

**[St. Paul, Minnesota Mental Health Court]
Participant Program Entry and Exit Survey
2012**

Participants are given the opportunity to complete a survey upon program entry and upon leaving the program. Participants were asked to self-report how they function in different areas of their lives. They were also asked several open-ended questions. Completion of the surveys is voluntary.

Response Rates for Program Entry Surveys

In 2010-2012, there were 36 people accepted into the program and 31 (86%) who completed a program entry survey. Reasons for non-completion include: no staff available to administer survey and refusal.

Response Rates for Exit Surveys

In 2010-2012, there were 23 people who did not complete an exit survey. Reasons for not completing survey include: participant could not be reached, participant refused to complete the survey, participant was distraught or agitated upon termination.

- Response rate for graduates: 86% (19 of 22 surveys completed)
- Response rates for non-completers: 20% (five of 25 surveys completed)
- Response rates for all 2010 exits: 51% (24 of 47 surveys completed)

Below is a summary of those who completed a survey upon program entry and those who completed an exit survey.¹ The responses were coded into numerical values from the table below. The higher the number, the greater functioning the person reported.

Extreme Problem 1	Severe Problem 2	Moderate Problem 3	Slight Problem 4	No Problem 5
-------------------------	------------------------	--------------------------	------------------------	--------------------

Statement	Program Entry Survey (n = 33)	Graduate Survey (n = 19)	Non- Completers (n = 5)
How would you rate your mental health symptoms and their relationship to your everyday living?	3.42	4.16	3.60
How would you rate your ability to access needed therapy, psychiatric care, or medication education and management?	4.15	4.74	4.20
How would you rate the relationship between drugs and alcohol and your everyday functioning?	4.39	4.84	4.00
How would you rate your vocational activity? (Your ability to find employment and perform well on the job.)	3.42	3.72	2.80
How would you rate your ability to do well in school?	3.41	3.93	3.25
How would you rate your use of free time?	4.18	4.42	4.00

¹ The results include two surveys from participants in 2009.

How would you rate your ability to get along with others, including your family?	3.85	4.37	3.80
How would you rate yourself in the area of self-care and independent living?	3.85	4.53	4.40
How would you rate yourself in the area of medical health? (Accessing medical services as need.)	4.33	4.47	4.20
How would you rate yourself in the area of dental health? (Taking care of your dental needs and seeing a dentist as appropriate.)	3.78	4.32	4.00
How would you rate yourself in the area of obtaining and maintaining financial assistance?	3.72	4.47	3.40
How would you rate yourself in the area of obtaining and maintaining housing assistance?	3.88	4.84	3.80
How would you rate your ability to use transportation?	4.24	4.26	4.40

Open-Ended Questions

Can you tell me in your own words, what expectations you have for the Mental Health Court? In other words, what do you hope to get from your participation in the program? [responses are reported exactly how they were written on the survey]

Achieving my goals, staying competent, getting out as much as possible
Help to control mental issues. Get the right assistance to change my life for better living.
I don't know. I have no expectations yet.
Justice
Learning how I can work through my anger e.g. through DBT, help with my mental health
Reduction of fines, some necessary adherence to a program which will help with self care and living
resolve my legal offenses in a way that does not jeopardize my mental health and well being - stay out of jail, work, improve overall functioning in the society
Resources from various groups about everyday life w/ bi-polar disorder, medicals, and prescriptions that will allow me to live the best quality of life. Follow ups w/ my well being, collaborate w/ probation officer to become successful in the criminal justice system. Keep my job.
The opportunity to dismiss and vacate charges.
I hope to get charges dismissed.
Help with understanding my disability, help with chemical dependency, help with housing.
Give me structure and balance and improve my mental health issues. Being more independent.
To continue to receive as many resources as possible and to be able to have someone that if theres ever something going on and something I need to talk about.
To follow my treatment plan. Learn more about mental health court.
I hope to get linked into the rest of a successful fulfilling life.
Having more support and structure in my life. Mental health is okay right now because I am utilizing support and coping skills.
Learn how to approach situations.

Understanding of my situation (abusive relationship with ex) and from that depression and anxiety. Help with the fear of my ex, the court (previously not protecting me and my son) and help from ex's abuse. And maintaining a balanced life.
I would hope that everybody, including the judges understands my symptoms (PTSD, depression, anxiety) and how that played a role in my case. I would also hope that people know that what is stated in the police report is not factual at all.
Trying to get my own place and hope things go well.
Help. I think it would help me open up easier.
To complete it.
Non criminal record.
To get my life back on track.
To want more to think on my own.
Help with finding a job and getting my license.

**In your own words, can you tell me about what led to your successful completion in the program?
[Graduates only]**

Being honest with myself. Having a good doctor, counselor, AHRMS worker. Accepting my mental health and the support/help.
Deb Strasser works a lot w/ me, supports me in many ways
Deb Strasser, therapy, psychiatry, family
Flexibility, less stress, they work with you instead of only punishment
Help from Deb Strasser, gift cards for food, thinking about what led me to be in MHC
I did what they told me. I made all appointments and the help I got.
Starting clean and sober, honest with case manager, completing treatment, getting a sponsor.
Trying to stay out of jail.
Being focused on bettering myself. I felt ashamed of my theft, so I made sure to give back to the community by taking responsibility and giving my services back to the community as restitution. Time = \$
My daughter, first time being a mother.
Learning to cooperate with the court and fulfill requirements of the court and pay for the mistake that happened.
Working hard and wanting to succeed.
I had a plan and goals set for me to follow.
Perseverance and patience.
Staying focused, hard work.
Every #1 in group helped #1 another. I also take what I've learned and use it always.

In your own words, can you tell me about what led to your termination in the program? [Non-Completers only]

Too much stress.
Didn't have enough time to complete all tasks asked of me.

Is there any way the Mental Health Court could have served you better? Please explain.

No.
No.
Not helpful at all.
Nothing.
Slight confusion once in awhile, different issues, coordinate communication.
They did a good job.
I believed it served it's purpose and now I am ready to expunge record b/c I am a 1 st time offender as of 2009.
No. Everything was helpful.
No, very effectively acted towards me and helped me a great deal. Happy and glad you went through the court. Worthy people.
Program could have given a little more flexibility in some cases.
No, you'll doing good.
No, I am fine.
No.
I feel as though Deb Strasser as case manager, the best possible outcome has occurred.
No.
No.
No they have help me better myself and others.
No!