

JMARC Judges Discussion

June 19, 2025



Welcome and Introductions

Welcome

- James H. Faison, III – Chair JMARC State Advisory Committee

Introductions

- AOC Staff –Alexia Stith, Kirstin Frescoln, and Alyssa Gentri
- DAC Staff – Brian Gates and Karen Buck
- DMHDDSUS Staff – Saarah Waleed



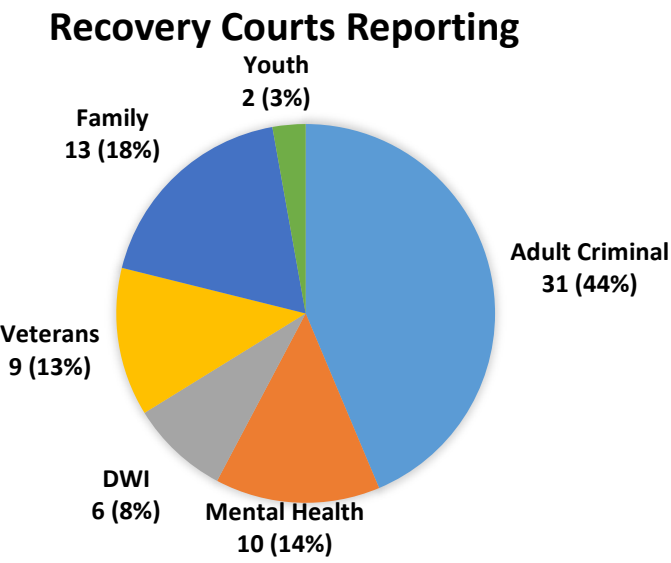
JMARC Legislative Report

- Submitted March 1, 2025
- 71 of 72 recovery courts operational (serving participants) during CY 2024 responded
- Several multi-county JMARC submitted 1 data report for multiple counties

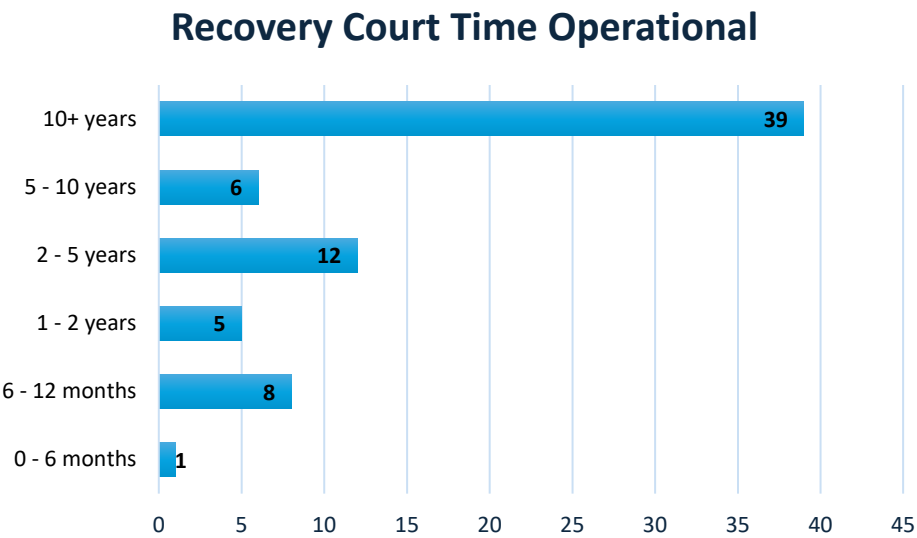


JMARC Legislative Report

The majority of JMARC are Adult (criminal) Treatment Courts



The majority of JMARC have been in operation for 10+ years



JMARC Legislative Report

2024 All Recovery Courts

Referrals	2,975	~30% Admitted
Newly Admitted	878	
Total Active	1,400	
Successfully Completed	254	59% Successful
Unsuccessfully Completed	176	
Neutral Discharge (serious illness, death, transfer, case closed)	32	

2024 Active Participants All Recovery Courts

Participants with a Felony Charge	710
Participants with a Misdemeanor Charge	852
Participants with an Active Dependency Petition	193
Participants Identified as Veterans	235
Children Impacted by Parental Participation	917
Participants with a Mental Health Disorder	851
Top 4 Substances of Abuse – Cannabis, Alcohol, Cocaine, Fentanyl	



JMARC Legislative Report

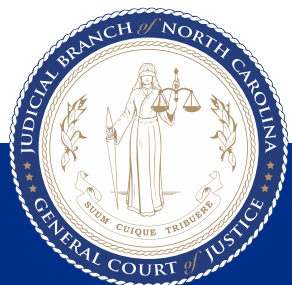
2024 Indicators of Success

Substance-free Babies Born	31
Completed ≥ 1 Episode of Treatment (inpatient, IOP, Seeking Safety, etc.)	260
Obtained Employment	186
Obtained Driver's License	27
Significant Educational Achievement	40
Resided in Stable Housing	114
Successfully Completed Child Welfare Case Plan	7

2024 Reasons Unsuccessful

Court/Criminal Involvement (technical violations, arrest, conviction, revocation, etc.)	54
Lack of Engagement	80
Absconded	45

Ever Served Jail as a Sanction (regardless of discharge status)	276
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JMARC Legislative Report

*We have a participant who is known to local EMS for overdosing 40+ times in the year prior to enrollment. He has been homeless since age 14, we were able to work with him, build rapport and trust with him. **He has not overdosed in the past 12+ months since enrollment!***

*We were able to help a participant who had multiple traumas in a single year get into a facility with her daughter and **helped her learn to be a mother as well as help her learn how to maintain sobriety.***

*We have been able to recruit a lot of recovery resources for our community. We have our first men's and women's recovery homes now. We have a PHP/IOP treatment center (with housing) that will be operational in a few weeks. Oxford House is now actively looking for homes to start up in our County. We have several 12-step meetings that are up and running now. **We are steadily building out our recovery ecosystem.***



JMARC Legislative Report

Fatherhood has also become a new area of growth for him as he works on building a healthy relationship with his son.

He has volunteered to coach his son's soccer team.

Additionally, he and his girlfriend welcomed a healthy baby girl this year. He received a job promotion. Some of his fines related to obtaining a driver's license were waived, and he successfully obtained his license. With the money he saved, he was also able to purchase a vehicle.

At a participant's graduation we celebrated his journey -- from someone who was defiant, unmotivated, unemployed, lacked stable housing, and participated very minimally in treatment, to a person who uses and shares DBT skills in everyday life, works as a Head Chef and owns a partial stake in the business, has a stable home in a nice area, and recently welcomed a new baby.

A participant...addicted to methamphetamines was sent to detox as a therapeutic adjustment. Upon entering detox, learned that she was pregnant. [She] left detox, returned to the program, and excelled. She obtained her driver's license, enrolled in college, and became a successful graduate.



JMARC Goals

The goals of the local judicially managed accountability and recovery courts include the following:

- (1) **reduce alcoholism and other substance abuse and dependencies** among adult and juvenile offenders and defendants and among respondents in juvenile petitions for abuse, neglect, or both.*
- (2) **reduce criminal and delinquent recidivism and the incidence of child abuse and neglect.***
- (3) **reduce the court workload** associated with criminal proceedings and petitions for abuse/neglect/dependency resulting from unmanaged substance use, mental health, or medical health disorders.*
- (4) **increase the personal, familial, and societal accountability** of adult and juvenile offenders and defendants and respondents in juvenile petitions for abuse, neglect, or both.*
- (5) **promote effective interaction, collaboration, coordination, and use of resources among criminal and juvenile justice personnel, child protective services personnel, and community agencies.***



Grants

Current BJA Grant *ends September 2025*

- Training on Motivational Interviewing Summer 2025
- AllRise Conference 2025

2024 BJA *ends September 2028 \$3 million (\$2.5 million+ match)*

- Adult- and Veteran-focused FT staff
- Expansion
- Training
- Data and Evaluation

2024 OJJDP *ends September 2028 \$1.3 million (\$1 million + match)*

- Family-focused FT staff
- Resource Allocation re. intensive family interventions
- Family Legal Issues
- Training
- Data and Evaluation



Data and Evaluation

- Continue to support local recovery courts to collect and store data
- Initiate a quarterly request for summary data from all recovery courts to state office
- Annual report to the NC General Assembly March 1 each year
- UNCW working with Collaboratory to access data for the process, outcome, and cost-benefit evaluations due to NC General Assembly March 2026



Develop State Expertise

- Hire Recovery Court Staff – Expand state staff to four FT positions
- Conduct Site Visits – Observe staffing and recovery court hearings, provide targeted technical assistance
- Mentor Courts and Role-Specific Mentors – Select and support at least one mentor for each type of recovery court and role
- Continue to identify and train in-state trainers



Statewide Education and Outreach

- **Training of Trainers** – North Carolina experts trained in national curricula and best practices prepared to provide targeted technical assistance and training
- **NC-Focused Curricula** – Working with North Carolina curriculum and training experts, develop training for recovery courts
- **Provide Hybrid Training** – Provide training with an in-person facilitator to recovery court teams in their jurisdiction using expert trainers available through video links
- **Recovery Court Information Sessions** – Provide training sessions about recovery courts at judicial, probation, treatment, etc. conferences and meetings
- **Statewide Recovery Court Conference** – April 8-11, 2025 in Winston-Salem and TBA 2027
- **AllRise National Conference** – Focus on state leadership attendance (e.g., JMARC Advisory Committee, State Trainers, Mentor Courts, etc.)



Treatment Resources

- Establish regular meetings between AOC Recovery Court and DMHDD SUS leadership
- Access training and technical assistance resources available through NCTAC and Wilson Center (grant match)
- Engage in Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIM) to identify patterns of need for treatment and other support services for women (grant match)
- Work with DAC to support access to MAT and MOUD for recovery court participants in DAC facilities including DART and Black Mountain
- Provide targeted training and technical assistance to ensure treatment court teams do not restrict access to MAT/MOUD



The BIG Questions...

- What does statewide expansion look like?
 - *Regional? Virtual? Different Tracks?*
 - *Are any statutory changes needed?*
- How do we ensure resources for statewide expansion?
 - *The needs are different for each county and region.*
 - *Are there any “universal” needs?*
 - *How does the specifying the target population fit into the solution?*
- We need public information campaigns
 - *To increase uptake of recovery court services, address stakeholder misunderstandings, support rational growth, etc.*
 - *How do we support expansion based on needs and resource availability?*
- How do we support adoption of best practices (and address practices that are not)?





Thank You

