

**Written Proponent Testimony on HB 2601
House Corrections and Juvenile Justice
Thursday, February 1, 2024**

Chairman Owens and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 2601. This bill makes changes to the current statute including re-instating the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services to provide assessment and referral services, through a designated care coordination agency, to individuals that are in the custody of the Kansas Department of Corrections and who qualify for the program.

This is extremely important to reinstate as a public safety issue and subsequent policy. The care coordination program is a critical service for these offenders to assist them in understanding addiction and making the life changes needed to recover from addictive disease and end driving while under the influence. Since 2011 there have been 6611 persons that have received care coordination through this program and less than 9% have reoffended. This is an extremely successful outcome for persons that have the severity of substance use disorder that leads to 3 or more convictions for driving under the influence.

The care coordination is a clinical intervention which consist of the following services:

All DUI 3rd time and sequential clients work to create a *Recovery Plan* with the care coordinator and are required to participate in Recovery Services. Recovery Services can include:

- *Substance Abuse Treatment* defined as traditional substance abuse services delivered in an outpatient or inpatient setting, and/or
- *Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC)* which includes support groups in the community (e.g. 12-Step) or other natural resources that promote recovery such as work with a Recovery Coach

The determination of the type or combination of recovery services is recommended by the care coordinator after completing a clinical substance use assessment and consulting the supervising legal department. Some clients are referred to a substance use treatment program and participate in Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC) activities; others may be referred to ROSC services only because they have previously completed treatment and/or are able to access natural resources in their communities.

Discharge Data

The determination of client success in the Multiple DUI program is established by the care coordinator in consultation with the supervising legal department. Variables that impact success include if clients are meeting treatment goals, maintaining abstinence, connecting with church and family, and/or obtaining employment. Data over the years of the program show that 90% of the clients discharged successfully.

The program promotes the accountability for adherence through the multidisciplinary team process. The strongest indicators for recovery success from substance use disorders are engagement in services and length of time in recovery/treatment. This care coordination program accomplishes the changes in the offender's lifestyle that promote recovery and provide support for the participants to develop a productive life in the community.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide support for HB 2601. KDADS believes the multi-disciplinary care coordination process is essential to the successful treatment of the DUI offender and should be reinstated for the public safety of all Kansans.