



Gambling Treatment Diversion Court

Update Report - January 29, 2020

Program

In November of 2019, GTDC celebrated its one-year anniversary. The first court hearing was on November 30, 2018 with 2 participants. Since then, GTDC has acquired a solid court team under the direction of Judge Moss. The team includes a Specialty Court Coordinator, a Public Defender, a District Attorney, 3 consistent treatment providers, and a community partner who is versed in the Problem Gambling area.

Monthly meetings are facilitated beyond the courtroom to develop the program Policies and Procedures, program structure, phases, and resources.

Participants

As of January 2020, the Gambling Treatment Diversion Court program currently has 4 active participants, with one additional participant approved and accepted but awaiting transfer from Nye County. There have been 10 other referrals for GTDC but eligibility requirements had not been met for the participants to accept and/or transfer these referrals for participation into GTDC.

Referrals are mainly coming from the public defenders' office and other courts.

Budget Planning and Needs

GTDC program participation includes attending counseling, support group meetings, drug testing, and using supplemental apps and tools for location tracking, financial monitoring, and other supervision.

The most important part of the program is connecting participants with the right treatment provider and support resources. Currently, participants are being connected with the appropriate treatment provider, preferably a Certified Problem Gambling Counselor (CPGC). Participants are encouraged to use their insurance. However, since finding a provider who accepts the participant's insurance is secondary to finding the most appropriate treatment provider, GTDC requires funding to cover the costs of treatment for participants.

Additional costs include drug testing and location monitoring services, which participants currently self-pay. However, funding would also be used to cover these costs for participants.

Other supplemental services that may be needed on a case-by-case situation include financial monitoring applications and software that prohibit online and digital gaming.

In the last monthly team meeting, it was also discussed that IRS and tax reports should also be requested from participants. The District Attorney's office has agreed to look into and possibly cover the costs of W2-Gs for all participants.

The next GTDC monthly meeting and court hearing are on Friday, February 7th, 2020.