



Adult Diversion

WHAT WE DO DIFFERENT:

Traditional Diversion

- ▶ Person commits a non-dangerous offense or a crime that is out of character;
- ▶ Defense counsel convinces prosecutor that client deserves a break;
- ▶ Prosecutor offers diversion;
- ▶ Defendant enters a pre-determined tract based upon underlying offense;
- ▶ Defendant sits through a few classes, pays a steep fine;
- ▶ Charges are dismissed and everyone moves on.

Criticisms of Traditional Diversion

- ▶ Pay to play system (can't afford classes and fine, can't partake);
- ▶ Out of the box solution to a potentially nuanced situation;
- ▶ Acts as a “freebie”;
- ▶ Simply a Tool for prosecutors to dispose of weak cases;
- ▶ Purely punitive with no real focus on redemption/rehabilitation;
- ▶ Fails to address public safety concerns;
- ▶ Revenue generator;

Pinal County's Vision

- ▶ Individualized;
- ▶ Evidence-based;
- ▶ Publicly safety focused;
- ▶ Affordable;
- ▶ Engaging;
- ▶ Data informed;
- ▶ Service package focused on addressing the underlying issue that caused the person to come into contact with the Criminal Justice System and creating a pathway to redemption

Pinal's Reality for Diversion

- ▶ Due to the financial support of this Board and millions of dollars in grants
 - ▶ Person commits a criminal offense;
 - ▶ Office proactively reviews cases for individuals that do not pose a danger to community;
 - ▶ Case referred to Diversion Officers;
 - ▶ Battery of Assessments administered pre, mid and post program (ACES, BAM, FS-36 QoL, SF-36, PRAPARE, ORAS, etc);
 - ▶ Referred to individual services (as opposed to a pre-set tract);
 - ▶ Active case management and "coaching";
 - ▶ Constant Program Adjustments, Assessments and Data Review

What's that all mean?

- ▶ Recidivism rate for prison (per BJA):
 - ▶ 3 years- 68%
 - ▶ 6 years- 79%
 - ▶ 9 years- 83% (that is a full 5 out of 6 people)
- ▶ Recidivism rate for those that complete our Diversion Program?
 - ▶ Less than 5%
- ▶ Nearly 3500 people have entered our Program
 - ▶ 83% successfully complete the program and have all charges dismissed
- ▶ We've recovered over \$171k in Victim Restitution

National Recognition

- ▶ On August 1st the Pinal County Attorney's Office Adult Diversion Program was selected as model site for national programs designed to improve behavioral health outcomes
 - ▶ What that really means is CSG Justice Center and BJA are telling other Diversion offices if you want to see how to do things, look to Pinal County.
- ▶ Our Diversion Office now serves as 1 of just 10 model examples for Criminal Justice-Mental Health Learning Site Programs in the Country
- ▶ Most importantly to everyone here today, this team is leading the charge in creating a **Safer, Stronger & Better Pinal County!**

Future Projects

- ▶ Short-Term
 - ▶ Expansion into City Courts
 - ▶ Pre-filing Diversion
- ▶ Long Term
 - ▶ Additional Programs
 - ▶ Increase eligibility to higher need/risk population
 - ▶ Pre-conviction specialty courts

Our Team

- ▶ Nicole
- ▶ Sarah
- ▶ Mitch
- ▶ Tyler
- ▶ Chantel
- ▶ Tina