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Bureau of Justice Assistance

PROGRAM BRIEF

of

TASC PROGRAMS

TREATMENT ALTERNATIVES TO STREET CRIME

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PROGRAM BRIEF

Guidelines for Implementation and Operation of

TASC PROGRAMS

TREATMENT ALTERNATIVES TO STREET CRIME

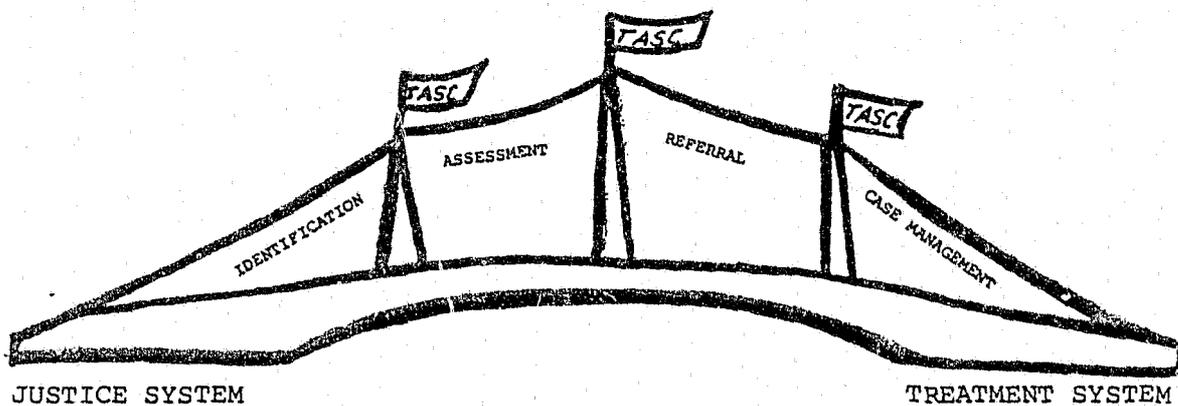
that are eligible for
Criminal Justice Block Grant Support
Administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance
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I. THE TASC BRIDGE



JUSTICE SYSTEM

- o Legal Sanctions
- o Community Safety
- o Punishment

TREATMENT SYSTEM

- o Therapeutic Relationships
- o Changing Individual Behavior
- o Reducing Personal Suffering

II. THE TASC MISSION AND PHILOSOPHY

Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime (TASC) provides an objective and effective bridge between two separate institutions: the justice system with legal sanctions that reflect community concerns for public safety and punishment and the treatment community with emphasis on therapeutic relationships as a means for changing individual behavior and reducing the personal suffering associated with substance abuse and other problems. Under TASC auspices, community-based treatment is made available to drug dependent individuals who would otherwise burden the justice system with their persistent and associated criminality.

TASC programs were initiated nearly fifteen years ago in response to recognized links between substance abuse and criminal behavior. The mission of TASC is to participate in justice system processing, as early in the continuum as acceptable to participating agencies. TASC identifies, assesses and refers appropriate drug and/or alcohol dependent offenders accused or convicted of non-violent crimes to community-based substance abuse treatment as an alternative or supplement to existing justice system sanctions and procedures. TASC then monitors the drug dependent offender, or clients', compliance with individually tailored progress expectations for abstinence, employment, and improved social-personal functioning. It then reports treatment results back to the referring justice system component. Clients who do not follow, or violate, conditions of their justice mandate, TASC or treatment agreement, are usually returned to the justice system for continued processing or sanctions.

TASC combines the influence of legal sanctions for probable or proven crimes with the appeal of such innovative justice system dispositions as deferred prosecution, creative community sentencing, diversion, pre-trial intervention, probation, and parole supervision to motivate treatment cooperation by the substance abuser. Through treatment referral and closely supervised community reintegration, TASC aims to permanently interrupt the vicious cycle of addiction, criminality, arrest, prosecution, conviction, incarceration, release, readdiction, criminality, and rearrest.

TASC programs not only offer renewed hope to drug and alcohol dependent clients by encouraging them to improve their lifestyles while retaining important community ties, but they also provide important incentives to other justice and treatment system participants. TASC can reduce the costs and relieve many substance abuse-related processing burdens within the justice system through assistance with such responsibilities as addiction-related medical situations, pre-trial screening, and post-trial supervision.

The treatment community also benefits from TASC's legal focus which seems to motivate and prolong clients' treatment cooperation and ensures clear definition and observation of criteria for treatment dismissal or completion. Public safety is also increased through TASC's careful supervision of criminally involved clients during their community-based treatment.

III. THE DEVELOPMENT AND SUCCESS OF TASC

In 1962, a landmark Supreme Court decision, *Robinson vs. California*, defined chemical addiction as an illness rather than a crime, and also held that the State could force an addict to submit to treatment and could impose criminal sanctions for failure to comply with the treatment program. In the context of the times, when penal coercion was disavowed as an effective rehabilitation incentive and community-based treatment for substance abuse was only slowly gaining acceptability and credibility, alternatives to routine criminal justice system processing for drug dependent offenders seemed worthy of serious consideration.

In the years following, several conceptual and strategic models were developed to implement these new understandings. By the early '70s a Presidential-appointed Special Study Commission on Drugs established a definite link between drugs - particularly narcotics - and crime. A small number of addicts were found to be responsible for a large percentage of crimes and a disproportionate share of criminal justice system resources were being absorbed by their recidivism.

Discussions on how to link treatment and the judicial process and interrupt the relationship between drugs and property crimes took place among the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA), the White House-established Special Action Office for Drug Abuse Prevention (SAODAP), and the National Institute on Mental Health's Division of Narcotic Addiction and Drug Abuse (DNADA) - predecessor to the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA).

The resulting Federal initiative, modeled after earlier experiments with diversion programs and two demonstration projects in New York City and Washington, D.C., was funded under the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 and christened TASC - Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime. The first TASC project, opened in Wilmington, Delaware, in August of that year, provided pretrial diversion for opiate addicts with non-violent criminal charges who were identified in the jail lock-up by urine tests and interviews. After assessment of their treatment suitability and needs, arrestees who volunteered for TASC were referred and escorted to appropriate community-based treatment and monitored for continued compliance with treatment requirements. Successful completion usually resulted in dismissed charges.

LEAA issued program guidelines for replication of the TASC model - focusing on pretrial diversion and sentencing alternatives for drug dependent offenders - and awarded "seed" grants with the understanding that successful demonstration projects would gain local or State funding to continue the programs within a three year period. In 1972-73, 13 TASC projects were initiated by local jurisdictions in 11 States. By 1975, 19 more such projects had started, making a total of 29 operational sites in 24 States. Before Federal funding was withdrawn in 1982, TASC projects were developed at 130 sites in 39 States and Puerto Rico.

LEAA made a special effort to fund TASC programs in a variety of geographic areas and jurisdictions, including large metropolitan areas, smaller cities, suburban and rural counties, regional conglomerations and statewide networks of sites. Original client participation criteria were also expanded to include polydrug and alcohol abusers, juveniles, and, in some places, domestic violence and mental health demonstration projects. Also evolving were TASC services to the alcohol and drug related traffic offender.

All of the TASC programs funded by LEAA were required to conduct independent evaluations of their effectiveness, and more than 40 of these local assessments were completed over the ten-year period of LEAA oversight. Although a few evaluators found some TASC programs had overly optimistic expectations for client success or were underutilized, the majority concluded that local TASCs effectively:

- o intervened with clients to reduce drug abuse and criminal activity;
- o linked the criminal justice and treatment systems; and
- o identified previously untreated drug dependent offenders.

During the same period, three national assessments of the TASC program focused on the success of multiple sites in meeting general TASC goals. Evaluators of five early TASC projects in 1974 (System Sciences) concluded that these sites each handled a substantial proportion of repeat offenders with long histories of addiction, initiated more than half of the identified clients (55 percent) into their first treatment experience, and reduced their criminal recidivism.

A 1976 study of 22 operational TASC sites by the Lazar Institute found several commonalities in the success of TASC programming: TASC had gained the broad based support of the justice system; its legally sanctioned referral mechanism to treatment was found more effective than informal treatment initiations and therefore had the support of the treatment system; its monitoring function was found to improve the clients' treatment performance; and TASC involvement seemed to reduce rearrest rates - only eight percent of clients in all sites were known to have been rearrested for new offenses while in the TASC program. However, TASC continued to have no solid data base instrument that would allow for long-term evaluation and comparison of the programs' impact on drug-related crime or the processing burdens of the justice system.

A subsequent 1978 evaluation of 12 TASC sites by System Sciences found the model offered a beneficial and cost effective alternative to the criminal justice system for handling drug abusing offenders; that its major functions and procedures were effective; that a majority of clients were admitted to TASC prior to trial; that its threat of legal sanctions added a positive factor to the treatment process; that projects achieved remarkably progressive success rates with clients (considering the seriousness of the crimes and the

drugs involved); and that the quality of the staff was more important to program success than organizational and other factors. Poor recordkeeping and information management, however, were once more found to be widespread among TASC programs.

Two reports from the National Institute on Drug Abuse's Treatment Outcome Prospective Study (TOPS) have examined the impact of TASC or similar programs for drug dependent offenders on clients' in-treatment and post-treatment behavior. These 1983 and 1985 studies compare criminal-justice-involved clients (in TASC and under other justice system supervision) with voluntary controls on demographic characteristics, treatment retention, treatment progress, and predatory behaviors in the year following treatment termination.

Criminal-justice-referred clients, were more likely to be male, nonwhite, younger, and to have previous justice-system involvement in the year before treatment than volunteer counterparts. More important, TASC clients were found to improve as much with regard to drug use, employment and criminal behavior as other clients during the first six months of treatment. TASC clients under legal coercion also tended to remain in both residential and outpatient drug free treatment modalities 6-7 weeks longer than other criminal-justice-referred or voluntary clients - a finding usually associated with better treatment outcomes. The monitoring/ case management function of TASC seemed to encourage this longer treatment participation. Unfortunately, predatory crime and arrest before treatment were still the most consistent predictors of criminal reinvolvement as measured by arrest records and self-reports, in the first post-treatment year.

Perhaps the most eloquent testimony to the "success" of TASC is the continued fiscal and program support provided to more than 100 sites in 18 States after Federal funding was withdrawn in 1980. Many of these local programs also continued communications with each other through a National TASC Consortium, which was reestablished in 1984.

Overall, these studies demonstrate TASC's success and effectiveness in programming through specific critical program elements. The specific program elements shown to be successful through various studies and evaluations were: the establishment of the broad based support by the justice and treatment systems; the use of an offender eligibility criteria that assists in the early identification, assessment and referral of the previously unidentified drug dependent offender; and a comprehensive monitoring or case management system that holds the client accountable and has proven to reduce client rearrest rates and improve the treatment performance of the drug dependent offender.

Conversely, these studies have also shown that the lack of data collection and evaluation as critical program elements have hindered TASC programming. Furthermore, staff training is indeed a critical program element as the staff is seen as a major focus in the programs' success.

IV. CURRENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING OBJECTIVES AND REQUIREMENTS

After a nearly five-year funding hiatus, the Justice Assistance Act of 1984 revived Federal endorsement and fiscal support for TASC. This legislation authorizes a criminal justice block grant program to encourage State and local government implementation of specific programs deemed highly likely to improve criminal justice system functioning - with a special emphasis on violent crime and serious offenders. The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice has administrative authority for the block grants and published regulations for grant applicants in May 1985.

The Act designates 18 eligible purposes for which funds may be subgranted to local or State agencies by the recipient State offices. Among these are "purpose 8" programs that "identify and meet the needs of drug-dependent offenders." TASC, in turn, is one of only 11 specific models cited in the legislation as immediately eligible, given its "proven" and successful track record.

The BJA - under the coordination of the Assistant Attorney General of the Office of Justice Programs and in consultation with the National Institute of Justice, the Bureau of Justice Statistics, and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention - selected TASC as one of the 11 "certified" programs because of its extensive earlier demonstration and evaluation.

TASC and similar projects that "identify and meet the needs of the drug-dependent offender" are also included among the seven prescribed purposes of 1986 Drug Enforcement, Education and Control legislation authorizing State block grant awards for improving State and local control efforts (Subtitle K, Part M). The final guidelines for these monies are due for publication in January 1987 and will also be administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

As part of its administrative responsibilities for encouraging and assisting with the development of viable and effective TASC projects, the Bureau of Justice Assistance has assumed authority for defining and improving TASC's:

- o orthodoxy;
- o transferability; and
- o permanency.

Orthodoxy implies the clear definition of essential, distinct and interrelated elements of a model - both functional and organizational that, in their totality, comprise a core program. Such elements must be sufficiently accepted by and adhered to among program practioners to distinguish the generic framework and performance standards form other similar programs and to ensure their

replication. Orthodoxy also includes common understanding of terminology that is critical to clear communication.

Transferability means a model's adaptability or potential for replication in a variety of settings because it meets common needs, has simplicity of purpose, can be easily implemented, and garners continuing support. Transferability adds flexibility to the core standards required by orthodoxy and encourages both communication and innovation.

Permanency is defined as durability and stability and expressed in the adequacy of program resources - both human and material - for continuing commitment and organizational viability. Permanency implies a network of well qualified peers dedicated to maintaining program operations and visibility across specific site and time boundaries.

The following program elements and performance standards have been defined as "critical" to TASC programs by a 16-member Advisory Panel of program practitioners and experts approved by the BJA Monitor of TASC projects and convened to discuss and vote on solicited recommendations for these elements from the existing network of TASC programs. The initial draft of these critical elements and performance measures was recirculated among field practitioners for further review and comment.

The timeframes for implementing each of these "critical program elements" will vary from one local jurisdiction to another. It should, however, take no more than three months to have the organizational elements in place. To have the program fully operational - to include all operational elements - should take no more than another three months. Overall, it will take at least six months for the program to run effectively and efficiently with all participating systems understanding one another's goals and responsibilities.

V. CRITICAL TASC PROGRAM ELEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

TASC PROGRAM ELEMENTS

ORGANIZATIONAL ELEMENTS

- ELEMENT 1 -

A BROAD BASE OF SUPPORT WITHIN THE JUSTICE SYSTEM WITH A PROTOCOL FOR CONTINUED AND EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

- ELEMENT 2 -

A BROAD BASE OF SUPPORT WITHIN THE TREATMENT SYSTEM WITH A PROTOCOL FOR CONTINUED AND EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

- ELEMENT 3 -

AN INDEPENDENT TASC UNIT WITH A DESIGNATED ADMINISTRATOR

- ELEMENT 4 -

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR REQUIRED STAFF TRAINING

- ELEMENT 5 -

A DATA COLLECTION SYSTEM TO BE USED IN PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AND EVALUATION

OPERATIONAL ELEMENTS

- ELEMENT 6 -

A NUMBER OF AGREED UPON OFFENDER ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- ELEMENT 7 -

PROCEDURES FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF ELIGIBLE OFFENDERS THAT STRESS EARLY JUSTICE AND TREATMENT INTERVENTION

- ELEMENT 8 -

DOCUMENTED PROCEDURES FOR ASSESSMENT AND REFERRAL

- ELEMENT 9 -

DOCUMENTED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR RANDOM URINALYSIS AND OTHER PHYSICAL TESTS

- ELEMENT 10 -

PROCEDURES FOR OFFENDER MONITORING THAT INCLUDE CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS/FAILURE, REQUIRED FREQUENCY OF CONTACT, SCHEDULE OF REPORTING AND NOTIFICATION OF TERMINATION TO THE JUSTICE SYSTEM

-- ORGANIZATIONAL ELEMENTS --

ELEMENT 1: BROAD-BASED SUPPORT BY THE JUSTICE SYSTEM

Purpose

To establish and maintain necessary communication and formal agreements for client referrals from justice system components and effective and accountable operation of TASC.

Performance Standards

1. Documentation of a meeting(s) convened by TASC staff with each justice system representative (e.g., from the defense and prosecuting attorneys' offices, courts, probation, parole, police, corrections, jail, etc.) within two months of program initiation to:
 - o provide participants with an explanation and written description of the TASC mission and services; and
 - o negotiate a memorandum(s) of understanding between TASC and cooperating justice system components outlining TASC responsibilities and procedures for service delivery and the minimum requirements for effective justice system communication.
2. Documented procedures outlining an understanding of contacts and expectations between TASC and each participating component of the justice system that specify - at minimum - client screening responsibilities, referral arrangements, court appearance/testimony requirements, progress reporting, termination criteria, and protocols.
3. A documented schedule and protocol for regular communications between TASC and participating justice system components, including court activities.

ELEMENT 2: BROAD-BASED SUPPORT BY THE TREATMENT COMMUNITY

Purpose

To establish and maintain the necessary linkages and understanding between TASC personnel and representatives of the treatment community for ensuring the availability of appropriate treatment program options, making effective client referrals and conducting necessary tracking and monitoring activities.

Performance Standards

1. Documentation of a meeting(s) convened by TASC personnel within two months of program initiation with representatives of State/local authorities that license, approve and/or certify substance abuse and other appropriate treatment agencies to:
 - o provide a full explanation and written description of TASC services and requirements; and
 - o solicit cooperation from those treatment modalities that will serve the TASC clientele and that are officially approved and reflect the locally available continuum of care.
2. Written agreements between TASC and each cooperating treatment agency that detail - at minimum - client eligibility criteria for TASC and treatment, standard procedures for referrals, normal services provided during treatment (including schedules), TASC and treatment success/failure criteria, and routine TASC monitoring/progress reporting/termination notification requirements.
3. A documented schedule and protocol for regular communications between TASC and cooperating treatment system agencies.

ELEMENT 3: AN INDEPENDENT TASC UNIT WITH A DESIGNATED
ADMINISTRATOR

Purpose

To ensure TASC program integrity and organizational capability to carry out the program mission and meet agreed upon expectations of the justice and treatment systems.

Performance Standards

1. Documentation should appear in the original TASC proposal to establish an independent TASC unit, including:
 - o articles of incorporation for a non-profit agency or specific written assurances from the administrator(s) of the host organization(s) that TASC will function as a full-time and independent unit;
 - o an organizational chart that showing TASC as an independently functioning entity; and
 - o confirmation that a full-time and qualified TASC administrator(s) with the appropriate experience in the field of substance abuse and/or criminal justice has been hired or appointed, including a specific job description.
2. Appropriate written policies and procedures for TASC operations and services.

ELEMENT 4: POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR REGULAR STAFF TRAINING

Purpose

To ensure that all professional TASC staff sufficiently understand both the TASC mission and philosophy and specific procedures of their local site, thus enabling them to perform their designated job function according to the specific site's established performance standards.

Performance Standards

1. An annually revised and documented training plan for the TASC unit that includes TASC-related goals for the organization, for each individual staff member, and the necessary policies, procedures and schedule for that plan's implementation.
2. Documented provision of at least 32 hours of TASC-relevant training annually to each professional TASC staff member (e.g., TASC mission and philosophy, pharmacology, sentencing practices, assessment of drug dependency, substance abuse treatment modalities and expectations, case management).
3. Documentation in personnel records that each TASC staff member is provided with an up-to-date written description of the TASC program, his or her individual job responsibilities, and appropriate operational guidelines for job performance within a specified time period after employment or promotion.

ELEMENT 5: A MANAGEMENT INFORMATION-PROGRAM EVALUATION SYSTEM

Purpose

To provide timely, accurate and necessary information to TASC administrators and other staff for managing and developing program services, determining operational effectiveness, providing appropriate information to funding sources, and meeting public information needs.

Performance Standards

1. To define those standardized reports to be used by a specific site or jurisdiction that will provide the most practical information to the program administrators and staff.
2. Documented procedures for regularly scheduled, quality-controlled data collection on standardized data collection forms that include information on:
 - o number of potential TASC clients identified/referred/accepted from each cooperating component of the justice system;
 - o client demographics and socio-economic characteristics - age, race, sex, education, employment status - at admission to TASC;
 - o other TASC-related client characteristics at admission - criminal or other charges, drug dependent status, primary drug of abuse or other diagnosis, urinalysis or other diagnostic testing results;
 - o number of clients within the TASC system at each milestone of the program, from interview with the client to admission into treatment to progress through treatment, including successful or unsuccessful termination from TASC, client rearrest and intervening court appearances, during a specified time period;
 - o number of specified services provided to TASC clients by designated staff during a specified time period;
 - o number of clients with different TASC/treatment outcomes - success/failure categories, rearrest rate and other subcategories - during the specified time period; and
 - o expenditures by budget line-item category during the specified time period.
3. Analysis of the data collected to determine program effectiveness, problem resolution, public information, management planning, program evaluation and quality control.
4. Documented evidence that the collected data are reported to the appropriate administrator(s) and staff.

-- OPERATIONAL ELEMENTS --

ELEMENT 6: CLEARLY DEFINED CLIENT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Purpose

To set clear standards for inclusion and exclusion of individuals from TASC programs so that all TASC staff and cooperating justice system components and treatment agencies understand exactly who is eligible for TASC services.

Performance Standards

1. Client eligibility criteria must be formally established and include, at a minimum, the following three elements:
 - o justice system involvement - evidenced by a formal charge or diversion agreement for each TASC client excluding anyone accused or convicted of a violent crime, unless otherwise ordered by the court;
 - o current and/or previous drug dependence - carefully defined and evidenced by clients' own testimony, medical and/or social histories from other agencies, physical examination, urinalysis, and/or other laboratory testing;
 - o informed voluntary consent - evidenced by a signed agreement to participate in the TASC program and comply with the TASC, justice and treatment requirements detailed in a written statement that is read to/by the candidate before acceptance.
2. Written evidence that established client eligibility criteria are understood and agreed to by each cooperating justice system component and treatment agency.

ELEMENT 7:

SCREENING PROCEDURES FOR EARLY IDENTIFICATION OF
TASC CANDIDATES WITHIN THE JUSTICE SYSTEM

Purpose

To ensure the earliest appropriate identification and screening of TASC candidates within the justice system.

Performance Standards

1. Documented procedures for initial screening of TASC candidates by each cooperating justice system component that clearly specify which agency, TASC or justice, has responsibility and how the maximum number of potential TASC-eligible clients will be identified from the total pool of detainees/arrestees/offenders at that point in the system.
2. Evidence that the program is seeking to have clients referred to them by the justice system at the earliest point possible in the justice continuum, from:
 - o deferred prosecution;
 - o bail;
 - o pre-trial;
 - o pre-sentencing;
 - o sentencing;
 - o probation; to
 - o parole.

ELEMENT 8: DOCUMENTED PROCEDURES FOR ASSESSMENT AND REFERRAL

Purpose

To provide a standardized assessment process for potential TASC clients that ensures all eligibility criteria are met, clients' appropriateness for treatment and modality determined with standardized data collected.

Performance Standards:

1. Documentation of a face-to-face assessment interview with each potential TASC client by a qualified TASC staff member within a specified time period from the initial justice system referral point.
2. Standardized assessment instruments and procedures for confirming, at minimum, each potential client's:
 - o drug dependent status;
 - o justice involvement and justice history;
 - o agreement to participate in TASC, an understanding of confidentiality rules and regulations and the understanding of and agreement to follow TASC and treatment program rules and regulations;
3. Determination of appropriateness for a specified type/modality of substance abuse treatment noting specified need(s) for ancillary services.
4. Referral to and acceptance by the recommended treatment agency within 48 hours of TASC assessment. Should immediate placement be unavailable due to waiting lists, office monitoring by TASC staff must be available for an interim period.
5. Data must be collected from assessment
 - o See Program Element #5.

ELEMENT 9: POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND TECHNOLOGY FOR MONITORING
TASC CLIENTS' DRUG-USE/ABUSE STATUS -- THROUGH
URINALYSIS OR OTHER PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

Purpose

To reliably monitor each client's use/abuse of, or abstinence from, specified drugs.

Performance Standards

1. Documented procedures for conducting urinalysis or other appropriate physical tests for the presence of specified drugs on each TASC client - including instructions for collecting, processing, analyzing, and recording findings from the specimens.
2. Specification of specimen collection and/or testing frequency for each phase of TASC participation - according to clients' progress level. Clients referred to outpatient treatment must comply with random requests for specimen submissions during at least the first six months of TASC participation.
3. Formal contract(s) with certified or licensed laboratories/professionals to conduct urinalysis and other tests of physical specimens that specify all quality control procedures and standards and how a chain of custody will be established that is legally acceptable evidence. This will also include the certification of any on-site equipment and licensing of on-site personnel.

ELEMENT 10:

MONITORING PROCEDURES FOR ASCERTAINING CLIENTS' COMPLIANCE WITH ESTABLISHED TASC AND TREATMENT CRITERIA AND REGULARLY REPORTING THEIR PROGRESS TO REFERRING JUSTICE SYSTEM COMPONENTS

Purpose

To ensure effective and efficient tracking and case management of all clients' progress through the treatment system, including accurate and timely reporting of their status to referring justice system components.

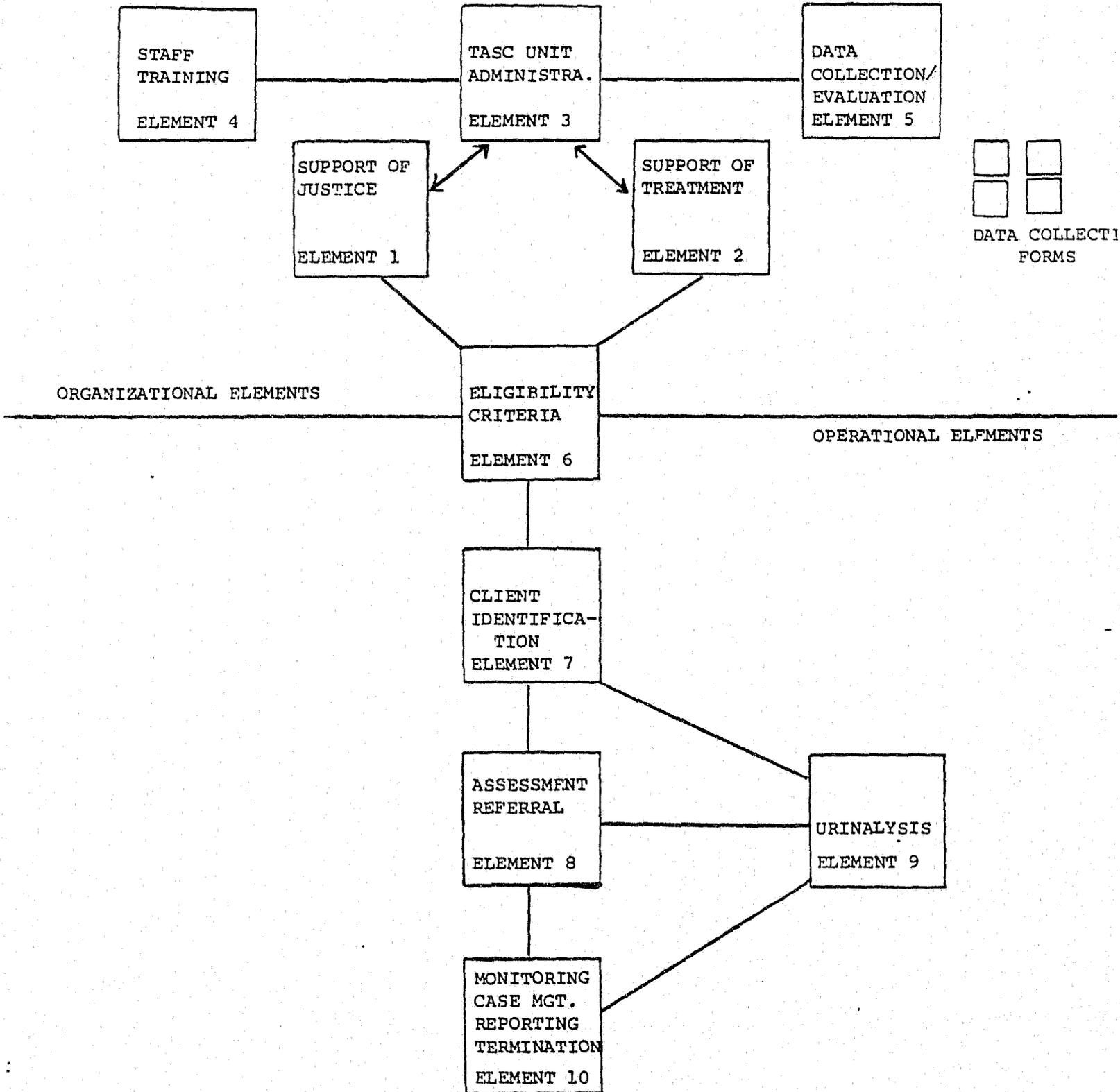
Performance Standards

1. Documented criteria for successful and unsuccessful TASC termination that are agreed to by cooperating justice system components and treatment agencies and include - at minimum:
 - o Success for:
 - completion of a master case management plan that is documented and approved within 30 days of treatment admission by TASC, the treatment program and the client; and
 - compliance with other court/legal orders.
 - o Failure for:
 - a specified number of unexcused absence from scheduled treatment or TASC appointments;
 - a specified number of positive urinalysis tests or other physical evidence of continuing drug use or abuse;
 - re-arrest; and/or
 - lack of cooperation/participation in the treatment program - evidenced by the treatment counselor's consistent and formal complaints or documented rulebreaking.
2. Individual client treatment and TASC case management plans that are periodically revised/reviewed with the client and specify - at a minimum - the treatment services to be delivered, the frequency and justification for contacts with TASC and treatment counselors, and the content/frequency of progress reports to TASC and the referring justice system component.

3. Documented procedures for reporting clients' treatment progress to referring justice system components must include:
 - o notification of each client's TASC acceptance, treatment placement, and service plan - within a specified time after justice system referral;
 - o specified intervals for (a) TASC receipt of progress reports from the treatment agency - at least monthly - and (b) dissemination of these progress reports to justice on a regular basis - at least monthly - through the orientation phase and initial treatment phase of each specific treatment modality; and
 - o immediate notification - within 24 hours - of any client's TASC termination.
4. Documentation in a separate file folder for each TASC client of his/her progress through the system - from TASC admission to discharge - including written notation by the assigned TASC counselor of the date and content for decision-making purposes of all face-to-face and telephone contacts with the client or (on his/her behalf) representatives of the referring justice system component and receiving treatment agency(s).

TREATMENT ALTERNATIVES TO STREET CRIME

The TASC System Flow by Element



VI. REFERENCES AND RESOURCES FOR ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE

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Findings from Manhattan. New York City: NIJ, 1986

B. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

To enhance and complement the provision of Criminal Justice Block Grants to the States, the Justice Assistance Act of 1984 authorizes the award of discretionary grants to public or non-profit agencies for four purposes, one of which is technical assistance (TA) and training to States and local governments.

In May of 1986, the BJA exercised this authority by entering into a cooperative agreement with the National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors (NASADAD) to provide national technical assistance and training related to TASC programming. This TA and training is available to States that are implementing newly approved TASC or "purpose 8" projects as part of the 1984 Act and also to pre-existing TASC sites desiring problem resolution or further development. The training and on-site assistance is provided by TASC practitioners and other experts from the justice and substance abuse treatment fields.

NASADAD's TA and Training project will:

- o provide specifically requested on-site technical assistance;
- o recommend and convene a select Advisory Panel to make revisions/refinements in the critical program elements outlined in the TASC Program Brief;
- o develop a TASC Implementation Manual that elaborates performance standards for the revised/refined critical program elements;
- o design and field test a model training curriculum for TASC projects; and
- o assess the feasibility and utility of internships as a method for TASC training.

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C. A GLOSSARY OF TASC TERMS

1. **Ancillary Services:** auxiliary or supplemental assistance provided to the TASC client in addition to primary treatment for drug and/or alcohol problems (e.g., employment training, medical services unrelated to the dependency, financial counseling).
2. **Assessment:** the evaluation or appraisal of a TASC candidate's suitability for substance abuse treatment and placement in a specific treatment modality/setting, including information on current and past use/abuse of drugs, justice system involvement, and medical, family, social, educations, military, employment and treatment histories.
3. **Case Management Plan:** An individualized scheme for securing, coordinating and monitoring the appropriate treatment interventions and ancillary services for each TASC client's successful TASC, treatment and justice system outcomes.
4. **Chain of Custody:** necessary safeguards for ensuring the "purity" and intactness of specific materials collected for later use as legal evidence in court -- most usually applied in TASC projects to clients' urine specimens that are forwarded for laboratory analysis.
5. **Court Liaison:** communications between TASC and justice system personnel for establishing and maintaining mutual understanding during the transaction of judicial business -- most frequently referring to court visibility and testimony about specific clients by TASC staff.
6. **Criteria:** a rule, standard, principle or test by which the TASC client is measured, judged or assessed (e.g., success/failure in treatment, eligibility for TASC participation).
7. **Drug Dependent:** a loss of self control with reference to the use of licit or illicit substances, including alcohol, to the extent that physical, psychological, or social problems and/or harm result.
8. **Eligibility:** meeting the requisite criteria qualifying one to be chosen.
9. **Identification:** the act of establishing whether an offender is a TASC candidate -- potentially eligible for acceptance into the project.

10. Justice System Components: any functioning part of the legal administration continuum -- from police through parole.
11. Monitoring: supervising or overseeing clients through the application of specific criteria in efforts to determine their "progress" and success/failure.
12. Office Monitoring: temporary supervision by TASC staff of a client who is waiting for available space in a treatment program after assessment/acceptance by the TASC project -- generally including orientation to TASC and the specific treatment facility, urine monitoring, and some social skills counseling.
13. Referral: assignment of a TASC client to the most appropriate and available treatment facility and/or other ancillary service.
14. Reporting: officially accounting to TASC and/or the referring justice system component for the client's cooperation with an approved treatment plan, using prescribed and objective facts and observations.
15. Screening: a systematic examination of all accused or convicted offenders at particular point(s) in justice system processing to determine their potential suitability or eligibility for TASC.
16. Tracking: maintaining contact with and keeping informed about the whereabouts of each TASC client.
17. Treatment Modality: specific types of therapeutic processes or interventions that may be used for treatment of substance abuse and can be conducted in residential or outpatient settings (e.g., methadone maintenance, drug free counseling, detoxification, psychotherapy, other forms of chemotherapy).
18. Urinalysis: examination of urine samples by various technical methods to determine the presence or absence of specified drugs or their metabolized traces.
19. Voluntary Informed Consent: agreement by the TASC candidate to participate in the project after a thorough and completely comprehensible explanation of its advantages and disadvantages, including potential benefits and sanctions by the justice system, TASC and treatment program rules and requirements, confidentiality effects, and known consequences of successful or unsuccessful termination.

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