



Eighth Judicial District Court

Re-Entry Court

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Re-Entry Court Purpose, and Goal

- **Purpose of Re-Entry Court**

- The MAT Re-entry Court is a court supervised treatment program for individuals on parole or 184 early release program, with substance abuse, co-occurring and/ or mental health needs.
- The program offers substance abuse counseling, mental health services, random drug/alcohol testing and court supervision of program compliance.
- Successful completion of the program will result in the individual obtaining stable housing, employment, and medical care.

- **Goals of Re-Entry Court**

- Increase public safety
- Reduce criminal recidivism
- Improve quality of participants' lives
- Restore positive community involvement



Benefits of Re-Entry Court

● Provides Treatment

- Substance Abuse Counseling
- Mental Health Counseling
- Co-Occurring Treatment
- Transitional Housing for 6 months
- Intensive Outpatient Treatment
- Residential Treatment
- Case Management Services
- Peer-Mentors
- Drug Testing
- Medication-Assisted Treatment



● Cost Reduction

- It costs \$79.34 per day to house an inmate and \$63.00 per day for transitional housing with case management.

● Regular Court Reviews

- Judicial oversight provides additional accountability and check-ins on participants' progress or concerns
- Parole supervision

Without judicial oversight, 70% of substance abusing offenders drop out of treatment- NADCP



Medication-Assisted Treatment

- Effective in the treatment of opioid use disorders and helps sustain recovery
- Re-Entry Court works in collaboration with Behavioral Health Group to provide MAT Services
 - Naltrexone (Vivitrol)
 - Buprenorphine (Suboxone, Subutex)
 - Methadone
- Each participant is required to complete a phone screening and in-person appointment with provider at BHG upon release, and can be re-assessed (if participant previously denied MAT) after a relapse



Comprehensive Approach

- MAT Re-Entry Court has enhanced collaboration with community stakeholders by;
 - Having dedicated P&P officers;
 - Working with community partners for free tattoo removal
 - Having contracted counsel for all MAT court participants that help with various legal matters, including but not limited to;
 - CPS/Family cases
 - Rent and tenant/landlord issues
 - Traffic warrants
 - Open cases from other courts/jurisdiction



Eligibility Criteria



Re-Entry Court:

- Eligible for parole, have a minimum of 6-9 months supervision time once released, either on Parole or NRS 209.4886,
- Identified opioid use disorder, or stimulant use disorder diagnosis (can be in addition to other alcohol and substance use disorders)
- No sexual offenses, past or present, and
- All violent, trafficking/sales, and arson cases will be staffed on a case by case basis.
- Offenders must be Moderate to High/Very High risk to reoffend based on the Nevada Risk Assessment Tool (NRAS)

**All applicants are considered on an individual basis and their review takes into consideration the totality of the applicant's criminal history, offense details, and social history. If an applicant is denied, the attorney may seek reconsideration from the Judge.*



Acceptance Procedure

Acceptance Process

- Starts by inmate completing the Specialty Courts application, from there it's reviewed by the Court Coordinator and discussed with treatment team. Placement is established, and acceptance letter is sent to referral source. Done within 2 weeks of receiving application.
- At least 6-9 months of parole supervision time is needed in order for the inmate to participate in the program due to the parole expiration date changing with custody level classifications.
- If person is not 184 inmate eligible and is released as a parolee, the inmate is not released until their parole eligibility is granted.
- If parole eligibility is denied, the person remains incarcerated. There have been instances where the parole is denied, pushed to the MPR date, and the person is ineligible for Re-Entry Court because after release, they do not have the parole supervision time needed to participate in our court program.



Effective Evidence Based Interventions for Criminal Justice-Involved Individuals

- Relying on validated risk-needs assessment (NRAS) to guide interventions assigned
- Targeting Criminogenic Risk Factors:
 - Primary:
 - Antisocial Personality Patterns
 - Antisocial Attitudes, Values, and Beliefs
 - History of Antisocial Behavior (static – unchanging)
 - Secondary:
 - Substance Use Disorder
 - Family Dysfunction
 - Low Levels of School/Work Achievement
- Targeting Dosage of Treatment needed to impact recidivism rates:
 - Moderate Risk = 100-150 hours
 - High Risk = 200 hours
 - Very High Risk = 300 hours
- Implementing effective curriculum, including gender responsive curriculum for justice involved women
 - MRT
 - Healthy Steps to Freedom



Re-entry Court Phases

- The MAT Re-Entry Court phases were created utilizing NADCP Best Practices, and the 8 principles of risk need responsivity. They were created to maximize participants' chances to successfully reintegrate.
- Each phase is designed with a series of tasks for participants to complete based on distal and proximal goals. Each task that is completed removes barriers that most justice involved individuals face when reintegrating, such as:
 - Obtaining vital documents
 - Obtaining employment
 - Ensuring housing stability
 - Obtaining prosocial support
 - Maintaining abstinence etc.



Statistics

- Since inception in 12/2018, Re-Entry Court has served 284 participants.
 - As of 09/01/2023, 70 active participants, with 1 suspended
 - Of these participants, 99% receive substance use and/or mental health counseling services, have access to case management services, and submit to random UAs
 - 77% are employed, 3% have job apprenticeship, 3% are enrolled in college or job training programs, 1% receives disability benefits, and 16% are unemployed.
 - 41% are in supportive housing provided through the court, 58% are in independent living or self-pay
 - 204 discharges, with 128 successful completions and 76 unsuccessful terminations/Other

I know stats drive the train but we've also had improvements in areas that can't be measured. We've created an atmosphere where clients feel heard and valued; we've been commended on our compassionate approach and participants feel they can trust the treatment team...so all this to say that I think we'll see that 63% number continue to climb!

-Hearing Master Claudia Romney



Funding

- Re-Entry Court is currently funded through the State in partnership with UNR and CASAT. The funds are part of the State Opioid Response (SOR) grants.
 - Upon entering the new grant year the program has seen a decrease in funding.
 - FY23 awarded \$931,624.78 and an additional \$169,229.27. Totaling \$1,100,854.05. Allowing us to serve as of 09/20/2023 142 participants with 33 participants pending.
 - FY24 anticipated award is \$900,000.00. The decrease in grant funds will impact the number of participants able to be served and could create a waitlist.
 - Re-Entry Court is always seeking additional funding opportunities or ways to collaborate.



The Verdict Is In

- **Specialty Courts**
 - Effective alternative to incarceration
 - Specialty Courts **WORK**
 - Better than jail or prison
 - Better than probation and treatment alone

Specialty Courts are more effective than any other proven criminal justice strategy.

NADCP



Words from the participants

- "As a participant in the MAT Re-Entry court program, I can confidently say that it has been instrumental in my successful reintegration into the community. The comprehensive support and resources provided have enabled me to overcome addiction, rebuild my life, and become a productive member of society once again."
- For me personally, it gave me a opportunity to engage with the community in a positive way. It helped me build a structure support and most importantly it helped me find peace within myself. It gave me all the tools I needed to not re-offend. This was the best choice I made in my life.
- In my experience with the MAT Court it has given me structure and direction for my life by means of providing me with classes and outreach that address my personal needs as well as attaching me life lessons such as patience honesty accountability and responsibility for my actions. Given me therapy which has helped me learn more about why I have made poor decisions in my past and how to turn that into positive motivation for a healthy lifestyle. I can 100% percent tell you all that the most **IMPORTANT** and **VALUABLE** thing I was taught is to **SET HEALTHY BOUNDARIES**. That in itself has helped me the most and I am truly grateful that I was brought into this program because in 3 short months since my release I have hope for my future



Words from the participants

- This program has opened up my mind a lot! It has help me focus on my recovery from drugs and a criminal life style to were I'm able to have a honest life
- Before I was released from the "Trust Program" inside Southern Desert Prison I was filled with anxiety because "Where am I going to live?", "Who's going to hire me?", "I don't have anyone in Nevada"... I'm very grateful for the Mat Court because every single concern I had Mat Court already had a solution for. I have a permanent position at my job, I'm sober, in compliance with parole, have connected with my children and grandchildren... Not one single complaint. So I guess my quote will be, " It works!".
- Without me learning the tools mat court has provided me I would of never found my self worth. Today I can be a responsible woman and a reliable mother to my children. I'm very grateful for the experience



Words from the participants

- This program has 100% given me the ability to re-integrate back into society successfully. Thanks to all the skills and tools that I've learned in the MAT program, my mindset and lifestyle have positively impacted the way I live my life now. I couldn't have done it without them. They've taught me so much! I appreciate this program so much every single day, and have learned so much from it. I'm very glad I was able to experience and learn from this program
- MAT court helped me to stay focused on being responsible, staying honest and communicating my needs. Which I still do today. I am so thankful for the opportunity I was given to be a part of MAT court
- This program gives you the opportunity to make something out of yourself and not repeat the past, without it, I would be wishing and not doing, it's not easy, but if you apply yourself, the life that you have after, should be. I'm grateful for the opportunity
- When an individual is getting out of prison, sometimes the "will to do better" isn't enough by itself as most times we need help for our preexisting problems as well as state supervision. The program is crucial for long term success as it provides a needed support system for those who would otherwise have none.



Words from the participants

- This program was the stepping stone I needed to be successful
- This program real help me how to open up with the problem that I didn't no that I had. My communication have improve a lot also it tight me how to be more responsible to be successful in life this program have real change my life I want to think the court for believe in me
- It has given me a chance to be prove to my family and myself that I can be a productive member of society.
- “ Sometimes, second chances work out even better than the first one, because you learn from your mistakes.”



Thank You for Being the Change



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