Summary of Current State of Alcohol and Drug Treatment System

Reducing Crime Benchmark Analysis Multnomah County, Oregon



Department of Support Services

1998

Summary of Current State of Alcohol and Drug Treatment System

	Current State	What Should the County Do?
System Management	Unclear county role	Redefine county role in a
Issues		managed care environment
	Fragmented	Define county management
		policies consistent with our role
Accountability	Poor	Develop and use a consistent and integrated client management
		and evaluation system for those parts of the A&D treatment system within our control
Capacity	Timely, appropriate, coordinated treatment of sufficient duration can be effective. Many clients served by the county could benefit from expanded capacity.	Selected capacity increases could be beneficial but accountability and system management issues must be addressed to ensure that funds are well spent.

Quotes from the April 29, 1998 transmittal memorandum of the Follow-up Report on Audit of Alcohol and Drug Treatment system:

... our 1993 audit for that the County was not fulfilling its role in managing treatment efforts to ensure that clients receive the most cost-effective services. Five years later, despite some improvements, the County has *less* ability to ensure that treatment services are appropriate to our community's needs.

If the Department [of Community and Family Services] cannot accomplish these management responsibilities, we recommend that the Board of Commissioners examine the benefits and liabilities of passing state monies to contractors without adequate oversight.