



# SAN FRANCISCO COLLABORATIVE COURTS

## **Adult Drug Court**

San Francisco's Adult Drug Court (SFDC) was established in 1995. Using a team approach, SFDC is an intensive rehabilitation program that integrates substance abuse treatment and social services with judicial oversight to monitor client accountability and facilitate recovery. The Drug Court Team includes representatives from the San Francisco Superior Court, the Department of Public Health, the District Attorney's Office, the Public Defender's Office, and the Adult Probation Department and community based treatment providers.

## **How Drug Court Works**

- Drug Court works with defendants and probationers with substantial substance abuse problems facing non-violent felony drug charges or property charges driven by addiction.
- Thorough screening and assessment to ensure that each participant receives appropriate treatment services and community-based support.
- Consistent judicial monitoring that supports the client's progress and emphasizes accountability and commitment to the program.
- Partnerships with other community agencies that address multiple issues faced by defendants including substance abuse, mental health, homelessness, employment, and medical problems
- Clients graduate after 10-24 months of participation. Charges are dismissed or probation is completed successfully.

Drug Court has worked with over 5,375 drug offenders\*

728 clients have completed Drug Court successfully

## What has Drug Court Accomplished?<sup>1 2</sup>

### Drug Court Saves Money

- Based on a 2008 study that analyzed cost savings since the start of Drug Court in 1995, the program has saved San Francisco over \$48 million. Savings accrued from both operating costs and recidivism costs.
- In total, Drug Court costs San Francisco \$14,297 less per offender than traditional criminal court.

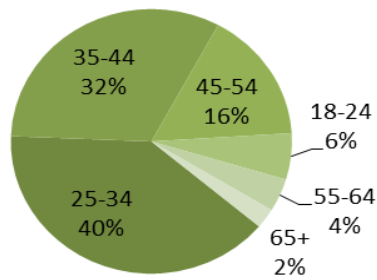
### Drug Court Reduces Recidivism

- Over a two year period, 43% of Drug Court Graduates were re-arrested as compared to 67% of comparable offenders.
- Regardless of graduation status, the average number of arrests declined 37% in the three years after Drug Court entry.
- Graduates were associated with 73 percent fewer arrests after Drug Court.

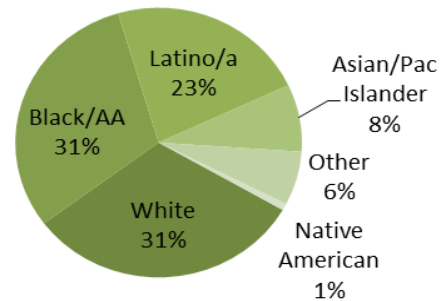
## Accepted Participants – January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017

- 86% of accepted participants were Male, 12 % Female, 5% were Transgender Female.
- **Nearly half (47%) of new Drug Court participants were homeless at entry.** Twenty-two percent reported living with a family member, 17% an independent apartment or house, and 12% in a Hotel/SRO.

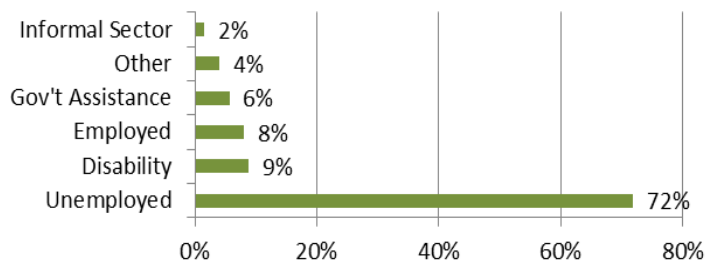
### Age - Accepted Participants (n=124)



### Race - Accepted Participants (n=124)



### Income at Entry - Accepted Participants (n=124)



### 2017 Drug Court Graduates (n=24)

- 100% who reported they were homeless at entry had stable housing upon completing Drug Court.
- 100% who were unemployed at entry had legal employment or were receiving government assistance at exit.
- 2017 graduates spent an average of 403 days in Drug Court.

<sup>1</sup> Carey, Shannon M., and Mark Waller (Carey & Walker, 2008). California Drug Courts: Costs and Benefits. Phase III: DC-CSET Statewide Launch, Superior Court of San Francisco County Drug Court Site-Specific Report. NPC Research/Administrative Office of the Courts, September 2008. This study is from 1995 to 2008 ONLY and does not account for savings from 2008 onward.

<sup>2</sup> Carey & Walker, September 2008