



2019 Annual Family Treatment Court Grant Program Progress Report April 26, 2022

Introduction

2017 Wisconsin Act 202 authorized grants to be administered by the Department of Children and Families to counties or tribes to enable them to oversee the establishment and operation of family treatment courts. 2017 Wisconsin Act 261 appropriated \$250,000 general purpose revenue funding per year to be administered by the Department of Children and Families for the operation of the family treatment court grant program.

In compliance with 2017 Wisconsin Act 202, following is the Department of Children and Families' 2019 annual report, which fulfills the Department's reporting requirements under Section 48.546 (6), Wis. Stats. by serving as both an analysis of the data gathered under Section 48.546 (5), Wis. Stats., and a progress report intended to evaluate the effectiveness of the family treatment court grant program.

Through a competitive application process, grant monies were awarded to two county human services agencies, Dunn County Department of Human Services, which serves a child population of approximately 8,872, and Rock County Human Services Department, which serves a child population of approximately 37,701. The award amounts to each of these counties for this establishment and operation of the family treatment courts were as follows:

- Dunn County Family Treatment Court Program: \$312,500.00
- Rock County Family Treatment Court Program: \$312,500.00

Both counties demonstrated a strong commitment to the goal of improving child well-being and the welfare of participants' families by meeting the comprehensive needs of participants and promoting family reunification wherever possible, consistent with Section 48.546 (1), Wis. Stats.

Both grant recipient counties have readily complied with all requests for data by submitting such data to the Department of Children and Families on a quarterly basis, in compliance with Section 48.546 (5), Wis. Stats. Based on the information reported by each county to DCF on a quarterly basis, the following information has been collected regarding the funding authorized under Act 202 for establishment and operation of family treatment court programs.

Program Summaries

Both grant recipient counties established eligibility criteria for a person's participation in the grant program, in compliance with Section 48.546 (3)(a), Wis. Stats.

Dunn County Family Treatment Court Program:	Rock County Family Treatment Court Program:
Be participating voluntarily	Be chemically dependent and willing to go to treatment
Be 18 years of age or older	Be 18 years of age or older
Have a child protective services case open in Dunn County	Be a resident of Rock County
Be using either methamphetamine, opioids and/or alcohol	Be willing to sign a Consent to Release Confidential Information Form so that the team may share information with other team members and outside community providers
Be a parent	Have the ability both mentally and physically to fully participate in the program
<p>Have a trauma history and be experiencing additional significant need in more than one of the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing • Child(ren) in out-of-home care, or at imminent risk of being placed in out-of-home care • Employment • Child(ren) with special needs • Domestic violence • Mental health • Childcare • Transportation 	Not be substantiated for child sexual abuse
	Have submitted an application for acceptance to the program no later than three months from the date on which disposition was reached in an action filed under Section 48.13, Wis. Stats.

Service Provision

Both grant recipient counties identified services to be provided to program participants that are consistent with evidence-based practices in treatment services needed by those participants, in compliance with Section 48.546 (3)(b), Wis. Stats.

Dunn County Family Treatment Court Program:

The Dunn County family treatment court operates under the Adult Drug Court Best Practice Standards, the Wisconsin Treatment Court Standards, and the Family Treatment Court Best Practice Standards. In the program’s provision of services, it contracts with a treatment provider, Arbor Place, Inc., that operates under the Matrix Model, an evidence-based treatment model. This treatment provider offers a service array comprised of many different evidence-based therapies, including Multi-Dimensional Family Therapy (MDFT), Family Centered Treatment (FCT), Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavior Therapy (TF-CBT), Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), and Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT).

Rock County Family Treatment Court Program:

The Rock County family treatment court operates under the Adult Drug Court Best Practice Standards, the Wisconsin Treatment Court Standards, and the Children and Family Futures (CFF) Drug Court Guidelines. In the program’s provision of services, intensive case management services are provided through a Rock County Human Services Department Family Treatment Court Case Manager, utilizing the Functional Family Case Management (FFCM) evidence-based model. One of the case manager’s duties is to identify and connect program participants with service providers who operate consistent with evidence-based practices and demonstrate fidelity to their chosen models.

Multidisciplinary Assessment Screen:

Both grant recipient counties identified the following tools for the provision of a multidisciplinary screen, in compliance with Section 48.546 (3)(c), Wis. Stats.

Dunn County Family Treatment Court:	Rock County Family Treatment Court:
North Carolina Family Assessment Scale (family dysfunction)	Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS)
Psych Social interview (employment barriers)	Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (AODA) Prescreen
Gain Short Screen (mental health, criminality)	American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM)
Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS)	Criteria Criminogenic Risk Assessment

Use of Trauma-Informed Approaches:

Both grant recipient counties ensured the provision of a holistic and trauma-informed approach to the treatment of program participants, in compliance with Section 48.546 (3)(d), Wis. Stats. as follows:

Dunn County Treatment Court Program:

Courtroom Process and Environment

During family treatment court hearings in Dunn County, the courtroom is non-adversarial, and program participants are given a minimum of three minutes of time with the judge. Participants are treated with respect and empowered by the judge to engage actively in

recovery. Responses to a participant's behavior are determined and communicated to the participant only after a treatment team staffing has taken place.

Dunn County Behavioral Health staff are fluent in the concepts of person-centered practice and recovery, and the county is committed to educating its child protective services staff on the core elements of consumer self-determination, the use of natural supports, the importance of lived experience, and the way in which trauma factors into gender responsive services.

The county is further committed to building a trauma-informed environment across the continuum of care, including the justice system, through system-wide trainings aimed at becoming a trauma-informed community.

Agency Roles and Responsibilities

One of the roles of the Dunn County Family Treatment Court Coordinator is to identify resources and to respond to the full range of needs of program participants as determined by the assessment tools employed. The coordinator then develops comprehensive, coordinated plans that utilize a wide range of evidence-based service providers. Wrap-around services may include substance abuse treatment, medically assisted treatment (MAT), mental health treatment, family counseling, domestic violence treatment, health and dental services, parenting classes, relapse prevention, gender-specific services, and services to address trauma exposure.

Once services have been identified, a treatment team is assembled, and consists of staff who provide direct services to the participants, child(ren), and families in the program. Other key team members include the judge, the District Attorney, attorney or advocate for the participant, attorney or advocate for the child(ren), child protective services case managers, treatment providers, and dependent upon the participant, child(ren), and family needs, domestic violence program representatives, probation officers, and juvenile justice staff.

Team members attend pre-court staffing meetings and court review hearings and share participant progress information in a timely way in order to allow for the use of incentives and sanctions to effectively shape behavior focused on family recovery.

Rock County Treatment Court Program:

Courtroom Process and Environment

Rock County's family treatment court program is structured in such a way as to ensure that the judge affirms the expectations of the program with program participants. Responses to participants' behavior are goal-oriented, consistent, immediate, fair, individualistic, and therapeutically sound. During hearings, participants can speak directly with the judge, and the judge meets with each participant for a minimum of three minutes to discuss the participant's progress and offer encouragement. The judge also allows time for participants to offer their perspective on how they are progressing in the program, their child welfare case(s), and their recovery.

Agency Roles and Responsibilities

Child protective services professionals are required to continue their education in trauma-informed care by attending trauma trainings offered through Rock County. All treatment providers are trauma-trained and trauma-focused in their service delivery.

Each participant has an individualized case plan used to link the participant to service providers within the county, in order to meet the needs of the participant as identified in the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths assessment. Additionally, monthly team meetings with the participant, treatment providers, and identified supports are held outside of family treatment court hearings, and are aimed at discussing case progress, barriers, and recovery, in order to ensure timely and effective collaboration and coordination of services.

Service Integration

Both grant recipient counties have put systems into place to ensure integration of all services provided to program participants, in compliance with Section 48.546 (3)(e), Wis. Stats.

Dunn County Family Treatment Court Program:

While family treatment court hearings take place on an alternating week basis in Dunn County, each program participant's treatment team, which, as indicated above, includes the judge, the District Attorney, attorney or advocate for the participant, attorney or advocate for the child(ren), child protective services professionals, treatment providers, and dependent upon the participant, child(ren), and family needs, domestic violence program representatives, probation officers, and juvenile justice staff, meets weekly to engage in confidential team staffings. During these staffings, team members openly discuss participants' behaviors from their different perspectives. In addition to these scheduled staffings, emergency staffings take place on an as-needed basis.

Rock County Family Treatment Court Program:

In Rock County, the Family Treatment Court Coordinator, the child protective services case manager, and the Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) case manager engage in weekly staffings with all treatment providers and other service providers, in a setting outside of the court context, to monitor the participants' compliance with obligations under the program. Information between the family treatment court team and all providers is shared freely so as to ensure all appropriate services and responses can be delivered comprehensively to each participant, and to ensure services are being provided in a holistic manner.

Additionally, in an effort to integrate services, up to 15 individuals are permitted to participate in hearings, including the Family Treatment Court Coordinator, the child protective services case manager, Corporation Counsel, the guardian ad litem, the participant's attorney, treatment providers and other service providers, probation and parole representatives, and a court appointed special advocate (CASA). These same team members meet prior to hearings to share the most up-to-date information pertaining to each participant, discussing their recovery, barriers, and overall case progress.

Program Oversight Committee

Both grant recipient counties successfully assembled an oversight committee, in compliance with Section 48.546 (4), Wis. Stats.

Dunn County Family Treatment Court Program:

Name	Role/Title
Honorable James Patterson	Dunn County Circuit Court Judge Branch 1
Honorable Rod Smeltzer	Dunn County Circuit Court Judge Branch 2
Andrea Nodolf	Dunn County District Attorney
Kris Korpela	Dunn County Human Services Director
Lori Radcliffe	Dunn County Child Protective Services Manager
Carrie Anderson	Dunn County Child Protective Services Manager
Sara Benedict	Dunn County Criminal Justice Coordinator
Derek Smith	Dunn County Family Treatment Court Coordinator
Jenae Brantner	Dunn County Adult Treatment Court Coordinator
Katie Schalley	Dunn County Clerk of Circuit Courts
K.T. Gallagher,	Dunn County Public Health Director
Christina Mayer	Dunn County Guardian ad Litem
Jill Gamez	Treatment Provider
Lindsey Field	Integrated Treatment Specialist
Melissa Berg	Dunn County Child Protective Services Social Worker
Kayla Johnson	Dunn County Child Protective Services Social Worker

Rock County Family Treatment Court Program:

Name	Role/Title
Honorable Michael Haakenson	Rock County Circuit Court Judge Branch 5
Honorable Allen Bates	Retired Judge and Community Member
Rich Greenlee	Rock County Corporation Counsel
Kate Luster	Rock County Human Services Director
Tera O'Connor	Rock County Human Services Deputy Director
Ryan Trautsch,	Rock County Human Services Children, Youth, and Families Program Manager
Sandy Johnson	Rock County Court Appointed Special Advocate Director
Jenna Singer	Rock County Human Services Comprehensive Community Services Program Manager
Chris Schoben	Professional Services Group, Vice President
Ben Searls	Wisconsin Department of Corrections Supervisor
Sean Mangold	Recovery Coach
Kelsey M. Hood-Christenson	Beloit Domestic Violence Survivor Center Staff Member
Faun Moses	Wisconsin State Public Defender Manager
Josh Grube	Private Attorney
Chad Woodman	Janesville Police Department Officer

Summary of Service Provision

Dunn County Family Treatment Court		Rock County Family Treatment Court	
Referrals received in 2019	11	Referrals received in 2019	12
Participants successfully enrolled in the program in 2019	10	Participants successfully enrolled in the program in 2019	10
Participants still enrolled in the program, working toward successful program completion at the close of 2019	10	Participants still enrolled in the program, working toward successful program completion at the close of 2019	9

Annual Report Summary

DCF will continue to collect information from the participating county agencies on a quarterly basis over the remaining contract renewal periods regarding the respective programs' establishment and operations including program aspects related to program eligibility, service provision (including the use of standardized assessment tools and trauma-informed approaches used by the local agency staff, service providers and courts), program oversight representation and responsibilities, and family treatment court service utilization and outcomes. In addition to annual progress reports, following the fifth year of the grant program, DCF will prepare a report that will be submitted to the legislature, as required under Section 48.456(7), Wis. Stats.