



Hedger & Walter, LLP

STEWARDSHIP AND SUSTAINABILITY

Evaluation

Our Vision

What Will Our Joint Court Look Like?

As two judges, we will hear cases together and

- Apply the laws of the Tribe and the State of California;
- Convene the necessary tribal and county service providers;
- Coordinate culturally grounded services;
- Evaluate our court;
- Serve individuals/families who choose our court (otherwise they would have their cases heard in state court); and
- Maintain a non-adversarial setting.

Which Case Type(s)

How Will We Know If We Have Achieved Our Vision?

As two judges, we recognize that we will need the lived experience and expertise of the court participants and our justice partners to know whether we have achieved our vision.

As we design our joint-jurisdictional court with our justice partners, we will identify new court processes and participant outcomes, and measure both agreed-upon outcomes and court participant satisfaction. We agree to create mechanisms to tell our story that are within the organizational capacity of the court and our justice partners.

What Evaluation Basics Will Guide Us?

The following is a summary that we can use to develop mechanisms to evaluate our court.

What types of questions?

(1) *Court Processes*

Is the court operating efficiently and effectively? Are participants being informed of their court option in a timely manner, and if they enroll do they receive their assessments and services in a timely manner? Is the required data obtained and recorded? Do court team members have the information they need to do their jobs?

(2) *Participant Outcomes*

Is the court effective at achieving its goal of better participant outcomes? Are there any particular parts of the court intervention that are associated with better outcomes? (For example, intensity of treatment or number of visits, type of services provided, nature of originating “offense” or incident?)

(3) *Satisfaction With Court-Connected, Coordinated, Culturally Grounded Services*

Do court clients and the community at large feel well served? Do core team members all feel heard? Are tribal and non-tribal government leaders supportive? Has tribal and non-tribal mapping of services been updated so that core team members know what services are available to court participants?

What data to collect?

- (1) *Quantitative data*—data that are directly measurable and comparable; examples include assessment scores and “units” of services received.
- (2) *Survey data*—surveys ask a certain population (clients or community) the same questions and average the scores.
- (3) *Qualitative data*—information that cannot be easily measured, for example, a written incident report from social services, law enforcement, or probation; a participant petition to move between phases; or a participant exit interview. Surveys can also include qualitative data or open-response questions.

When?

Collect as early as possible and review quarterly.

Sample Tools

What will be measured?	How will data be collected?	Who is responsible for collecting data?
Entry points for screening	Intake forms	
Entities screening/referring	Intake forms	
Referral mechanisms	Referral forms	
Identify high-frequency utilizers	Excel or database?	
Number of individuals referred, eligible, and enrolled in court-connected interventions	Case notes, court orders, intakes	
Number of Plans of Safe Care (POSC) created	POSC	
Number of closed diversion cases (closed due to successful completion, failed completion, involuntary, and voluntary)	Case notes, court orders	Courts
Number of closed joint court cases (closed due to graduation, involuntary, and voluntary)	Case notes, court orders	Courts
Use of peer recovery services	Peer notes	
Use of medication-assisted treatment (MAT)	MAT notes	MAT provider
Use of recovery and other support services	Referrals, case notes, court orders	Court coordinators and tribal/county social workers
Number of overdose events and prenatal exposed infant births	Case notes, court orders, public health	Project manager, hospitals, California Rural Indian Health Board, database?