

Allen County

Judge Glenn H. Derryberry

Program Name

Court Assessment Services Team (C.A.S.T.)

Program Intervention

Intensive Home Based Therapy

Primary Service Location

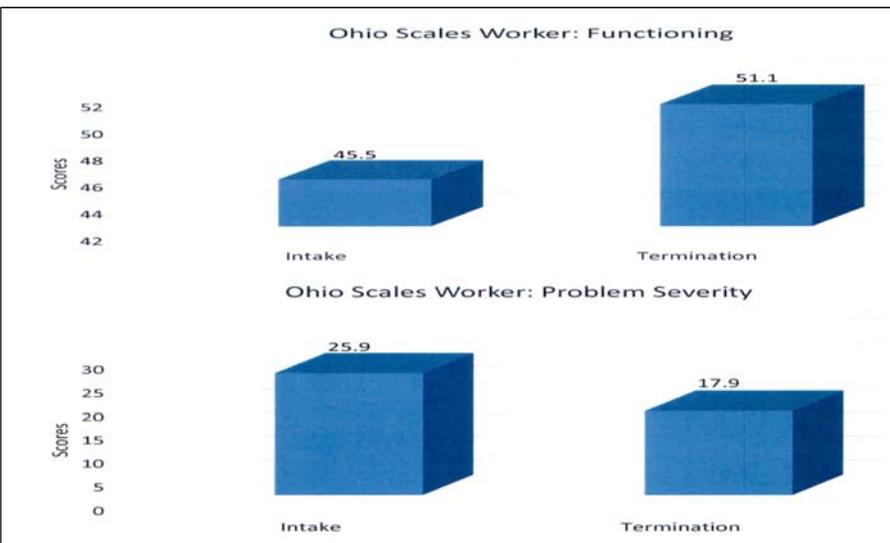
In-Home

Program Description

- The purpose of this project is to ensure brief interventions and referral to treatment, in order to divert youth away from the juvenile justice system.
- The population served by this program is youth referred to the CAST process, who have been assessed as low or moderate on the Diversion OYAS, but who are identified through the MAYSI-2 or Ohio Scales as having mental health or substance use issues which if not addressed will lead to further Juvenile Court involvement.
- Intensive Home Based Therapy was chosen, based on data which reflected many families referred to the CAST multi-discipline triage team (Juvenile Justice, Child Welfare, Mental Health) presented with co-occurring disorders which often delayed both youth and families' engagement in counseling services.
- The families learn the signs and symptoms of mental illness and substance abuse, as well as identification of triggers that lead to dysfunction in the family. In addition, symptom management and skills to improve family functioning are components of the program.

Outcomes

- Since the reporting date, 96.2% of the youth (25 of 26 youth) that successfully completed programming have not been formally charged.
- Results from the Ohio Scales indicate significant improvement in Problem Severity (lower scores indicate fewer problems), and Functioning (higher scores indicate higher functioning). (See Graphs Below)



Program Snapshot

(As of June 30, 2016)

Gender:

58 % Male
42% Female

Race/Ethnicity:

32% African American
65% Caucasian
3% Other

Age Range:

8-17

Offense Level:

Felony, Misdemeanor, At-Risk

Youth Re-offense Risk Level:

Low & Moderate

Screens & Assessments:

OYAS, MAYSI-2, Ohio Scales

Program Start Date:

February 18, 2015

Received Services:

31 Youth

Program Completion Successes:

26 Youth Successes
0 Youth Continuing into FY17

Average # of Service Units:

30 Hours of Direct Services Per Successful Youth

Program Partners:

Family Resource Center
Case Western Reserve University

Program Information Contact

Dan Norberg, Dep. Chief Probation Officer
Allen County Juvenile Court Community
1000 Wardhill Ave. Lima, Ohio 45805
419-998-5224
dnorberg@allencountyohio.com

Allen County Early Successes – C.A.S.T.

“We have been very pleased with the outcomes we are seeing with Intensive Home-based Therapy. The goal in establishing the program was to provide intensive services to families at the earliest stages of court involvement in order to prevent more serious offenses. Our numbers so far indicate that the program is achieving that result.”-

**Honorable Glenn H. Derryberry
Juvenile Judge**

“This program has allowed many families to engage in intensive therapy services earlier, which is crucial, to address the issues that bring them before the court, in hopes to divert court involvement” –

**Jamie Hardwick
Mental Health Liaison**

A Lesson Learned

Many of these cases referred to our court have been resolved by making a referral to mental health/ behavioral health services without formally charging the youth.

“The program had a positive impact on my son. The instructors are informative and very supportive.

Initially, my son felt the program was a waste of time and he only participated because he was required to, but as the sessions progressed, so did he. He's not perfect and still has slips with his anger, but he has learned to use his words and not his actions to communicate when he is frustrated or upset. **I hope other children choose to work the program and to let the program work for them!” – Parent of a Youth**

My son and I moved to Lima from Arizona. It was unfortunate that my son's out of control behaviors and a criminal damaging charge brought us to the attention of the Court. However, I was so relieved when I met the members of C.A.S.T. They offered me great suggestions, recognized my son's disabilities and the **IHBT made such a difference.” – Parent of a Youth**

Program Success Story – The Allen County Juvenile Court's CAST (Court Assessment Service Team) process does well responding quickly to families in crisis, by holding team meetings comprised of the core team representatives: Children Services, Mental Health and the Court. Historically the process fell short in the area of on-going engagement. The Competitive RECLAIM initiative allowed for the Intensive Home Based intervention to be added. In 2013, approximately 50% of those families referred to counseling out of a C.A.S.T. meeting actually followed through. Currently, due to the early intervention of Intensive Home Based Therapy 97% of those referred to counseling services have stayed engaged.

Youth Success Story – Mary (15 years old), was in the court's diversion program for a truancy charge. When Mary was referred to the program she was close to having her charge officially filed with the court because she continued to skip school. The C.A.S.T. (Court Assessment Services Team) met with Mary, her diversion caseworker, the school counselor, her mother as well as her grandmother, who supervised Mary when her mother worked nights.

Mary's grandmother lived next door, but did not enforce an established bedtime schedule and other rules for Mary that her mother put in place. The CAST discussion process revealed these rule inconsistencies which allowed Mary to manipulate both adults. Further, the MAYSI- 2 indicated that Mary was depressed. Intensive Home Based counseling was established, allowing for a case worker to work in both households to develop rules, structure, and most importantly, reestablishing the mother as the primary authority figure. Mary was also placed on medication for her depression. C.A.S.T. continued to meet throughout the school year, recognizing over time more stability, improved school attendance and less friction between the two homes. **Mary's school attendance improved. She was promoted to the next grade and her truancy charge was never filed with the court.**

Program Information Contact – Dan Norberg, Deputy Chief Probation Officer
Allen County Juvenile Court Community Control Department
1000 Wardhill Ave. Lima, Ohio 45805
419-998-5224
dnorberg@allencountyohio.com