

CREATING NEW CHOICES (CNC) INFORMATION SHEET

MONTEREY COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT'S ADULT MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

1. QUALIFYING DIAGNOSIS

An eligible CNC applicant must have a qualifying psychiatric diagnosis of either:

- Schizophrenia
- Schizoaffective Disorder
- Bipolar Disorder

And, the applicant's mental illness must rise to the level that qualifies for Medi-Cal and Social Security Disability benefits based on inability to work for a year or more.

2. LEGAL STATUS / CHARGES

- Applicants must have on arrest or a violation of probation (VOP) on an existing probation grant.
- Charges may be misdemeanor, felony or a violation of probation.

3. BENEFIT STATUS

- Applicants must already be receiving Social Security Disability and Medi-Cal (or Medi-Cal eligible).

4. CITIZENSHIP / RESIDENCY

- Must reside in Monterey County.
- Must be a US Citizen or possess a permanent resident alien card/green card.

5. SUBSTANCE ABUSE SECONDARY

- Eligible applicants may have a secondary diagnosis of substance abuse or dependence. Substance abuse/dependence cannot be the primary problem or presenting diagnostic issue.

6. VOLUNTARY STATUS

- Agree to participate in the program.
- Must be eligible for placement on formal probation.
- Sign a consent allowing all agencies involved to coordinate services.

7. EXCLUSIONS

- Serious and violent felonies as defined in Penal Code sections 667.5(c), 1192.7(c), and 1192.8.
- Gang offenses or sex offenses.
- Substance abuse or dependence as a primary diagnosis.
- Parolees (Includes PCRS).
- Organic brain disorders such as Traumatic Brain Injury, Dementia, ADHD.
- Developmentally disabled / San Andreas Regional Center (SARC) clients.
- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Depression, Personality Disorders as primary diagnosis.

8. REFERRAL PROCESS

- Referrals should be calendared for the following week's CNC in Department 10 at 9:00 am on the 2nd, 3rd, or 4th Wednesday.
- Supporting documentation should be provided to CNC attorney.
- Referrals come post-plea and prior to sentencing.