

# **Reno's New Misdemeanor Co-Occurring Mental Health and Substance Abuse Disorder Specialty Court**

Program description: Beginning in March 2011, Reno Municipal Court began accepting referrals for their new ***Co-Occurring Mental Health and Substance Abuse Disorder Specialty Court***. The new court has been added as a way to enhance the Courts' existing adult drug courts. The goal is to help defendants with co-occurring disorders, integrate services, and fill a gap in services for offenders charged with DUI or Domestic Violence.

## **Notes from the Clinical Director, Lisa Keating Ph.D.**

I'm proud to say that Reno Municipal Court is working hard to become a leader in addressing the needs of people with substance use and mental disorders in the Reno Nevada area.

Since March 2011, we have helped 14 clients start their way toward recovery. As we move forward, we plan to:

- Increase the number of referrals into the program. We plan to serve 60 people a year in our program.
- Help people find access to quality psychiatric, medical and mental health treatment. We have developed a relationship with Access to



HealthCare Network. This gives our clientele immediate psychiatric care when they enter the program. Clientele is able to continue treatment after they graduate our program.

- Clients receive substance abuse treatment as well as Cognitive-Behavior Therapy to help them develop ways to manage mental health and substance abuse problems on their own.

Please give Mary Baker a call at (775) 334-3092 to answer any other questions you may have or help with your referrals.

*Lisa Keating, Ph.D.*

## Services Provided in 2011

- 14 people have been served and **ALL** have been successfully referred and have begun treatment.

- Our clients, left unaddressed, utilize the emergency rooms and social programs in Reno, cycling in and out without making any real changes.

- Our program offers AT NO COST TO YOU a full array of services including:

- Assessment & screening
- Outpatient services
- Individual case management
- Medication monitoring
- Probation monitoring
- HIV screening

- Referrals can be made by anyone; judges, attorneys, and officers who identify a person who has a substance abuse history AND, who indicate a history of mental health needs. Referrals must have a criminal case pending with Reno Municipal Court

- Participants must have a multiaxial diagnosis by a licensed psychologist to include Axis 1 depression, substance abuse (social, phobias), OCD, bipolar, schizophrenia, PTSD, anxiety

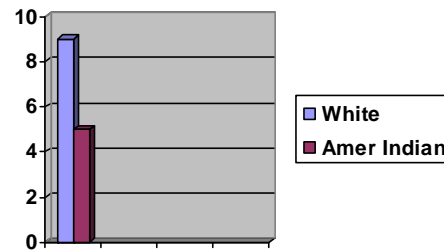
## Client Characteristics at Intake

Gender and age
78 % were males and 21% were females
36% were between ages of 18-24
14% were between ages of 25-34
29% were between ages of 35-44
14% were between ages of 45-54
7% were 55+

- 21.4% of the participants are employed
- Frequent Emergency Room (ER) Use: About half of our clients visited local ER's, largely for physical complaints. You can help us address ER misuse in the Reno area.
- 85% have been tested for HIV; 7% reported IV drug use.

## Race/Ethnicity

- Our clients are white or American Indian



## Drugs Reported Using

- At intake, clients reported using the following:

Drug	% using
Alcohol	78.6%
Marijuana/hashish	35.7%
Percocet	28.6
Hallucinogens	21.4%
Methamphetamine	13.3%
Cocaine/crack	6.7%
Morphine	6.7%
Oxycontin/oxycodone	6.7%
Benzodiazepines	6.7%
Inhalants	6.7%

## Co-Occurring Disorders

- While almost all our clients report problems due to psychological or emotional problems...over 86% indicated these problems were considerable or extreme.

- Only 15% received outpatient treatment for mental or emotional difficulties prior to starting our program

## Criminal Justice Involvement

- 61% reported being arrested in the past 30 days, with half of those arrests for drug related offenses

**For referrals or more information, please contact our staff at:**

Mary K. Baker, Special Services Supervisor  
Telephone: (775) 334-3092