



Treatment Works: The Jackie Nitschke Center Intensive Outpatient Huber Treatment Program

Huber Center Treatment Program reduces number of repeat drunk driving offenses

The Jackie Nitschke Center (JNC) treats more than 250 clients per year in residential and outpatient treatment. Named in honor of Jackie Nitschke, wife of Packer great Ray Nitschke, the mission of the Center is to provide a cost-effective and affordable alcohol and other drug treatment continuum of care in a home-like environment to adult clients and their family members from Brown and surrounding counties.

Since 2002, JNC has collaborated with the Brown County judges, jail personnel, and AODA Human Services staff, offering a six-week intensive outpatient and 16 week aftercare program targeting Huber inmates with multiple drunk driving offenses.

Though these offenders were regularly ordered to obtain alcohol assessments and attend treatment, judges continued to see the same faces back in court: untreated and re-offending. Longer jail sentences and higher files did not seem to be reducing offenses or motivating the defendants to seek treatment.

Because offenders often cited cost as a barrier to treatment, JNC offered free treatment to repeat offenders while in Huber or on the home electronic-monitoring. When done serving time they start paying \$25 per session. Also, weekly attendance of Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings is required, which also are held at the Huber facility.

The response from Huber participants has been positive. "They're hearing favorable reports from other inmates who have attended, and some are volunteering to participate even if not court-ordered. They recognize that the program is free while they are on Huber," explains Labine, adding that the program has been so successful that Brown County officials are using the results to help establish a drug court.

Statistics for the program are impressive. In the period from December 2002 through June 2007, 284 people with a total of 960 driving while intoxicated convictions, about 3.3 per person, began the intensive out-patient treatment. A full 38 percent of them had never been in treatment despite having been court ordered to do so after each conviction and approximately two-thirds of the individuals were males. On average, 75.7 percent of the attendees completed the six-week intensive program and 48 percent completed both the initial and aftercare programs.

The program results suggest that more treatment not only reduces the likelihood that an individual will re-offend, but also reduces the severity of their re-offense. Specifically, **the results show that longer time in treatment not only impacts the percentage of re-offenders (see Outcomes table) but also the severity of their re-offenses.** Clients who complete IOP and aftercare programs are less likely to re-offend than clients who complete only IOP (15 vs. 19 percent) or fail to complete treatment (15 vs. 26 percent). Clients who complete IOP are also less likely to re-offend than individuals who fail to complete treatment (19 vs. 26 percent).



Examining the legal history for re-offenders in each group provides more telling results:

The majority of the offenses for the 16 re-offenders who completed both aftercare and IOP were OWI or operating without a license (OAR) and the remaining offenses were of a less severe nature (e.g., writing a bad check or disorderly conduct).

Huber inmates who completed less treatment committed more severe repeat offenses. The legal history for Individuals completing only IOP included child support, bail jumping or criminal trespassing. Those who failed to complete any treatment re-offended for battery, child abuse, and drug possession as for well as bail jumping and disorderly conduct.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM
December 16, 2002 to June 25, 2007

From December 2002 through June 2007, 284 inmates started the evening outpatient treatment program that JNC offered at the Huber Center. This group of offenders had committed 960 total lifetime Operating While Intoxicated offenses. Thirty-eight percent of this group had never been in a substance abuse treatment program in the past.

Outcomes: Minimum of One Year After Starting Treatment (2007 Data):

	Data collected on clients with start date prior to 6-25-06	Completed both intensive outpatient and aftercare at JNC	Completed intensive outpatient, but NOT aftercare at JNC	Failed to complete the intensive outpatient program
Number of clients eligible	223	107	62	54
Number who re-offended	42 (19 percent)	16 (15 percent)	12 (19 percent)	14 (26 percent)
Summary of Legal History (per re-offender)		1. Fifth OWI 2. OAR 3. Fifth OWI 4. Two Disorderly Conducts 5. OAR 6. Fifth OWI 7. Fourth and fifth OWI 8. Small Claims, OAR 9. Fourth OWI, OAR 10. Fifth OWI, Worthless check 11. Disorderly Con. 12. Two OARs 13. Poss. THC 14. Fifth OWI, Disorderly Conduct, Operating firearm while intoxicated. 15. Fourth OWI, OAR 16. Theft, OWI	1. Domestic Abuse, OAR; worthless checks 2. Child Support 3. Fourth OWI 4. Disorderly, Bail Jump, Open Intox. 5. Two OAR, disorderly, Criminal Trespass 6. Disorderly, Obstructing 7. OAR 8. OAR 9. Two Disorderly, Bail Jumping 10. Fourth OWI 11. Fourth OWI, OAR 12. Refusing Breathalyzer	1. Disorderly Con. 2. Battery 3. Child Abuse, Fourth OWI, Four OAR, Disorderly Conduct 4. Battery 5. Fourth OWI, OAR, Child Abuse 6. Battery, Fifth OWI 7. Battery, Fourth OWI, Bail Jump, Disorderly Cond. 8. Fourth OWI 9. Fourth and Fifth OWIs 10. Worthless Chks. OAR, Speeding 11. OAR 12. Two Criminal Damage 13. Fourth OWI, OAR 14. Fourth OWI Contempt., Two Poss. Cocaine; Poss THC, Poss. Paraphernalia

For more information on the JNC Huber Treatment program, please contact Executive Director William Labine at: wlabine@sbcglobal.net