

Building an Effective Collaboration Between Probation/Parole and Mental Health

Tom Granucci, LCSW

Level

Intermediate/Advanced

Room

Track

Clinical/Policy, Administration & Legislation

CE

CPA/BBS/CJER

Bio

Tom Granucci, LCSW worked for 13 years in the mental health field before joining the U.S. Probation Office in 1999. His mental health career included outpatient work with severely mentally ill adults and adolescents (including adolescents who had committed sex offenses), residential treatment with adolescents involved in the juvenile justice system, and managed mental health and substance abuse care.

As a U.S. Probation Officer/Mental Health Treatment Specialist, Tom managed a specialized caseload of mentally ill clients and sex offenders for 8+ years. As a Supervisory U.S. Probation Officer for 8 years, he led a team of six officers and was a leader in evidence-based practices (EBP) implementation. In 2015, he assumed the role of the Central District of California's first EBP Coordinator. As such, he was responsible for EBP implementation in the second largest federal district in the U.S., which included 7 counties and 12 field offices.

Tom was an original member of the California State University, Los Angeles Forensic Social Work Advisory Board and was a part-time faculty member in the School of Social Work from 2003 to 2019 teaching forensic social work and recovery in mental health. This year is his tenth serving on the Board of Directors of FMHAC as Chair of this Conference's Planning Committee.

Tom retired from the U.S. Probation Office in 2019, after 20 years of service.

Narrative

If you are a mental health professional working with probation/parole officers or vice versa, then this workshop is designed for you. The workshop will assume you are bringing some knowledge of the evidence-based Risk-Need-Responsivity (RNR) model with you. Starting there, we will look at combining evidence-based practices (EBPs) in corrections, mental health, and substance use treatment to effectively collaborate on treatment and supervision plans. We will also look at the challenge of the dual role of care and control for both mental health providers and for officers. We will examine the implementation of this model from two perspectives, how to select the right people in the hiring and promotion process, and how to train them to balance the dual role of empathy and accountability. The workshop will ask you to examine yourself as to whether you are the right fit for the dual role.

Learning Objectives

1. List three components of an evidence-based forensic treatment/supervision plan
2. Identify three best practices of an effective probation/parole and mental health collaboration
3. Describe the challenge of the “dual role” required of forensic mental health workers and probation/parole officers
4. Describe three personal characteristics of workers who effectively balance the dual roles of care and control with forensic clients
5. Identify two implementation drivers applicable to the successful implementation of evidence-based forensic treatment/supervision plans