

W2D - Perspectives from Professional Experts: Meeting the Challenge of Jail Diversion for the Unserved and Underserved

Brenda Grealish, MA, Acting Deputy Director, Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services

Honorable James Bianco, Los Angeles County Superior Court Mental Health Court

Geoff Twitchell, PhD, Director of Treatment and Clinical Services, San Diego County Probation

Kathleen Lacey, LCSW, MSW, Program Director, UCSF/Citywide Case Management – San Francisco

Toni Tullys, MPA, Director, Behavioral Health Services, County of Santa Clara Health System

Level: Intermediate

Track: Words to Deeds

Room: Cypress

CE: CPA/BBS/BRN (1.5)

POST TBD, MCLE TBD

Narrative

Forensic experts will present collaborative best practices regarding the latest jail diversion programs addressing the Unserved and Underserved from their individual professional perspectives. Professional expertise will be shared by leaders in the judicial, probation, social work/case management, and behavioral health fields. Attendees are encouraged to ask questions to improve their own professional effectiveness.

Bio

Brenda Grealish, MA, Acting Deputy Director, Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services

Brenda Grealish is currently the Acting Deputy Director for Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services. She was appointed Assistant Deputy Director for Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services within the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) in November 2014. As Acting Deputy Director, Ms. Grealish is responsible for all of the DHCS mental health and substance use disorder divisions. Ms. Grealish began her state career with the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development. She then worked at the Department of Mental Health for almost ten years in increasingly responsible positions. She has four years of management experience with the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation during which she advanced from a Research Manager II to a Research Manager III, then Deputy Director. Prior to her appointment as Assistant Deputy Director, Ms. Grealish was the Chief of the DHCS Mental Health Services Division. Ms. Grealish has a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Psychology.

Honorable James Bianco, Los Angeles County Superior Court Mental Health Court

Judge James Bianco has been a Superior Court Judge for the past 10 years, following three years as a Superior Court Commissioner. For the past five years, Judge Bianco has served as the Site Judge of the Mental Health Courthouse, where he supervises operations of four mental health courtrooms, which adjudicate cases involving criminal competency, conservatorships, LPS

hospital hearings, involuntary medication petitions, and mentally disordered offenders. He has worked in the criminal justice system for over 28 years.

Judge Bianco earned his B.A. in Economics from Stony Brook University, and his J.D. from USC Gould School of Law in 1987. During 17 years in practice, Judge Bianco served as criminal defense attorney in state and federal courts; he also practiced for several years as a criminal prosecutor and as a civil litigator.

Judge Bianco frequently teaches other judges about mental health, and ethics. He has taught criminal procedure at the USC Gould School of Law, and taught an externship seminar at UCLA Law School.

Geoff Twitchell, PhD, Director of Treatment and Clinical Services, San Diego County Probation

Geoff Twitchell is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist with advanced training and expertise in addiction, treatment of co-occurring mental health disorders, Trauma Informed Care and evidence based treatments to reduce recidivism in justice involved populations. He obtained his Bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Washington, his doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Michigan State University and he completed a postdoctoral fellowship at UCLA's Integrated Substance Abuse Programs.

Geoff took his position as Treatment Director for the San Diego County Probation Department in September 2013. In this new position for Probation, he has assumed responsibility for identifying, implementing and evaluating evidence-based treatments for justice-involved populations, including those with co-occurring mental illness. Geoff is lead on an ongoing County-wide effort to evaluate justice-involved treatment programming. Most recently he assisted in development and implementation of a 6-day curriculum (Justice Involved Services Training Academy-JISTA). This academy is designed to educate and train treatment providers in the use of best practices when addressing the unique characteristics and needs of individuals coming into contact with the justice system, including the large subpopulation that suffers from severe mental illness. Geoff serves as the Clinical Liaison to Juvenile and Adult Superior Courts, community treatment providers, Behavioral Health Services, Sheriff's Department, District Attorney's Office, and Office of the Public Defender. Geoff co-chairs the County Health and Justice Integration Committee. He also holds a clinical appointment at UCSD School of Medicine's Department of Psychiatry and he facilitates intern and practicum field placements in Probation for SDSU School of Social Work undergraduate and graduate students.

Kathleen Lacey, LCSW, MSW, Program Director, UCSF/Citywide Case Management – San Francisco

Kathleen Connolly Lacey, LCSW, is the Director of University of California San Francisco's Citywide Case Management Forensic Program that provides assertive community treatment to 400 criminal justice-involved individuals with mental illness in the community. She was instrumental in implementing San Francisco's successful response to the state of California's first Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction Grant. A founding member of San Francisco's Behavioral Health Court, she provides clinical expertise to the courts and the community. With over 25 years experience working in the criminal justice system and 20 years focused on the

needs of individuals with serious mental disorders, she has expanded the focus of treatment to include: an emphasis on cultural and gender specific services; a comprehensive Dialectical Behavior Therapy program; a Full Service Partnership Program through San Francisco's Mental Health Services Act funds; a comprehensive Supported Employment program; mental health services for the San Francisco Sheriff Department's No Violence Alliance Program and the Adult Probation Department; and the recent creation of a Misdemeanor Behavioral Health Court in SF. She graduated from Gonzaga University in 1989 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Philosophy and Speech Communications; received her Masters in Social Welfare from the University of California, Berkeley in 1997 and has practiced as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker since 2001.

Toni Tullys, MPA, Director, Behavioral Health Services, County of Santa Clara Health System

Learning Objectives

1. Participants will be able to describe at least one current collaborative best practice jail diversion program for the unserved and underserved population.
2. Participants will be able to assess at least one successful professional approach to collaborating with forensic program team members.
3. Participants will be able to apply at least one successful collaborative technique in own organization.