

Reentry Independence through Sustainable Efforts (RISE) Mental Health Court Program - District of Utah



Purpose

The purpose of the RISE Mental Health Court Program is to promote Reentry Independence through Sustainable Efforts that improve health and increase public safety. Such efforts support effective symptom management of serious mental illness, sobriety (for individuals with co-existing substance abuse/dependence), activities for daily living, and social/leisure activities for defendants and offenders serving a term of supervision. In addition, participants are assisted with applications for local, state, and federal benefits such as Medicaid, Social Security, and housing.

These sustainable efforts promote personal responsibility, monitor risk factors, and assist participants to develop and maintain a healthy, law-abiding lifestyle, resulting in cost-savings to taxpayers by reducing the frequency and/or duration of detention or re-incarceration.

- ▶ Frequent court appearances
- ▶ Incentives and sanctions
- ▶ Risk/Strengths/Needs assessment
- ▶ Assessment for substance abuse
- ▶ Intensive outpatient substance abuse and mental health therapy
- ▶ Pharmacology treatment
- ▶ Referrals to residential treatment
- ▶ Frequent alcohol and drug testing
- ▶ Relapse prevention and transition plans
- ▶ Referrals to community resources
- ▶ Intensive supervision/case management
- ▶ Location monitoring
- ▶ Residential Reentry Center placement
- ▶ Independent living skills development
- ▶ Relationship skills development
- ▶ Literacy/Vocational skills development
- ▶ Workforce development
- ▶ Community service
- ▶ Alumni group and peer support
- ▶ Funding for emergency and transitional services (Second Chance Act)

The key to success in continuity of care is our collaborative partnership among stakeholders, allied agencies, and community organizations. For example, the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), provides free educational classes on mental illness for participants and their families as well as support groups and social activities.

Administration and Collaborative Management

The RISE Mental Health Court Program has been approved and supported by the U.S. District and Magistrate Court Judges. Once accepted for participation, cases are referred by the Judges to the U.S. Magistrate Judge that presides over the RISE Program.

Under the direction of the presiding U.S. Magistrate Judge, the RISE Mental Health Court Program is an interdisciplinary and collaborative effort by a team of partner and cooperating agencies. Partner agencies include the:

- ▶ Clerk of the Court (Clerk's Office)
- ▶ U.S. Attorney's Office (USAO)
- ▶ Federal Defender's Office (FDO)
- ▶ U.S. Probation Office (USPO)
- ▶ U.S. Marshals Service (USMS)
- ▶ Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP)

The RISE Team operates with a non-adversarial philosophy, with the overall health and stability of the participant as well as public safety in mind. Incentives, rewards, and sanctions are used to support constructive behavior change (see Appendix A).

Eligibility

Candidates for the Mental Health Court Program may be identified at any phase of the pretrial or post conviction supervision process including defendants under conditional release. Individuals referred to the Mental Health Court Program need to be competent enough to participate in and understand the court process as well as meet one of the following eligibility criteria:

An individual who has a documented Axis I diagnosis (as defined in the DSM-IV-TR)

An individual who has a documented Axis I diagnosis (as defined in the DSM-IV-TR) and a documented co-occurring substance abuse diagnosis

An individual who has a documented cognitive impairment, including a pervasive developmental disorder (e.g., Autism, Asperger's Syndrome), dementia, and/or traumatic brain injury (determined on a case by case basis by the screening committee)

Candidates meeting the above criteria may be referred to the Mental Health Court Program (see Appendix B). Candidates are accepted by a consensus of all team members. Participation in the Program is voluntary.

RISE Incentives, Rewards, and Sanctions

Incentives and Rewards: There are many incentives and rewards for participants who demonstrate positive progress in the RISE Mental Health Court Program, including:

1. Certificates/photos for program progress;
2. Graduation ceremony and certificate;
3. Developing self respect and receiving respect and emotional support from others;
4. Increased self-control, improved self-worth, and positive self-esteem to deal with challenges in life;
5. Increased knowledge, skills, and abilities to obtain and maintain meaningful employment; to support interests and self-sufficiency;
6. A sense of accomplishment when reaching goals;
7. Reestablishing positive relationships with family and friends;
8. Establishing a recovery-oriented and law-abiding support network;
9. A sense of group belonging and comradery;
10. Participation in sober leisure activities and social events; and
11. Other incentives and rewards as determined by the Court (see list below)

Sanctions

Sanctions for non-compliance with the rules of the RISE Mental Health Court Program and/or conditions of supervision will be imposed by the RISE Judge, who has authority over the case as designated by the referring Judge.

1. Administrative sanctions given by supervising probation officer;
2. Writing assignment to describe and understand the events leading to the violation;
3. Formal presentation of writing assignment to RISE Team and Participants in Court;
4. Community service;
5. Increased telephone and/or in-person reporting to USPO;
6. Increased appearances in Court;
7. Increased alcohol/drug testing;
8. Use of alternative method of alcohol/drug testing (i.e., sobrieter);
9. Curfew and/or location monitoring (various electronic devices including GPS);
10. Placement in a Residential Reentry Center (RRC);
11. Removal from the RISE Program and referral to District Court for formal violation; and
12. Other sanctions as determined by the Court (see list below)

Custody

Serving a specified period of time in official custody (up to 30 days) may be ordered by the Judge for some violations.

Examples of Incentives, Rewards, and Sanctions (and others as determined)

Sanctions

Removal from the program
 Residential Reentry Center placement
 Location monitoring
 Admonishment from the Judge/Team/Peers
 Role reversal of self imposed sanctions
 Curfews
 Writing assignments
 Journaling
 Day in jury box
 Day in U.S. Marshals cell
 Observe other court proceedings
 Team round-table with client
 Increased time in phase
 Take away driving privileges
 Pick up trash on roadside
 Sweep gymnasium
 Cleaning graveyard
 Cleaning animal shelter
 Work on habitat for humanity house
 Unpaid clean-up detail
 Geographical/travel restrictions
 Peer review
 Peer-imposed sanction
 Increased frequency of home visits
 Increased frequency of drug/alcohol testing
 Weekly one-on-ones with USPO
 Reading books or articles
 Limitation of privileges
 Suspension of privileges
 Keep calendar of daily activities

Incentives and Rewards

Certificates
 Praise, compliments from Judge/Team/Peers
 Praise, compliments from family/friends
 Applause/special recognition
 Handshakes and/or hugs
 Prize drawings
 Food cards
 Video rental coupons
 Fish bowl drawings
 Grocery store donations
 Resume writing assistance
 Clothing donations
 Dental assistance/vouchers
 Medical assistance/vouchers
 Haircuts/vouchers
 Make over vouchers
 Grocery vouchers
 Restaurant gift certificates
 Plaque
 Flowers
 Autographs (coaches/musicians/actors)
 Concert tickets
 Picnics/parties
 Invite community leaders to graduation
 Less court appearances
 Movie Passes
 Bookmarks
 Coffee Cups

Incentives and Rewards

Watches
Gift Cards
Birthday Cards
Cookies /Cake
Pizza
Gift certificates
Turkeys
Books
Sober Dances
Grant or increase travel privileges
Gifts to children
Tickets to sporting/entertainment events
Passes for special events
Bus passes
Home improvement assistance or gift
Recovery Olympic games
Coed softball games
Sobriety tokens
Bowling tournament
Key chains

Incentives and Rewards

Calling cards
Lift curfew
Less PO contact
Excused absence in treatment group
Standing ovation
Savings bond
Community education classes
Acupuncture certificate
Reserved parking spot
Earned chips
Visitation with child
Amusement parks
Pictures that document progress
Recognize former graduates
Reduction in jail sentence
Removal/reduction of curfew
Decreased court appearances
Decreased probation contacts
Removal/reduction of location monitoring
Early graduation

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF UTAH



RISE MENTAL HEALTH COURT REFERRAL

Potential Participant _____

Date of Referral _____

Referral Source _____

Current Charge _____

Docket Number _____

Status Pretrial Probation Supervised Release Conditional Release

Assigned Judge _____

Assistant U.S. Attorney _____

Assistant Federal Defender _____

Probation or Pretrial Officer _____

Mental Health Diagnosis _____

Current Prescribed Medications _____

Drug and Alcohol Use _____

Documentation (attached) _____

Who is **ELIGIBLE** for the RISE Program:

- An individual who has a documented Axis I diagnosis (as defined in the DSM-IV-TR)
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- An individual who has a documented cognitive impairment, including a pervasive developmental disorder (e.g., Autism, Asperger's Syndrome), dementia, and/or traumatic brain injury (determined on a case by case basis by the screening committee)

Who is **NOT ELIGIBLE** for RISE Program:

- Documented diagnosis other than specified above

What **DOCUMENTATION** is required:

- One or more completed evaluations, including documented testing results by a qualified mental health professional