

MINUTES
Cheshire County Commissioners Meeting
Wednesday, October 27, 2021
County Hall Building
12 Court Street, Keene, NH 03431

Conference Call Information
Phone Call-in Number: +1 646 558 8656
Meeting ID: 409 748 8803
Pin #: 6031233

Present: Commissioners Jack Wozmak, Robert Englund, and Terry Clark
Staff: County Administrator Coates; Finance Director Trombly, Superintendent Iosue, Behavioral Health Director Welsh, and Assistant County Administrator Bouchard.
Guest(s):

At 8:30 AM, Commissioner Wozmak opened the meeting, and Administrator Coates conducted a roll-call with the Commissioners, Wozmak, Englund, and Clark responding as "present."

At 8:32 AM, the Commissioners opened the floor for public comment and Department Head updates.

Public Comment: None

Master Agenda Item #931: Semi-Annual Report – Behavioral Health was then taken up for discussion.

Welsh provided the following overview on the operational status of the Behavioral Health Court.

Welsh spoke to the use of Zoom and telephone calls to support the Behavioral Health clients and said they had been up and running all but one week back in March of 2020.

She said that the most significant change in the program is the use of incentives for participation. It has had a very positive reception by the clients and has increased enthusiasm for attending the sessions.

INCENTIVE BASED PROGRAMMING



Why?

- As we move forward with revisions to the Behavioral Health Court programs, we have implemented incentives and sanctions to modify behavior
- At the onset of COVID we struggled with clients going for their urinalysis testing
- In March, we began offering \$5 gift cards for clients who attending all of their UAs for a two-week period
- We noticed immediate increase in attendance

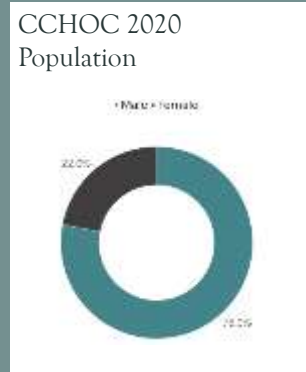
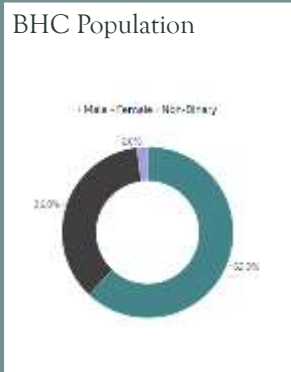
How?

- We created a UA policy sheet that listed incentives and sanctions to motivate attendance
- Sanction examples include: essays, double colors, daily UAs, check-ins with the Judge and more frequent court appearance
- The \$5 gift card program switched in the beginning of July to allow a new contingency management program to take effect. We are still collecting data regarding the CM program and its efficacy

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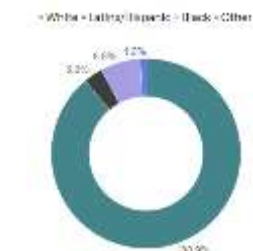
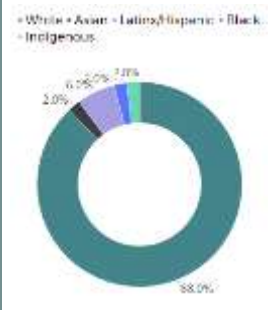
**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COURT
 DEMOGRAPHICS: GENDER**



**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COURT
 DEMOGRAPHICS**



- Cheshire County BHC
- Cheshire County House of Corrections 2020 data

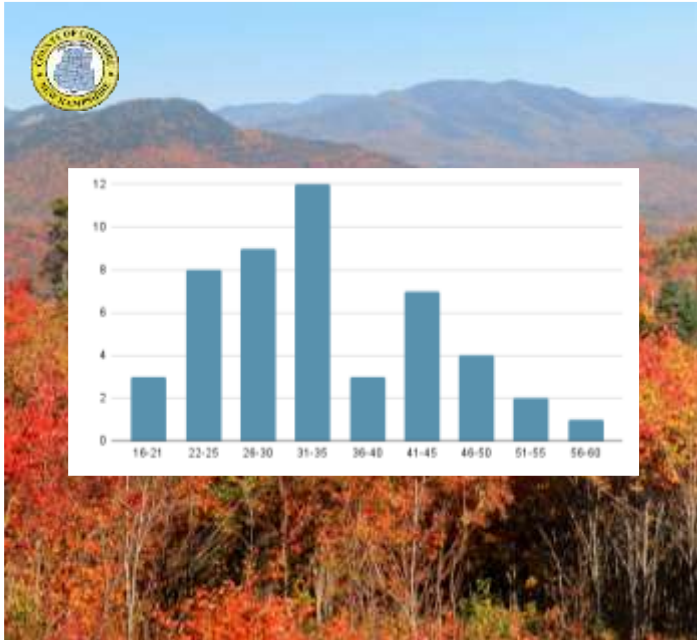


Takeaways:

- Cheshire Behavioral Health Court Programs continue to accept those of all genders and ethnicity
- Compared to Cheshire County House of Corrections 2020 data, we are working with a representative subset

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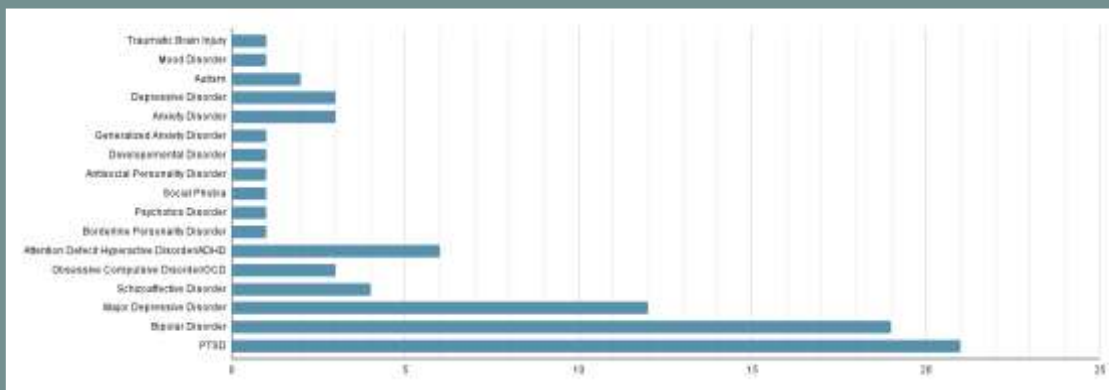
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**AGE
 DEMOGRAPHICS**

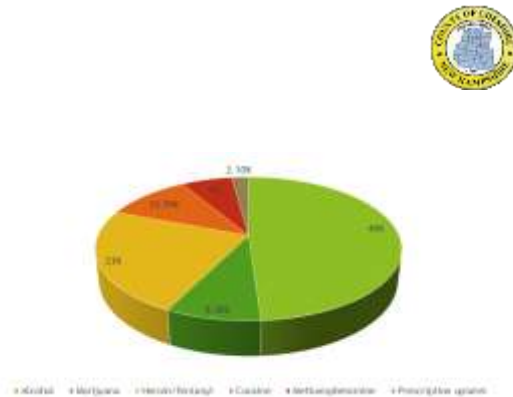
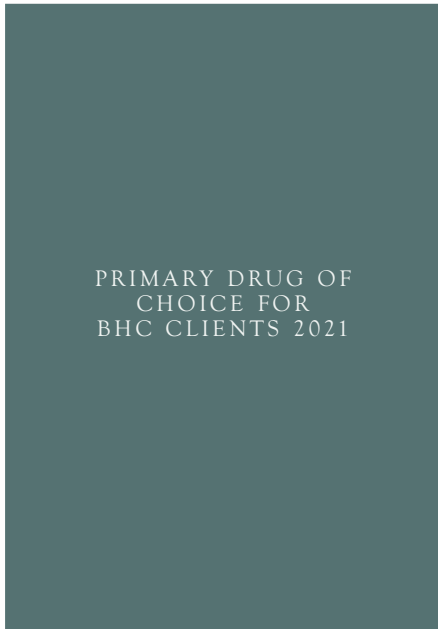
- Predominantly in the early 20's to mid 30's, Cheshire Behavioral Health Court has clients of all ages

MENTAL HEALTH DIAGNOSES



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At 9:19 AM, Coates was then recognized for the Weekly Operations Report

Coates said that Keene Housing was offering tours of the refurbished Bennet Block available today and the Commissioners have been invited to attend.

Coates then said that the NHAC conference is next week in North Conway and that both virtual attendance and in-person attendance were options.

Coates then explained that a job fair would be held on November 16th and 18th and one of the goals was to encourage people to take LNA training at the nursing home.

He then said that the 95 Valley Street apartment is being readied and is to be furnished in the next few days and that the billing issues are being handled by finance.

Coates discussed that there is a meeting with Union tomorrow (Thursday) to continue negotiations.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Consent Agenda: Minutes of 10/20/2021 and Manifests for the week. Commissioner Englund moved the consent agenda and was seconded by Commissioner Clark. The motion passed with unanimous consent upon roll call vote.

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General Discussion: None

At 09:31 AM, Commissioner Englund moved to enter a nonpublic session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II(d) Consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community.

Commissioner Clark seconded the motion, and upon roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

As a result of deliberations in a nonpublic session, no decision was made, and no vote was taken.

At 10:23 AM, the Commissioners voted unanimously to return to the public session.

At 10:24 AM, there being no further public business to conduct, Commissioner Clark moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Commissioner Englund. Upon roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Recorded and edited by:
R. Bouchard, Assistant County Administrator

Reviewed and submitted by:
Terry Clark, Clerk