

Methamphetamine, the Criminal Justice System and Addiction Court Support

Agenda

- * Who is Stonehenge Therapeutic Community
- * Consequences of Increased Methamphetamine Use
- * Community Response to Crystal Meth
- * Addiction Court Support
- * Questions and Discussion



Our Programs & Services

OVERVIEW



MEN'S AND WOMEN'S RESIDENTIAL

Residential Addiction Treatment

Opioid Substitution Program

Friends and Family Support Group

Aftercare Program

Alumni Association

PREGNANCY AND PARENTING PROGRAMS

Women's Residential Addiction Treatment

Let's Grow Together Day Program

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

S.O.S. (Specialized Medical Addiction
and Mental Health Outreach Services)

Addiction Support Coordination

Community Withdrawal Support Service

Supportive Addiction
& Mental Health Housing

COURT-BASED SERVICES

Drug Treatment Court

Addiction Court Support

Impact of Methamphetamine on the Community

In Guelph-Wellington the use of Methamphetamine rose significantly in 2015 contributing to:



- increased rates of bizarre behaviour and criminal offending
- unique pressures on hospital/EMS, law enforcement and community supports

Community Response to Methamphetamine

The community recognized that enforcement alone could not be expected to respond to this change. Using funds from the one-time Proceeds of Crime Grant, a collaborative approach was employed including:

- * Intensive Education
- * Meth Watch
- * Addiction Court Support



Addiction Court Support

- * The Addiction Court Support (ACS) program was designed to create a direct link between addiction services and the justice system

One outreach worker from Stonehenge Therapeutic Community supported individuals whose justice involvement was related to their substance use, providing brief counselling and case management



Addiction Court Support

The programs aim was to:

- Increase connections to addiction treatment, community support and services
- Decrease interactions with police
- Increase healthier and safer choices regarding substance use



Impact of Addiction Court Support

- * From October 2015 to March 2017 service was provided to 150 individuals

An evaluation of the program was conducted using:

- Referral Tracking
- Participant Surveys
- Interviews with Judicial Informants



Referrals and Connections

- * Approximately half of participants in the ACS program reported that this was their first contact with addiction/mental health and social services
- 92% were connected to supports and treatment for substance use
- 60% were connected to mental health supports
- 50% were connected to housing & income supports



Participant Outcomes

- * 100% - Make healthier choices regarding substance use
- * 92% - Work toward goals
- * 92% - Have fewer interactions with police
- * 92% - Meet bail conditions
- * 84% - Understand the court process



Impact of ACS on Judicial System

- * Responding to complex needs such as trauma, housing, mental health and poverty through connection to community referrals
- * Helping individuals meet bail conditions
- * Complementing the work of the Justice System
- * Addressing Stigma



ACS Summary & Strengths

- * Overall the ACS program demonstrated positive outcomes for clients and made a valued contribution in connecting the addiction treatment and justice systems.

Participants commented that the program helped them improve their quality of life



Questions?

- * What are other innovative responses to crystal meth use and criminal justice involvement?