

NM Certification and Peer Review Processes

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Overview

- New Mexico is developing an infrastructure for assessing fidelity of problem-solving court programs to the drug court model
 - ❖ Certification process
 - ❖ Peer review/learning community



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Overview

- Certification:
 - Programs must demonstrate that they are following the drug court model, through use of mandatory and expected standards (e.g., a core set of specific practices, and a proportion of other practices).
 - Documents submitted by programs and reviewed by state staff.



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Overview

- Peer Review/Learning Community:
 - Team members (e.g., judge and coordinator) from one program visit another program to review the program practices and provide feedback.
 - Both the visiting team members and the team being reviewed learn about and support each other in implementing best practices.



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Purpose of Peer Review

- Create a statewide learning community
- Peers identify areas for program improvements and share successes and challenges
- Low administrative cost, less threatening fidelity assessment
- Builds relationships between programs
- Informs state of areas of needed technical assistance and training



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How does it work?

- Program being reviewed provides information and documents to peers
- NPC provides information from program's online assessment to peers
- 2 peers conduct 2-day site visit
 - Team and participant interviews
 - Observations of staffing and hearing
 - Completion of checklist (left with court)
 - Report (submitted to Statewide Coordinator)



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Who are the peers?

- Volunteers who are interested in learning more about best practices/standards
- Judge and coordinator pairs, not necessarily from same court; other team member roles for programs that need support from those peers
- Willing and able to travel



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Setting up the process

- NPC working with AOC and DCAC subcommittee to establish a process and materials
- AOC will nominate/recruit volunteers to be peers
- NPC will train peers in how to conduct the review
- NPC, AOC, peers will conduct pilot and revise process as needed



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Which programs will be reviewed?

- Starting with adult courts (including DWI and Veterans' courts)
- Plan to participate in a juvenile drug court pilot
- Reviews can be requested for programs that do not meet certification criteria



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How will the reviews be used?

- Program being reviewed will discuss findings and recommendations, create action plan
- Peers often get ideas for implementing in their own programs
- AOC will provide information and support to programs based on results of review
- AOC will compile training and technical assistance needs based on summary of reviews



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Questions or Comments?



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