



**JUSTICE  
FOR VETS**

# Why Have a Tribal Veterans Treatment Court?

Developed by:  
Justice For Vets

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# Native American Veterans

- 143,485 veterans<sup>1</sup>  
(11.7% Female) - 2019
- Served in the Pre-9/11 period in a high percentage than others (19.9% vs. 13.3%)<sup>2</sup>
- More likely to have service-connected disability than others (29.8% vs. 20.6%)<sup>2</sup>



\* DoD photo by Marvin Lynchard

# Veterans in Prison & Jail 2011-12

- 181,500 total veterans incarcerated in state and federal prisons and local jails
- 3,000 or 2.3% identified as American Indian and Alaska Natives and Asian, Native Hawaiian, and other Pacific Islanders
- 77% of incarcerated veterans received military discharges that were honorable or under honorable conditions
- Nearly half served less than 3 years in the military



# Veterans in Prison & Jail 2011-12

- 25% of veterans in prison and 31% in jail reported they had been in combat in the military
- 48% of veterans in prison and 55% in jail has been told by a MH professional they had a mental disorder
- 64% of veterans vs. 48% of non-veterans were sentenced for violent offenses



# Why Have A Veterans Treatment Court?

Military Culture is unique. Current and former service members that become justice involved have needs and risk that require clinical and criminogenic interventions which are culturally sensitive to them.

At the same time, recognizing that these tailored interventions are most effective when balanced with an adherence to the best practices and standards that are implemented in the treatment court model.



# Warrior Ethos

Sense of Purpose  
Code of Conduct  
Common Purpose  
Identity  
Morality  
Selflessness  
Sacrifice  
Loyalty  
Honor



# The Impact of Transition



**Today's military deploys and redeploys (Home) exceedingly quick**

Discharge/Out processing

Disconnected from civilian society

Loss of support

Loss of identity

Loss of purpose

Where to go for assistance?





# “The State of the American Veteran: The Chicagoland Veterans Study”

- ✓ 45%: Feel that their military skills and experience are often dismissed.
- ✓ 69%: “Civilians do not understand the problems faced by veterans”.
- ✓ 48%: “I feel so distant from people.”
- ✓ 48%: “Even around people I know, I don’t feel that I really belong.”
- ✓ 41%: “Even around my friends, there is no sense of sister/brotherhood.”

*Sample of 1,294 Social Connectedness*

Kintzle, Sara; Rasheed, Janice M.; and Castro, Carl A., *The State of the American Veteran: The Chicagoland Veterans Study*, 2016.

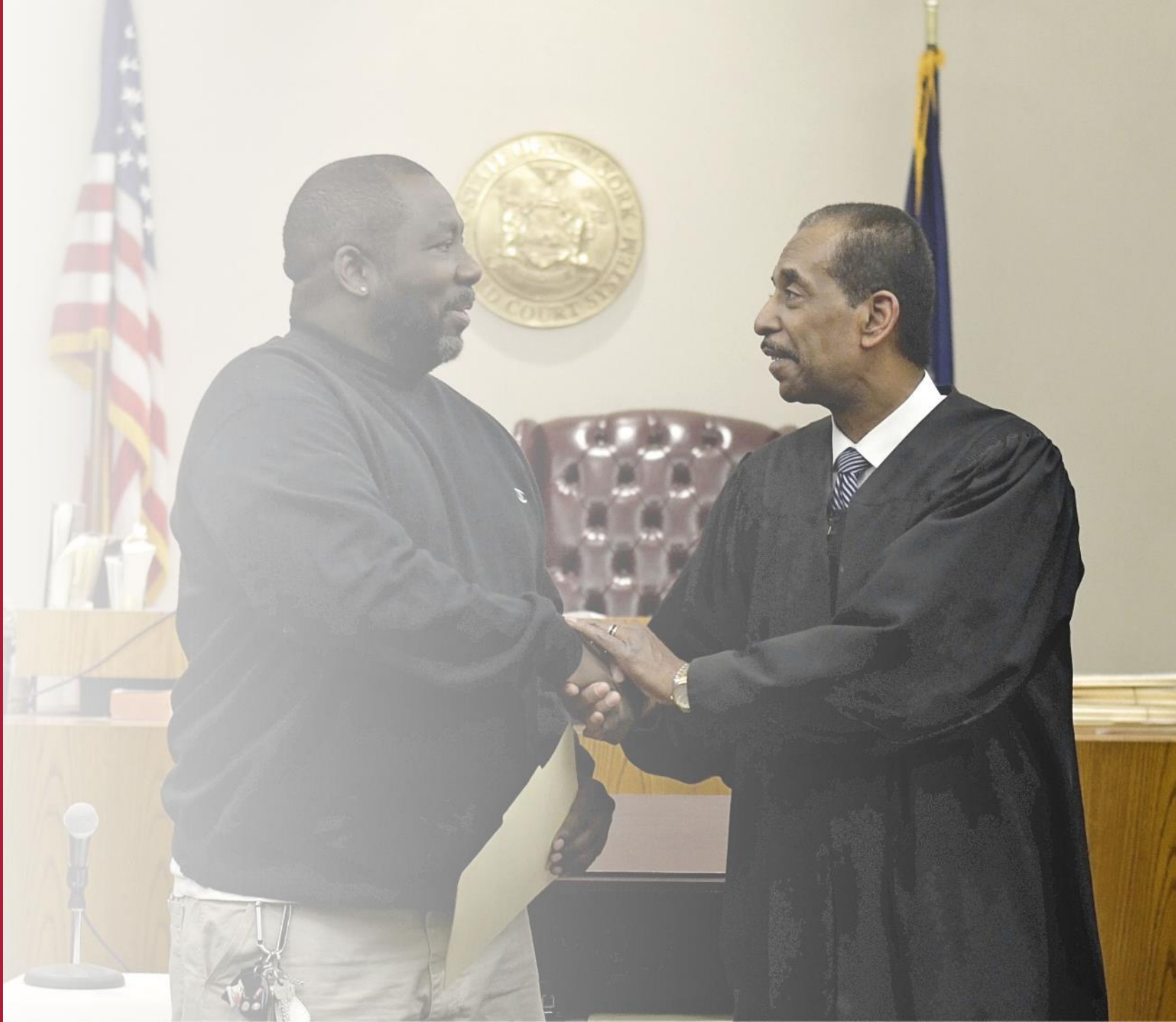




**Defining VTCs**

—

**Ten Key  
Components**



# KEY COMPONENT #1: Justice and Treatment Integration

## STANDARDS

- ✓ 2: Equity and inclusion
- ✓ 3: Roles and responsibility of the judge
- ✓ 4: Incentives, sanctions, and therapeutic adjustments
- ✓ 5: Substance use disorder treatment
- ✓ 8: Multidisciplinary team
- ✓ 9: Census and caseload

## TAKE AWAY

- ✓ Promote recovery through a coordinated response by utilizing a team approach.
- ✓ Planning
- ✓ Documentation



# KEY COMPONENT #2: Nonadversarial Approach

## STANDARDS

- ✓ 2: Equity and inclusion
- ✓ 3: Roles and responsibility of the judge
- ✓ 4: Incentives, sanctions, and therapeutic adjustments
- ✓ 8: Multidisciplinary team

## TAKE AWAY

- ✓ Prosecution
- ✓ Defense attorney



# KEY COMPONENT #3: Early Identification

## STANDARDS

- ✓ 1: Target population
- ✓ 2: Equity and inclusion

## TAKE AWAY

- ✓ High risk and high need
- ✓ Access for all



# KEY COMPONENT #4: Continuum of Services

## STANDARDS

- ✓ 2: Equity and inclusion
- ✓ 4: Incentives, sanctions, and therapeutic adjustments
- ✓ 5: Substance use disorder treatment
- ✓ 8: Complementary treatment and social services
- ✓ 9: Census and caseload

## TAKE AWAY

- ✓ Case management
- ✓ Clinical case management
- ✓ Mental health
- ✓ Trauma
- ✓ Housing
- ✓ Transportation
- ✓ Medical and dental



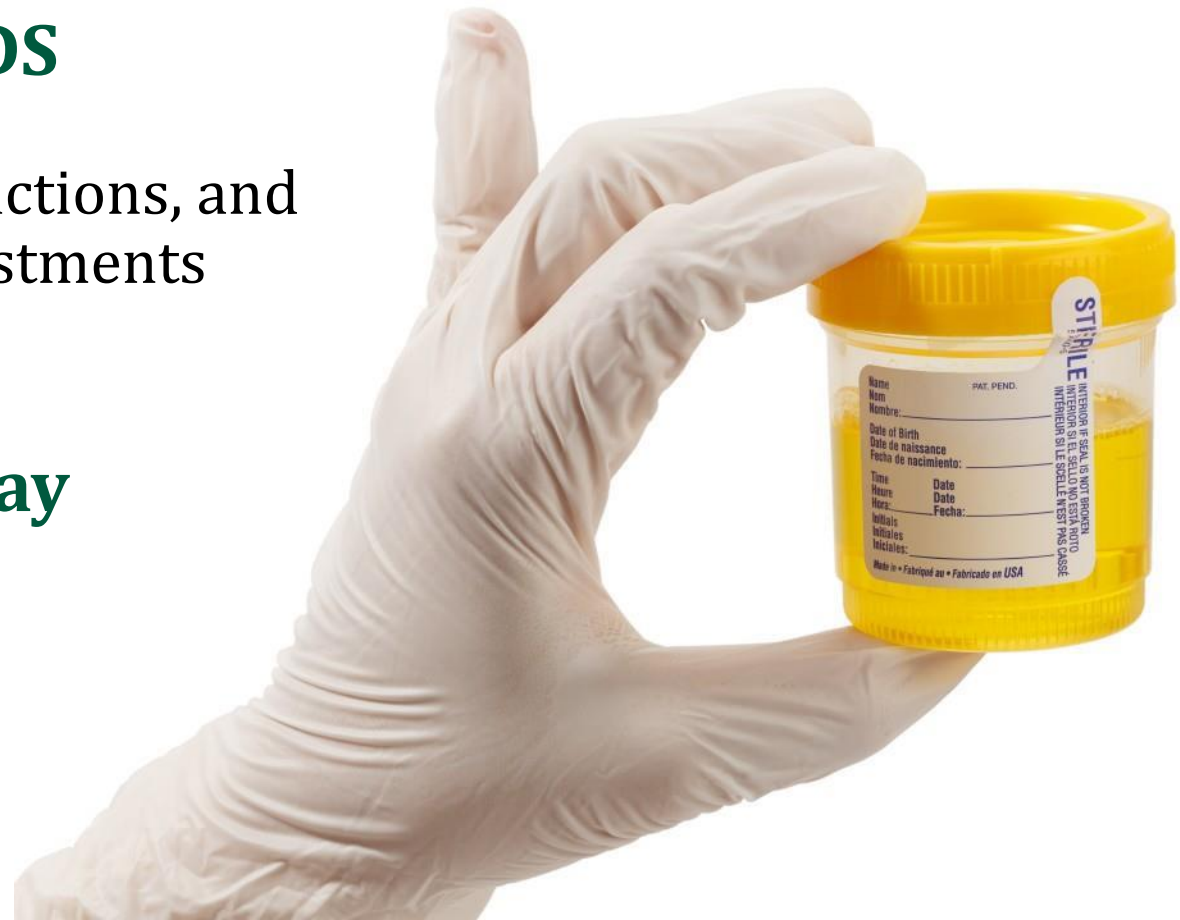
# KEY COMPONENT #5: Drug Testing

## STANDARDS

- ✓ 4: Incentives, sanctions, and therapeutic adjustments
- ✓ 7: Drug testing

## Take Away

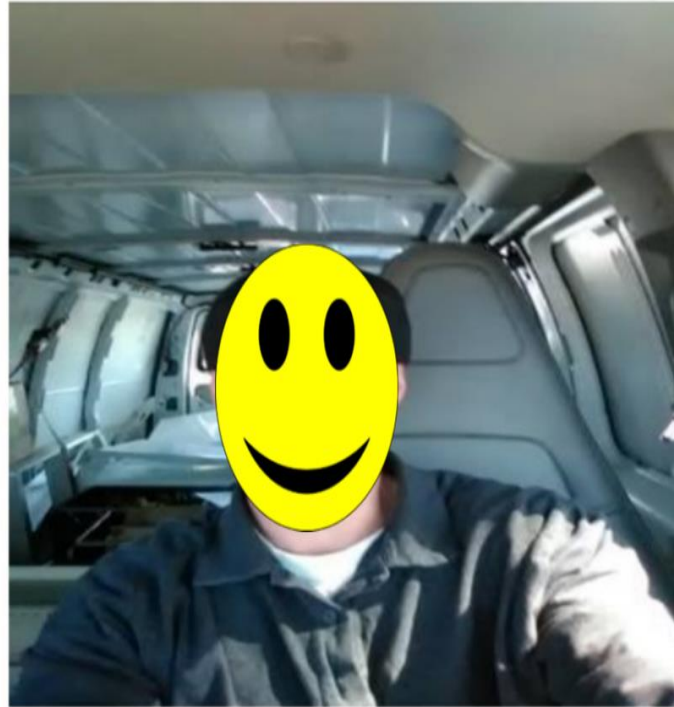
- ✓ Random
- ✓ Observed
- ✓ Twice per week



# KEY COMPONENT #5: Drug Testing

📧 📞 📧 📧 📶 68% 4:08 PM

make twenty (Glendale) 📷



Need male who can pass a urine analysis at tasc. Must be able to use my ID. Text with picture. Pays 20\$ will negotiate



# KEY COMPONENT #6: Coordinated Strategy

## STANDARDS

- ✓ 2: Equity and inclusion
- ✓ 4: Incentives, sanctions, and therapeutic adjustments

## Take Away

- ✓ All team members participate
- ✓ Shared decision making





# KEY COMPONENT #7: Judicial Supervision

## STANDARDS

- ✓ 3: Role and responsibility of the judge
- ✓ 4: Incentives, sanctions, and therapeutic adjustments
- ✓ 8: Multidisciplinary team

## Take Away

- ✓ Someone in authority cares



# KEY COMPONENT #8: Monitoring and Evaluation

## STANDARDS

- ✓ 2: Equity and inclusion
- ✓ 9: Census and caseload
- ✓ 10: Monitoring and evaluation

## TAKE AWAY

- ✓ 65% less savings when not using electronic databases
- ✓ 131% greater cost saving by programs that review data and statistics to modify program (internal)
- ✓ 100% cost savings when a program conducts an evaluation and modifies the program (external)



# KEY COMPONENT #9: Interdisciplinary Education

## STANDARDS

- ✓ 2: Equity and inclusion
- ✓ 3: Roles and responsibility of the judge
- ✓ 5: Substance use disorder treatment
- ✓ 8: Multidisciplinary team

## TAKE AWAY

- ✓ Ongoing training
- ✓ Cross-training



# KEY COMPONENT #10: Forging Partnerships

## STANDARDS

- ✓ 2: Equity and inclusion
- ✓ 5: Substance use disorder treatment
- ✓ 6: Complementary treatment and social services
- ✓ Multidisciplinary team

## TAKE AWAY

- ✓ Community mapping



# RECOVERY

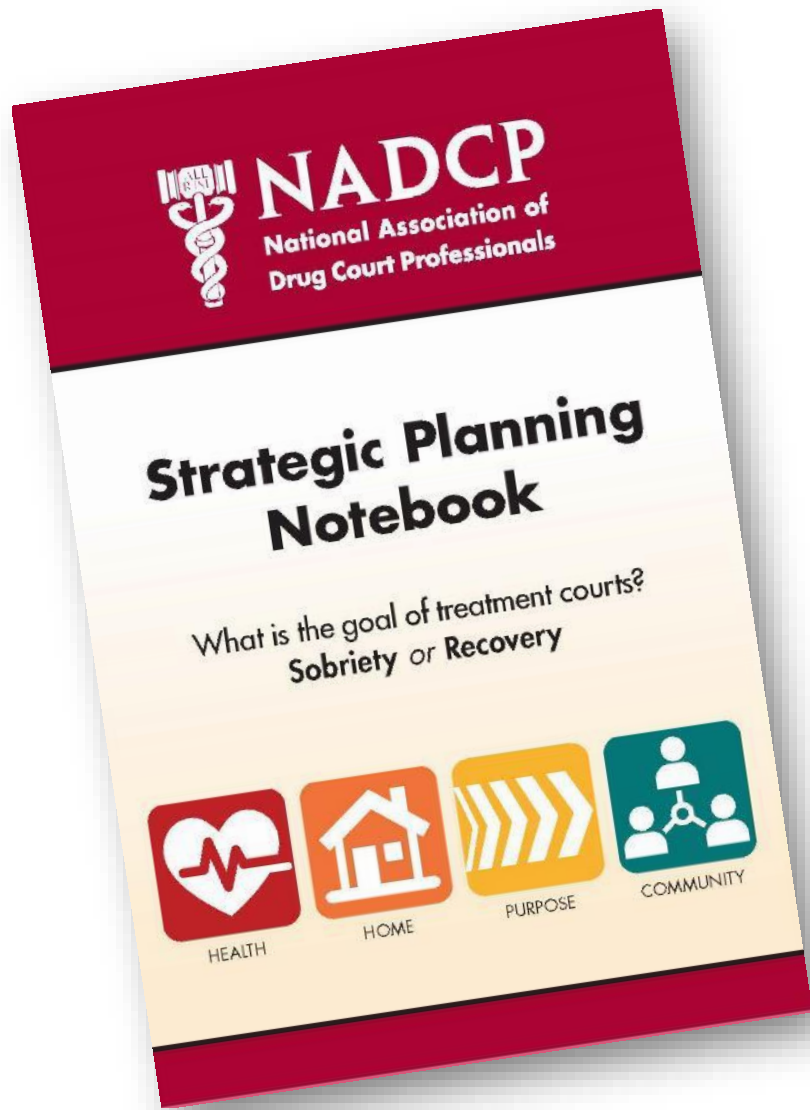


*Success is a  
Welcome Home!*

“Instead of throwing me in prison, veterans treatment court offered me the chance of a lifetime.”



*- VTC Graduate*



# Strategic Planning Notebook

**Connect how the topic relates to recovery**

**Write down these connections to recovery**

**Share ideas on how to incorporate the topic into your program**

