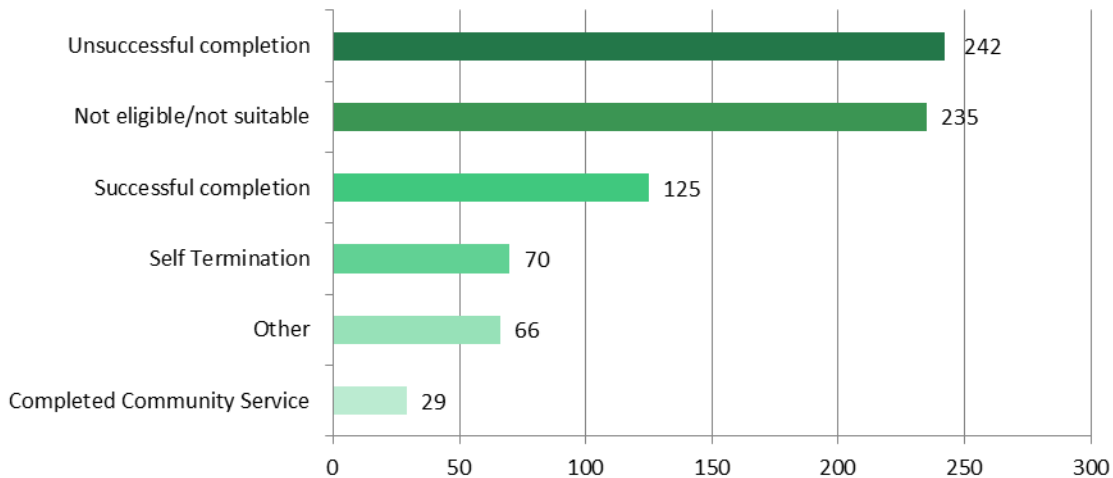
CJC: INCOME SOURCE (N=616)



Living Situation and Income Source

In 2015, there were 632 clients who disclosed their living situation at intake. Nearly half (45%) said they were living on the streets or in shelters, 24% with family or friends, 16% in a single occupancy room unit (SRO) or hotel, and 12% said they were living in an apartment or house. Forty three percent of clients that disclosed their source of income said they had no income, 24% said they were receiving SSI, 12% GA/CAAP, 8% reported they worked in the informal sector, 4% were employed, and 1% said they were receiving VA Benefits.

CJC: CLIENTS BY EXIT TYPE (N=767)



Exiting Clients

One hundred and twenty five clients successfully completed the CJC program in 2015, with 29 clients completing their community service hours. Two hundred and forty two clients did not complete the program successfully, and 70 clients self terminated. The average number of days for a client in the CJC was 110.

VETERANS JUSTICE COURT

OVERVIEW

The Veterans Justice Court (VJC) – established in April, 2013 and expanded as a stand-alone court in January, 2015 – is for military veterans charged with criminal offenses. The court’s objective is to provide substance abuse and mental health treatment, as well as academic, vocational, or skills improvement leading to job placement and retention. To participate, the defendant must meet VJC legal eligibility and clinical suitability criteria.

NEW PROGRAM INFORMATION

VJC experienced its first full year as a stand-alone court in 2015. With growing partnerships among community stakeholders and city partners, and the expansion of geographic boundaries to all of San Francisco, VJC’s participation increased by 72% from 2014. Additionally, legal eligibility expanded to include all misdemeanors and most felonies.

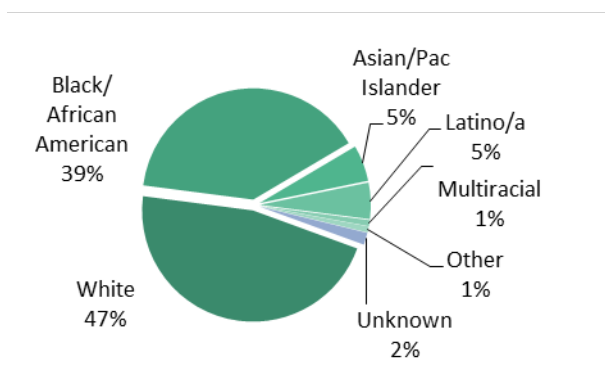
The VJC team participated in a BJA-funded three-day training in Sacramento, attended the National Association of Drug Court Professionals/VetCon annual training conference in Washington D.C., and traveled to the Tulsa Veterans Treatment Court to observe best practices. A portion BJA funds also helped to provide transitional housing for several participating veterans in 2015.

PROGRAM ACTIVITY

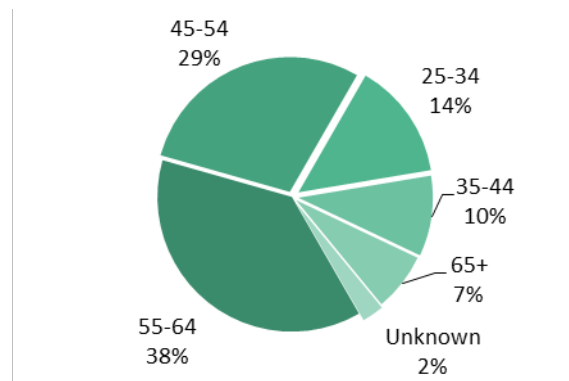
Clients Served

One hundred and three clients were referred to the VJC in 2015; ninety-one clients were accepted to participate. One hundred and fourteen clients were served. The majority of VJC clients during 2015 were male; 3 participants were female, and 2 were transgender. Forty-seven percent of clients served were White, 39% Black/African American, 5% Asian Pacific/Islander, 5% Latino/a, and 1% Multi-Racial. Thirty-eight percent of participants were between the ages of 55 and 64, 29% 45 and 54, 14% 25 and 34, 10% 35 and 44, and 7% were 65 and older.

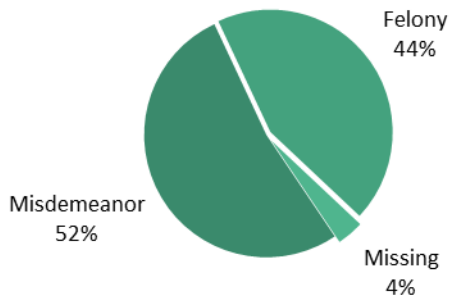
VJC: ETHNICITY (N=114)



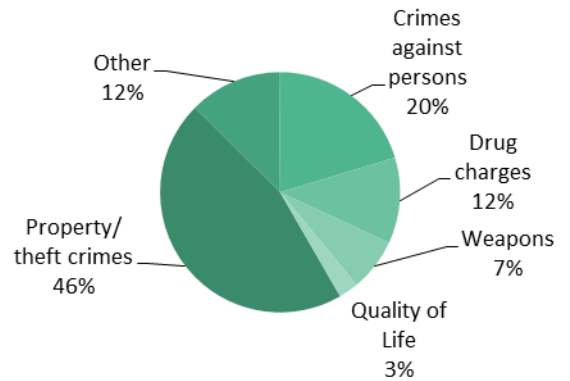
VJC: AGE (N=114)



VJC: CHARGES (N=225)



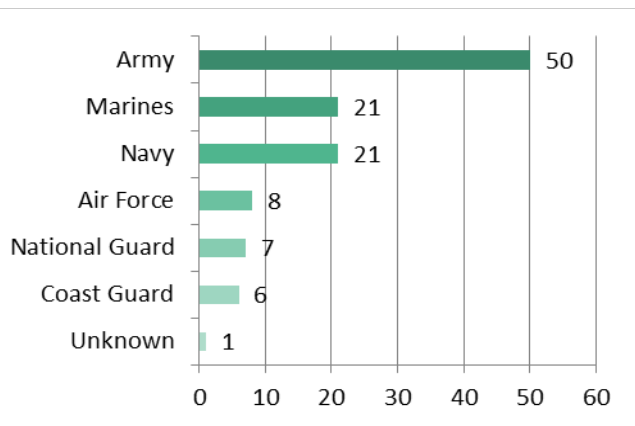
VJC: CHARGE TYPE (N=225)



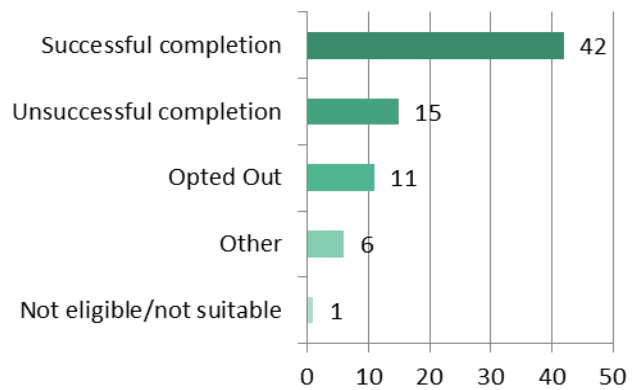
Charges

There were a total of 225 charges, including multiple counts, from the 114 clients who were served in VJC in 2015. The majority (46%) of charges were property/theft related crimes, 20% had charges related to crimes against persons (e.g. penal codes 422 PC, 245 PC, 242 PC, 148(a)(1) PC, and 211 PC), 12% of participants had drug related charges, 7% weapons related charges, 3% quality of life related charges, and 12% of participants had other charges (contempt of court, traffic violations, sex offender failure to register).

VJC: MILITARY BRANCH (N=114)



VJC: EXITING CLIENT VOLUME (N=75)



Military Branch

The majority (40%) of VJC clients served in the Army, 18% in the Marines, 17% in the Navy, 7% in the Air Force, 6% in the National Guard, and 5% in the Coast Guard. Seven percent of clients did not have their Military Branch recorded; this was not required information during a client's intake in 2015.

Exiting Clients

Seventy-five clients exited the program in 2015. More than half (56%) of all clients that exited VJC in 2015 successfully completed the program. Twenty percent were unsuccessful; they failed to comply with the requirements of their treatment plan, absconded, or had a new arrest. Clients that self terminated (15%) voluntarily left the program. VJC clients who exited in 2015 spent 269 days on average in the program.

INTENSIVE SUPERVISION COURT

OVERVIEW

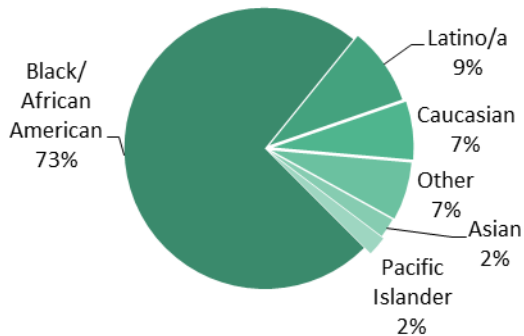
The Intensive Supervision Court (ISC) began in October 2010. ISC was created by the Adult Probation Department as a voluntary program. ISC's target population is high-risk, high-needs probation clients who are facing a state prison commitment as a result of probation violations. ISC targets clients who have been terminated from or may be considered unsuitable for other treatment courts due to their extensive criminal records, histories of unsuccessful performance on probation, and high risk for probation revocation and state prison commitment. The court utilizes a multidisciplinary treatment team approach and provides services such as housing, employment, education, family reunification support, substance abuse, health, and mental health programs.

2015 PROGRAM ACTIVITY

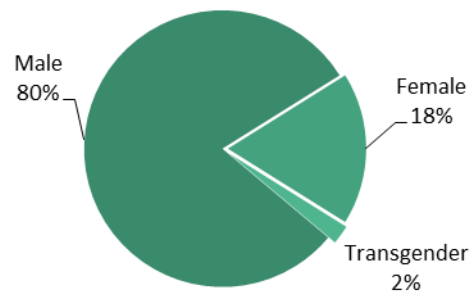
Clients Served

ISC has served 130 clients since inception. In 2015, 42 clients received services, including 10 new clients and 32 continuing clients. Three clients were on long-term bench warrant status throughout the year.

ISC: ETHNICITY (N=45)



ISC: GENDER (N=45)



Criminal Justice Factors

ISC clients have extensive criminal histories. Clients who participated in 2015 had an average of 4.3 prior felonies, while nearly 70% (31 clients) had 3 or more prior felonies. On average, clients were facing an estimated 3.8 years of state prison time, with 6 clients facing between 5 and 14 years of state prison.

NUMBER OF PRIOR FELONIES
(N=45)

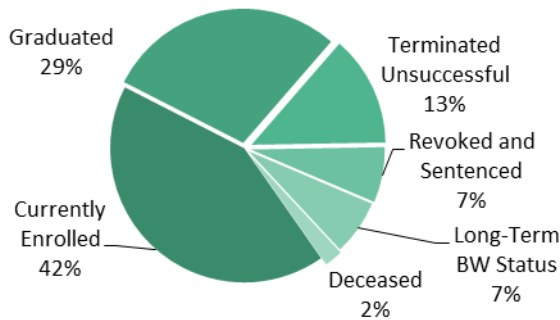


Years of State Prison Faced by Clients
(N=45)

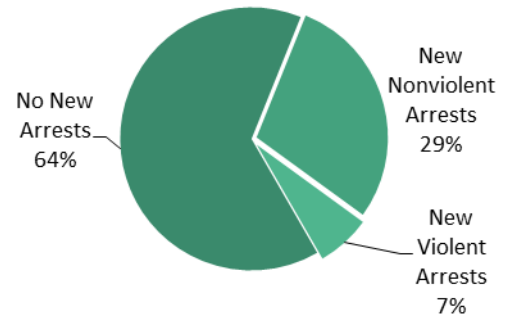


By the end of the year, 19 clients remained active in the program, 13 graduated, 9 had a negative exit status, one was deceased, and 3 were on long-term bench warrant status. The majority of clients (64%) remained arrest-free throughout the year. Only 9% (4 clients) were actually convicted of a new crime.

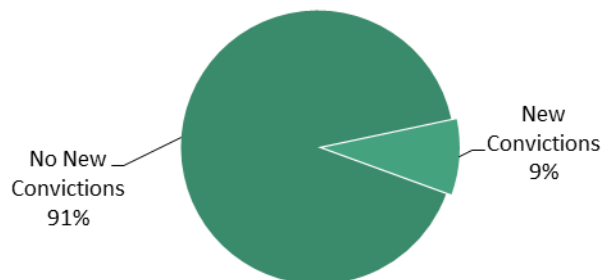
ISC: CLIENTS BY STATUS AT YEAR END (N=45)



ISC: CLIENTS WITH NEW ARRESTS (N=45)



ISC: CLIENTS WITH NEW CONVICTIONS (N=45)



PAROLE REVOCATION COURT

OVERVIEW

The Parole Revocation Court (PRC) is a unique collaborative team that supports the delivery of social services to parolees who have a Petition to Revoke Parole filed in the Parole Revocation Court. The PRC team follows collaborative court principles including frequent status hearings before a judge, client accountability and monitoring, behavioral modification in the form of sanctions and incentives and participation in treatment programs. If the client is unable to fulfill his or her treatment obligations and is not adhering to the treatment plan, the client will be subject to additional remedial sanctions, a possible new parole violation or termination from PRC.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

To be considered for PRC, a parolee must have a history of substance abuse and/or mental illness and have 90 days or less remaining in parole. Due to the extensive needs of these clients, the PRC case manager will support a maximum of 10-12 clients only. Service provision includes substance abuse, mental health and transitional housing support which may include short-term residential treatment, intensive out-patient treatment, or employment referrals.

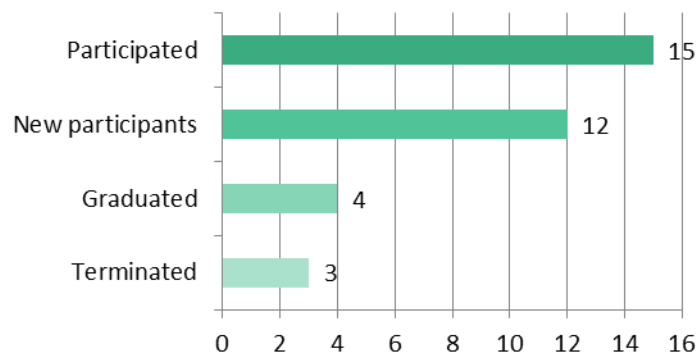
OUTCOMES AND GOALS

Successful completion in PRC is defined as follows a defined treatment plan with no new corrective actions required (i.e. arrest, new Petition to Revoke or new misdemeanor or felony case). Upon successful completion, a parolee's 'Petition to Revoke' may be dismissed.

PROGRAM ACTIVITY

PRC had 15 participants in 2015; 1 participant was female. All clients reported having a mental health disorder, with 80% reporting co-occurring substance abuse treatment needs. Sixty percent of participants were Black/African American, 26% were Latino/a, and 14% were White.

PRC: CLIENT ACTIVITY



YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAMS

FAMILY TREATMENT COURT

OVERVIEW

The San Francisco Family Treatment Court (FTC) is a court-supervised support program serving families involved in the juvenile dependency (child welfare) system that have been impacted by parental substance use. FTC uses a multidisciplinary team approach to develop family-focused and trauma-informed treatment plans that address the needs of each family member.

FTC seeks to enhance permanency outcomes for children, with the preferred outcome of family reunification, by offering coordinated treatment planning. Services include: judicial monitoring, substance use assessment and treatment, mental health services, parenting education, intensive case management, drug testing, and priority referrals to transitional housing.

Family Treatment Court's Goals:

- Increase reunification rate among families involved in the juvenile dependency system that are impacted by parental substance use;
- Increase placement stability and reduce children's re-entry into foster care after reunification;
- Provide highly coordinated and clinically-focused substance use treatment and ancillary service planning, while ensuring that parents have a voice in the decision making process;
- Increase inter-agency collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and cross-systems efficiencies;
- Promote early bonding and attachment;
- Improve access to medical, developmental, and mental health services for children.

NEW PROGRAM INFORMATION

FTC received a Prevention and Family Recovery (PFR) grant, an initiative funded by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. Through PFR, FTC is working with "Change Leaders" from Children and Family Futures to identify areas of need and implement cross-systems reform. Using grant funds, FTC added two new members to its multidisciplinary team: a full-time Public Health Nurse and a part-time Children's Services Coordinator. These positions became fully operational in 2015 through the Department of Public Health.

In 2015, FTC strengthened its operational infrastructure by implementing a three-level oversight structure that includes a "Core Team," a Steering Committee, and an Oversight Committee. These efforts ensure that FTC receives adequate support from multiple managerial levels, and increases awareness of FTC processes across county systems. This results in a more rapid response to systemic barriers impacting families involved in the child welfare system. FTC also began offering SafeCare, an evidence-based, in-home parenting education program that has been shown to reduce child maltreatment among families in the child welfare system. All FTC participating families with children 0-5 years old are eligible to receive SafeCare services. In 2015, 38 parents received SafeCare services.

PROGRAM ACTIVITY

In 2015, 97 parents were referred to FTC; 57 parents and 79 children entered FTC. Seventy-two percent of entering parents were male and 28% were female. Thirty-nine percent of entering parents were Black/African American, 33% were White, 16% were Latino/a, 11% were Asian/Pacific Islander, and 2% were Native American. In all, 103 parents and 144 children participated in FTC during the year as either entering and continuing participants, comprising a total of 88 families. Twenty-one participants graduated or successfully terminated from FTC.

YOUNG ADULT COURT

OVERVIEW

Young Adult Court (YAC) focuses on transitional aged youth (ages 18-25), many of whom have extensive trauma histories, inadequate support systems and housing, and minimal educational and employment histories. The program, which began in July 2015, is a partnership among the Superior Court of California; Office of the Public Defender; Office of the District Attorney; Adult Probation Department; Family Services Agency (Felton Institute); Department of Children, Youth and Their Families; Sheriff's Department; Jail Reentry Services; and the Department of Public Health.

SERVICE DELIVERY

Community treatment and case management is provided by the Family Service Agency/Felton Institute (FSA). FSA provides a strengths-based, trauma informed client-centered approach with youth who also are challenged by substance abuse and co-occurring disorders and are deemed high-risk to reoffend in the community. Clients are ideally engaged in YAC for a period of one year by transitioning through four phases, with an ongoing relationship of care in the areas of job readiness, housing, educational support and parenting.

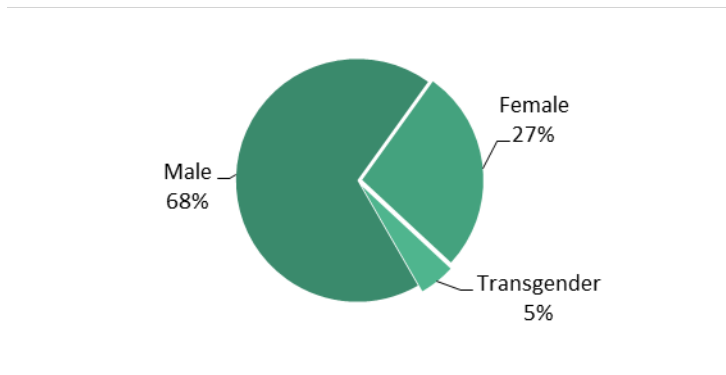
PROGRAM ACTIVITY

- 63 young adults were referred to, and participated in YAC
- 14 were in custody at the time of referral, 49 were out of custody.
- 6 were terminated from the program before the end of 2015
- 9 YAC participants were parents to 1 or more children

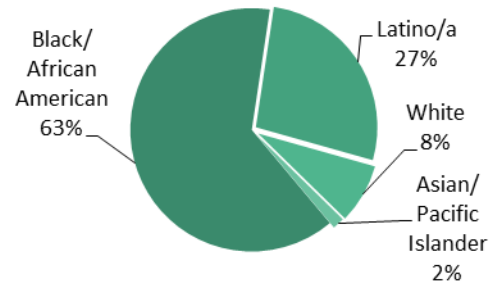
YOUNG ADULT COURT MISSION

The mission of Young Adult Court is to enhance long term public safety and reduce recidivism by working in partnership with young adults ages 18-25, supporting them to make a successful transition into adulthood. YAC provides a comprehensive program of strength-based, trauma-informed and evidence-supported educational, vocational, and counseling opportunities, in conjunction with court supervision, to engage and empower young adults to reach their full potential.

YAC: GENDER (N=63)



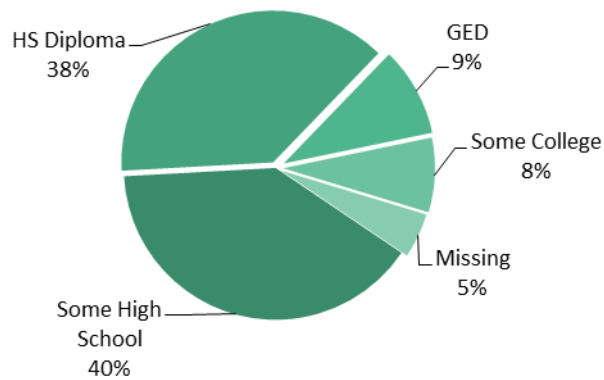
YAC: ETHNICITY (N=63)



Gender and Ethnicity

Sixty-eight percent of YAC participants were male, 27% were female, and 5% were transgender. Sixty-three percent were Black/African American, 27% Latino/a, 8% were White, and 2% were Asian/Pacific Islander.

YAC: EDUCATION (N=63)



Education

Forty percent of participants had some high school education, 38% possessed a high school diploma, 9% had a GED, and 8% had attended some college.

JUVENILE REENTRY COURT

OVERVIEW

The Juvenile Reentry Court (JRC) was established in 2009 by the Juvenile Probation Department and the Office of the Public Defender to provide coordinated reentry case planning and aftercare services for high needs foster youth in the juvenile delinquency system. The model establishes a collaborative team approach in the development and implementation of reentry plans for youth returning home from out-of-home placement. Three months prior to completion of out-of-home placement, the plan is finalized and may include housing, vocational training, education, therapy and/or drug treatment, and any other services needed to ensure the minor's success. This team includes Attorneys, Probation Officers, Social Workers, and Case Coordinators who meet regularly to discuss a client's progress. JRC employs evidence-based practices (motivational interviewing, cognitive behavioral therapy) and utilizes risk-needs assessment tools that further enhance the appropriate treatment plan.

The expansion of JRC into a specialized **Girls Court**, a one-day per month calendar, provides gender-specific services to increase program retention and to build community connections and partnerships to advance the provision of out of custody services.

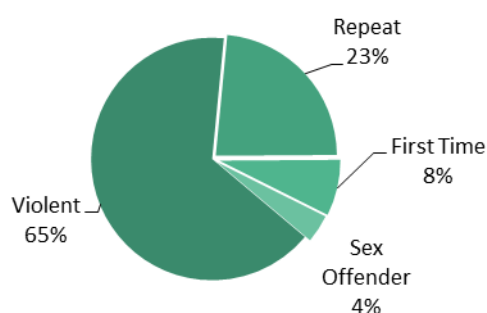
NEW PROGRAM INFORMATION

In 2015, JRC youth actively participated in summer activities that exposed them to recreational, employment, and career exploration. Outings such as San Francisco Giants baseball games and educational tours of the Google campus in Mountain View helped to expand the JRC youth's perspectives outside of probation. Many of the JRC youth participated in the City and County sponsored 2015 Teen Outdoor Experience (TOE). High risk youth from different neighborhoods came together at Camp Mather, located near the Yosemite National Park, where they learned to build positive relationships. Because of TOE, many JRC youth were able to secure afterschool employment with SF Park and Recreation Department for the academic 2015-2016 year.

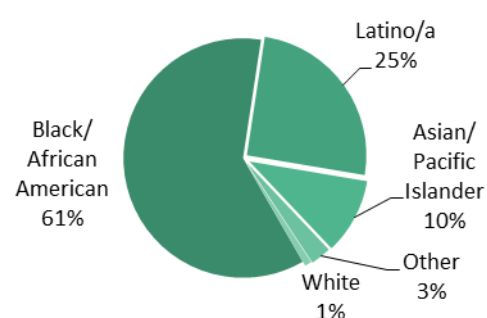
PROGRAM ACTIVITY

In 2015, 107 youth were served in the Juvenile Reentry Program; eighty-one percent of participants were male, and 19% were female. Sixty-one were African American, followed by Latino/a (25%). Fifty-seven percent of youth were minors, while the remaining 43% were over 18 years old. Sixty-five percent of youth were violent offenders and 23% were repeat offenders.

JRC: OFFENDER TYPE (N=107)



JRC: ETHNICITY (N=107)



TRUANCY COURT

OVERVIEW

Truancy Court was developed as part of the San Francisco District Attorney's Truancy Intervention Program (SFTIP), established in 2006 through the joint efforts of the San Francisco's District Attorney's Office, Mayor's Office, Superior Court, and Unified School District. Since program inception, SFTIP has also incorporated additional public agencies, charter schools, and community-based service providers to further reduce absenteeism.

Statistics show that there is a relationship between school attendance and public safety. In San Francisco, 94% of homicide victims under the age of 25 dropped out of high school³ and nationally, 68% of state prison inmates are dropouts. Recent studies indicate that, on average, one additional year of schooling corresponds to a 20 percent decrease in the likelihood that a juvenile will steal a car and a 30% decrease in the likelihood that they will commit murder or assault⁴. By keeping our children in school and off the streets, SFTIP hopes to keep students away from victimization and crime.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

As mandated by the California Education Code, schools carry out a seven-step truancy process. Parents are notified in person, by telephone and by mail, attend conferences with school officials, and are offered services to assist them in getting their children to school. If all else fails in rectifying the truancy, the schools refer the cases to the District Attorney's Truancy Intervention Program.

The District Attorney's model employs a three-pronged approach to combat truancy:

Stage 1: Education. The District Attorney's Office engages in public education and outreach, meeting with schools and families and participating in events within the education community. In addition, each public school parent receives a letter from the DA at the outset of every school year describing the problem of truancy and the consequences, and urging parents to keep children in school.

Stage 2: Intervention. When children become habitually truant, parents are asked to attend School Attendance Review Board (SARB) meetings. The DA's Office also hosts collaborative meetings with various city agencies and service providers to address the needs of individual habitually truant students and their families.

Stage 3: Prosecution. Parents of truant children who do not change course in Stage 2 are subject to prosecution. Students themselves, who are over the age of 13, can also be subject to prosecution for their own truancy if they are the cause of their absenteeism. Truant families must report to a specialized Truancy Court that combines close court monitoring with tailored family services. The SF Unified School District and the Truancy Assessment and Resource Center (TARC) – funded by the City and operated by Urban Services YMCA – help to resolve underlying issues such as transportation, unstable housing, substance abuse, mental health, neglect or unresolved special education needs.

³ Harris, K (2010). Pay Attention Now or Pay the Price Later: How reducing Elementary School Truancy Will Improve Public Safety and Save Public Resources. City and county of San Francisco District Attorney's Office.

⁴ Report on California's Elementary School Truancy and Absenteeism Crisis, Attorney General, 2013

SCHOOL-SITE ACTIVITY

ACTIVITIES FOCUSED ON PRE-PROSECUTION INTERVENTION

In 2012 the District Attorney's Office funded a case manager on-site at Burton High School to work with entering ninth-graders on the school district's "Early Warning List" – those students who had experienced high truancy and low academic performance in eighth grade. In 2013, San Francisco Board of Supervisors Malia Cohen and London Breed provided funds to expand the program to Ida B. Wells Continuation School. There is currently one fulltime staff person at Burton High School and two fulltime staff persons at Ida B. Wells Continuation High School. Ongoing funding is now provided by the Department of Children, Youth and Their Families. Run by the YMCA's Truancy Assessment Resource Center (TARC), this funding provides intensive support and supervision for students at the start of the school year, before they become truant, by helping them to make a successful transition to high school.

PROGRAM ACTIVITY

In 2015, SFTIP filed 17 new cases against truant students and/or parents of truant students to be heard in court. Every family that appeared in court agreed to receive services and work with the Court, the School District, TARC, and the San Francisco District Attorney's Office to improve their truancy.

2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR STATISTICS:

- 24 active, incoming students served
- 9 Burton High School Students: 6 male, 3 female
- 15 Ida B. Wells Students: 8 male, 7 female

TRUANCY ACTION PARTNERSHIP

The Truancy Action Partnership (TAP) is a collaboration among the Court, the San Francisco Unified School District, SF Health Network, Human Services Agency and other community-based organizations. TAP is for elementary students identified as habitually or chronically truant and have received three Truancy Notification Letters. The program seeks to avoid a referral to the School Attendance Review Board (SARB), the last step before appearance in Truancy Court.

How the Program Works

In spring 2015, the Court completed a pilot program at two sites – Bret Harte and El Dorado elementary schools. A family agreed to participate at each school. The program consists of six afternoon sessions, each 10 minutes in length, once per week. Each session is comprised of a team to review the progress of the student and family – including a Judge, clinical social worker(s), and a member of the school district's truancy task force. Services and resources are determined by a family's request and examples may include but are not limited to: mental health, housing, employment assistance, afterschool programs and counseling. SFUSD administrators submit a progress report two days prior to the TAP session. Parents and students are expected to actively participate in all six sessions. The student must attend school during his or her involvement in the program. Any student absenteeism or tardiness during this time is considered an absence from the TAP program.

*Statistics provided by the San Francisco District Attorney's Office

The San Francisco Superior Court delivers high quality collaborative justice programs that address addiction, mental health, and other social service needs. We change lives by demonstrating our Core Values in everything we do:

- High quality and culturally competent services
- Non-adversarial adjudication
- Procedural fairness
- Cross system collaboration
- Personal accountability
- Respectful, compassionate, kind, and supportive interactions

Collaborative courts depend on the dedication of our public and non-profit partner agencies. These include: the Department of Public Health, Office of the District Attorney, Office of the Public Defender, Adult and Juvenile Probation Departments, Department of Children, Youth and Their Families, Human Services Agency, Veterans Administration, San Francisco Sheriff's Department, San Francisco Police Department, and a myriad of community-based service providers.

The Superior Court's Collaborative Court Advisory Committee advises the Presiding Judge and Executive Committee on collaborative courts. The Committee considers policy issues and judicial and staff workload in relation to the rest of the court.