



Monterey County: Creating New Choices

Information Sheet

Program Description

CNC is a voluntary, comprehensive, court-supervised treatment program for non-violent justice-involved defendants who have a primary qualifying mental health diagnosis. Program requirements are tailored to an individual's needs as determined through a comprehensive medical and mental health assessment. CNC requirements typically include regular court appearances, formal probation, treatment (inpatient or outpatient), drug/alcohol testing, peer groups, counseling, vocational training, education and/or job placement, and housing assistance. Successful graduates may seek a dismissal pursuant to PC1203.4.

Target Population/ Capacity/ Duration

Non-violent justice-involved defendants who have a primary qualifying mental health diagnosis.

Capacity: 25-30 clients, based on resources currently allocated to program.

Program Duration: Duration of Probation grant

Eligibility Criteria

- For cases which have not been resolved by plea, both the prosecution and defense must agree to a disposition with a grant of probation with CNC terms and conditions. However, participants may also access the program through:
 - Referral by BH Case Manager and/or Probation Officers when an existing client of Behavioral Health and already on Probation.
 - All referrals will be screened by the Program Team to ensure they meet criteria of the Program and are willing to participate.
- Must have a primary qualifying diagnosis of Schizophrenia, Schizoaffective Disorder or Bipolar Disorder AND have related functional impairment.
- Behavioral Health must agree to treatment plan.
- Must be 18 years old or older and a resident of Monterey County.
- The applicant's mental illness must rise to the level that qualifies for Medi-Cal and Social Security disability benefits based on inability to work for a year or more.
- No organic brain disorders such as Traumatic Brain Injury, Dementia, ADHD.
- May have a secondary diagnosis such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Depression, or substance use or dependence but may not be a primary presenting diagnosis.
- No Developmentally Disabled and/or San Andreas Regional Center (SARC) clients.
- No pending charges, convictions or underlying case factors such as, but not limited to, arson or 290 registrants which would prohibit access to necessary services.

REFERRAL PROCESS

- Referrals should be calendared for the following week's CNC in Department 10 at 9:00 am on the 2nd, 3rd, or 4th Wednesday.
 - Supporting documentation should be provided to CNC attorney.
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* The United States Department of Justice and Office of Justice Programs define a "violent offender" as a person who either:

- A. Is charged with or convicted of an offense during the course of which 1) The person carried, possessed, or used a firearm or other dangerous weapon; 2) There occurred the use of force against the person of another; or 3) There occurred the death of, or seriously bodily injury to any person without regard to whether any of the circumstances described above was an element of the offense or conduct of which or for which the person was charged or convicted; or
- B. Has one or more prior convictions of a felony crime of violence involving the use or attempted use of force against a person with the intent to cause death or serious bodily harm.

** Exceptions with extraordinary circumstances may be considered on an individual basis subject to review and recommendation by the District Attorney and sole discretion of the court. To qualify as an extraordinary circumstance the defendant would otherwise suffer an adverse consequence, there is no other alternative action that would alleviate the adverse consequence, and the defendant is in substantial compliance with program requirements. The defendant must submit factual support for their position.