TRIBAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

An Important Part of the Healing to Wellness Court

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WHO AM I?
• When a representative from Law Enforcement attended hearings regularly, Drug Courts were over 80% more effective at reducing crime and 60% more cost effective.

Carey et al. 2008-2012
LAW ENFORCEMENT-RESEARCH

• Law Enforcement is a member of the treatment court team: *Recidivism reduction*[^88%]
• Law Enforcement attends court sessions: *Recidivism reduction*[^83%]

*Recidivism reduction relative to courts that do not follow these practices.*

NPC Research Key Components Study 2008
LAW ENFORCEMENT ROLE WITHIN THE TREATMENT TEAM

• Liaison between the Wellness Court and the rest of the Police Force
  - able to check the call logs to see if any participants have made contact with any of the participants
  - able to assist with Welfare checks on participants during and after business hours
  - able to assist with random drug/alcohol screenings
  - able to provide information to the Treatment Team on incidents involving the participant
LAW ENFORCEMENT ROLE WITHIN THE TREATMENT TEAM

• **Eyes & Ears of the community**
  - able to meet with families, neighbors, friends, etc. on behavior that is concerning about the participant
  - able to assist other Treatment Team members with recommendations such as recommending offenders for the Wellness Court.
LAW ENFORCEMENT ROLE WITHIN THE TREATMENT TEAM

• Assists in Welfare Checks
  - able to contact other officers to assist with Welfare Checks
  - able to assist Probation with Welfare Checks
  - able to assist Treatment Providers with Welfare Checks

*any officer can assist with Welfare Checks on a Wellness Court Participant, there is no set way to make contact with a participant. However, the Treatment Team can set certain guidelines for the participants when they come into contact with an officer on a welfare check.
IMPORTANCE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT IN LAGUNA HEALING TO WELLNESS COURT

• Assists in the interview process:

The officer assigned to the Treatment Team is able to research the applicant prior to the interview. The officer will have access to information about the applicants prior criminal history as well as any reports that were made about or filed by the applicant. The officer will also be able to speak with the arresting officer about the incident that the applicant is in custody for.
IMPORTANCE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT IN LAGUNA HEALING TO WELLNESS COURT

• Provides support for all Treatment Team Members

An officer assigned to the Treatment Team can assist with welfare checks, home checks, interviews and mentoring. Any of the team members can request to meet with the officer for any of the above mentioned activities. If the officer assigned to the team cannot assist the team member, the officer can contact another officer from the department to assist the team.
IMPORTANCE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT IN LAGUNA HEALING TO WELLNESS COURT

• Opportunity for participants to see Police in a supportive role

The officer assigned to the team can mentor or meet with participants to answer questions or assist them with issues that are not specific to the Wellness Court.
ENGAGEMENT OF NON-TEAM MEMBERS

• The officer assigned to the Treatment Team should explain and encourage other non-team member officers to ask questions about the policies and procedures of the Wellness Court. The officer should also assist with trainings and community meetings to explain their role and responsibilities within the team. An officer needs to get the support of his/her fellow officers for their assistance to be beneficial.
QUESTIONS???