



2025 Youth Healing to Wellness Court Strategic Planning

Seattle, Washington

Day 1
Tuesday, July 1, 2025

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Center

www.TribalYouth.org





Before We Get Started...

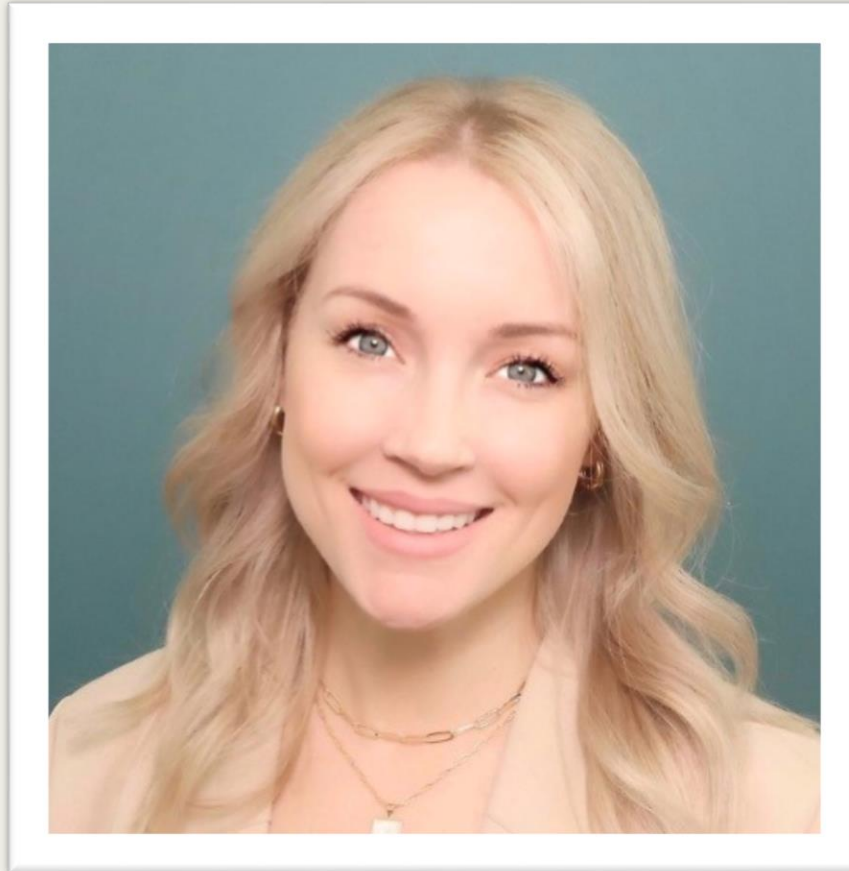
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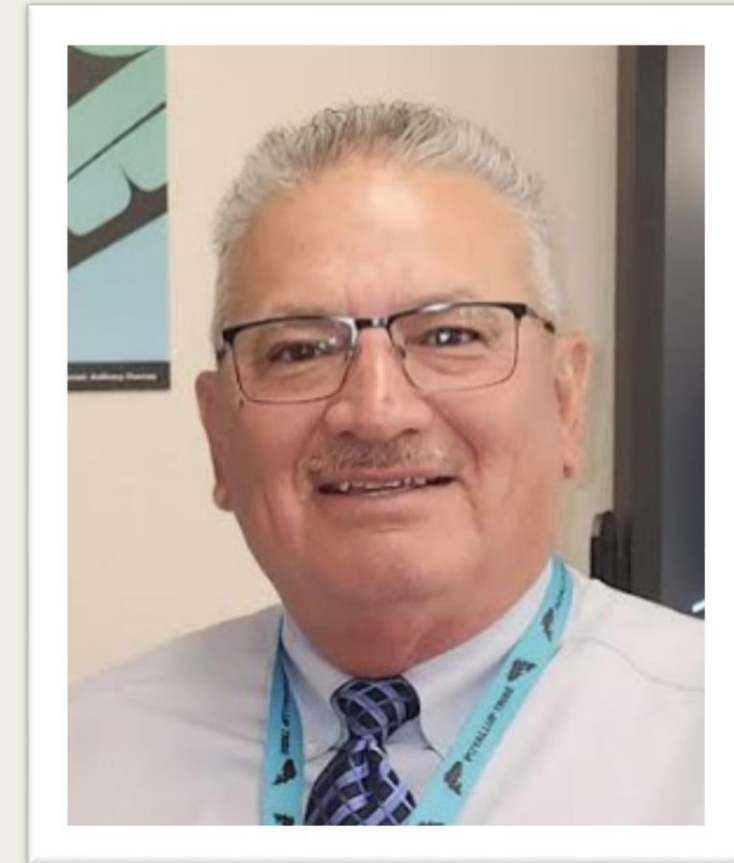


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Presenters



Youth Healing to Wellness Court
Training and Technical Assistance Specialist
Ashley Anderson
Tribal Ally



Tribal Youth Healing to Wellness Court
Consultant
Chris Cuestas
Tohono O'odham Descendant

Presenters



Youth Healing to Wellness Court
Training and Technical
Assistance Specialist
Wanacha To Ka He Hinapah Win
(First Flower that Blooms Woman)
Erin Thin Elk
Sicangu Lakota



Tribal Youth Training and Technical
Assistance Manager
Sina Ikikcu Win
(Takes the Robe Woman)
Ethleen Iron Cloud-Two Dogs
Oglala Lakota



Youth Healing to Wellness Court
Training and Technical
Assistance Specialist Lead
Hon. Pat Sekaquaptewa
Hopi



Today's Overview



Session One: The Trauma-Informed Self-Assessment Tool

Session Two: The Model Indian Juvenile Code (2016)

Session Three: Community Service Provider Asset Mapping

Session Four: The YHWC Case/Wellness Planning Process

Session Five: Considerations in Development and Implementation of YHWC Phases/Tracks

Session Six: Building an Incentives Protocol

Nomination Forms

Observed Positive behavior

Nomination Card	
Date:	
YHWC Team Member Name:	
Person's Name:	
Positive Behavior:	



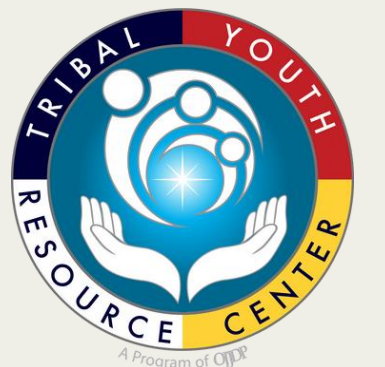
Session One: Trauma-Informed Self-Assessment Tool



For FY24 Tribal Youth Healing to
Wellness Court Grantees

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YHWC Trauma-Informed Approaches

GOAL: Ensure staff recognize trauma signs and symptoms and respond by actively resisting re-traumatization of youth and family members.

- Plan and incorporate trauma awareness, knowledge and skills into organizational policies and practices.
- Operational practice examples:
 - Understand the YHWC model/process and how it is trauma-informed.
 - Screening and assessment of youth, parents/caregivers.
 - Annual staff development training including trauma-informed training.
 - MOUs/MOAs with stakeholder/partners highlighting trauma-responsive care and practices.
 - Delivery of services in physical and social environments that reduce stress.

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The YHWC Self-Assessment Includes a Rating Scale



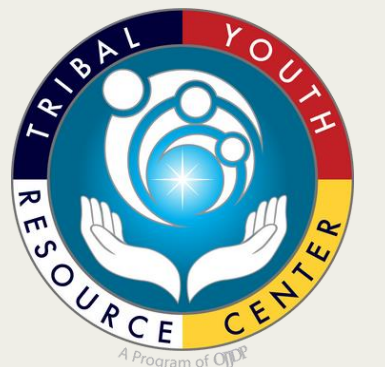
Rating Element Benchmarks: For each section, indicate the degree to which your YHWC has implemented the strategy or approach based on the following scale:

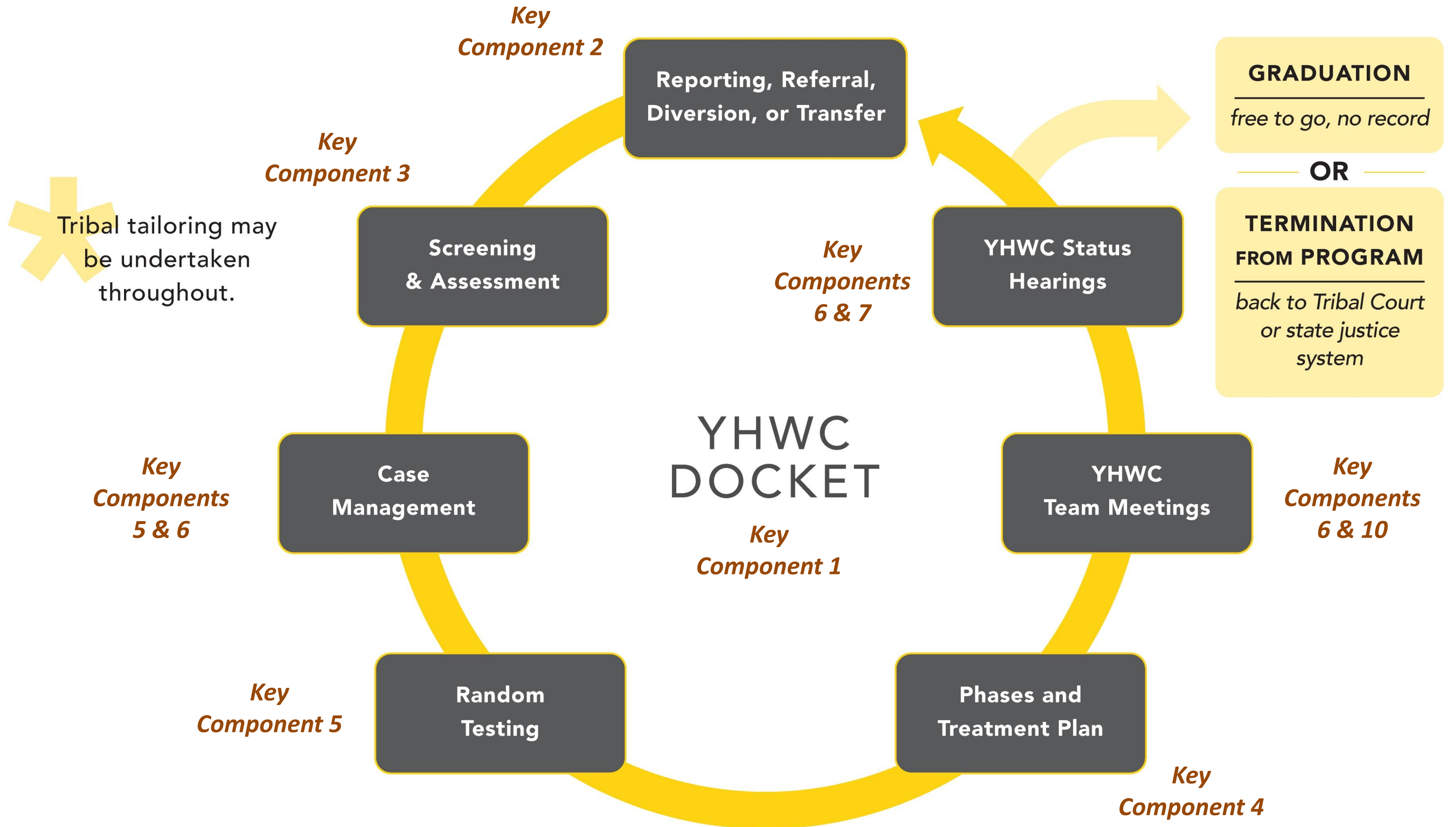
Rating Scale:

- 1 - **Not a current practice:** The practice or policy is not applicable, or the team has no current knowledge of its practice.
- 2 - **Under discussion or consideration:** Code, policy, or practice has been discussed or considered for development but is not currently part of routine operations.
- 3 - **Informal practice:** Code, policy or practice is not formalized but is used by court staff, judges, or other individuals in the YHWC.
- 4 - **Formal operating policy:** Practice is formalized in policy and followed by the team and staff.

To calculate the section rating, add the total of each section and then divide by the number of questions.

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TRIBAL TAILORING

Restorative Practices

Elders & Mentors

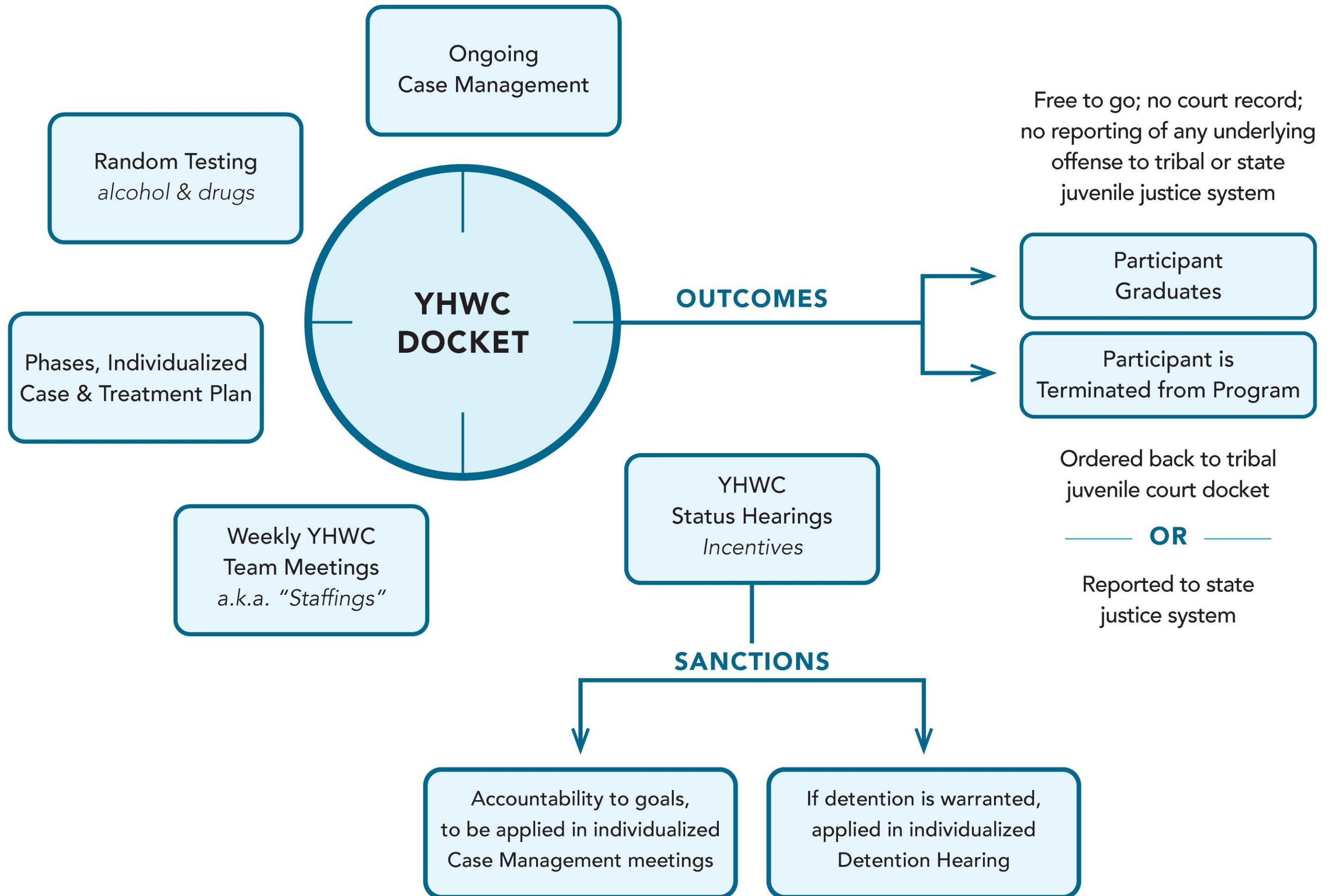
Tribal History

Tribal Education

Tribal Activities
& Skills Building

Support Groups
e.g. *Red Road, White
Bison, Wellbriety*

Tribally Adapted
EBTs
e.g. *in counseling,
groups, & workbooks*



The YHWC Self-Assessment is Organized by Key Component

Key Component #4 – Treatment and Rehabilitation:

Tribal Healing to Wellness Court provides access to holistic, structured, and phased alcohol and drug abuse treatment and rehabilitation services that incorporate culture and tradition.

Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Best Practice

Refer participants to evidence-based substance use treatment, to other services, and for prosocial connections.

1. The Juvenile Drug Treatment Court should have access to and use a continuum of evidence-based substance use treatment resources – from in-patient residential treatment to outpatient services, including but not limited to:

- Assertive continuum of care
- Behavioral therapy **[Example: Drum-Assisted Recovery Therapy for Native Americans (DARTNA)]**
- Cognitive Behavioral therapy (CBT)
- Family therapy
- Motivational enhancement therapy
- Multi-service packages

2. Providers should administer treatment modalities that have been shown to improve outcomes for youth with substance use issues **[Example: Drum-Assisted Recovery Therapy for Native Americans (DARTNA)]**

3. Service providers should deliver intervention programs with fidelity to the programmatic models

4. The Juvenile Drug Treatment Court should have access to and make appropriate use of evidence-based treatment services that address risks and needs identified as priorities in the youth's case plan, including factors such as trauma, mental health, quality of family life, educational challenges, and criminal thinking

5. Participants should be encouraged to practice and receive help in practicing pro-social skills in work, education, relationships, community, health, and creative activities **[Example: Drum-Assisted Recovery Therapy for Native Americans (DARTNA)]**

Each Key Component Includes a List of “Criteria” to be Rated

Criteria	1 – Not a current practice	2 – Under discussion or consideration	3 – Informal practice	4 – Formal operating policy	Rating (1-4)
24. When indicated, participants are assessed for substance use and mental health (including trauma) disorders.	We only screen youth for cultural needs using the Youth Personal Balance Tool				1
25. The YHWC participants have access to developmentally appropriate substance use disorder treatment at the appropriate level of care.	We only have DARTNA for older adolescents, ages 18-25)				1
32. The YHWC does not mix youth with low criminogenic risk/need with youth with moderate/high risk/need in court cohorts, classes, groups, or activities.	We mix younger adolescents (under 18) in DARTNA				1

Example: Action Plan for Self-Assessed Criteria

Criteria	Comments	Rating	Opportunities	Challenges/ Barriers	Lead/ Timeline
24. When indicated, participants are assessed for substance use and mental health (including trauma) disorders.	We only screen youth for cultural needs using the Youth Personal Balance Tool	1 – Not a current practice	Service providers already screening and assessing for substance use and mental health disorders	Lack of communication	Sansa Stark, YHWC Case Manager, will make a list of these service providers and their contacts, by X date
25. The YHWC participants have access to developmentally appropriate substance use disorder treatment at the appropriate level of care.	We only have DARTNA for older adolescents, ages 18-25)	1 – Not a current practice	CTAS P8 Award	No service providers serving adolescents in region	YHWC Team, led by Sandor Clegane, YHWC Coordinator, will research what other YHWCs are doing to meet this service gap, by X date
32. The YHWC does not mix youth with low criminogenic risk/need with youth with moderate/high risk/need in court cohorts, classes, groups, or activities.	We mix younger adolescents in DARTNA	1 – Not a current practice	Consider establishing a second DARTNA cohort for younger/lower risk youth w/high need	Capacity (lack of paid staff)	Sandor Clegane, YHWC Coordinator, will recruit Tyrion Lannister, DARTNA Coordinator, to join the YHWC team, by X date

Exercise #1:

Assessing Our YHWC

1. Meet with the assigned YHWC TA for this exercise to rate your current YHWC's operations using the Self-Assessment Tool (the TA will work with you using pre-assigned criteria).
2. Review your current FY 24 Narrative Goals & Objectives & current Monthly TA Plan goals.
3. Does your self-assessment change your current goals and objectives?
4. If yes, fill out the action plan (Exercise #1 Blank Action Plan).



Exercise #1: (cont.)

Assessing Our YHWC

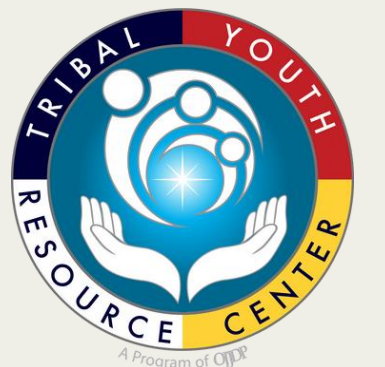
Blank Action Plan

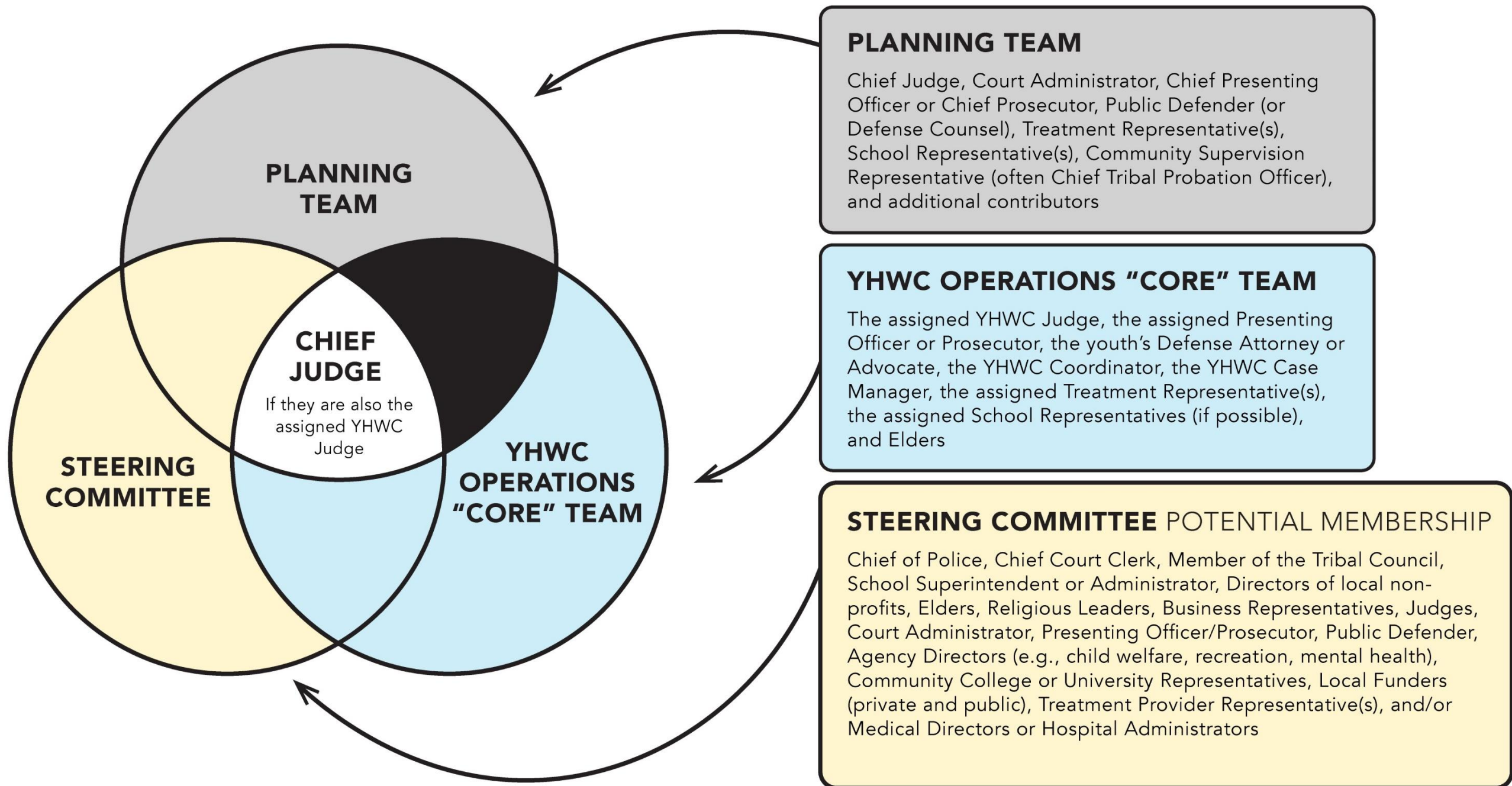
Criteria	Comments	Rating	Opportunities	Challenges/ Barriers	Lead/ Timeline

Session One: Trauma-Informed Self-Assessment Tool



Handouts





Key Component 1

Chris Cuestas

FY 24 Lac Courte Oreilles Band

of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin (cont.)

Key Component #1 – Individual and Community Healing Focus:

Tribal Healing to Wellness Court brings together alcohol and drug treatment, community healing resources, and the tribal justice process by using a team approach to achieve the physical and spiritual healing of the individual participant, and to promote Native nation building and the well-being of the community.

Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Best Practice

Focus the Juvenile Drug Treatment Court philosophy and practice on effectively addressing substance use and criminogenic needs to decrease future offending and substance use and to increase positive outcomes.

- 1. Team should be composed of stakeholders committed to philosophy and practice
- 2. The roles of each team member should be clearly set out
- 3. Include participants from local school systems
- 4. Ensure team members have access to training and technical assistance
- 5. Fully engage parents, guardians, and caretakers (P/G/C)

Criteria		1 – Not a current practice	2 – Under discussion or consideration	3 - Informal practice	4 – Formal operating policy	Rating
1.	The YHWC has established a planning team (may also be the core team).					
2.	The YHWC has established a core team (may also be the planning team).					
3.	The YHWC has established a steering committee.					



Key Component 1

Chris Cuestas

FY 24 Lac Courte Oreilles Band

of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin (cont.)

Criteria		1 – Not a current practice	2 – Under discussion or consideration	3 – Informal practice	4 – Formal operating policy	Rating
4.	The YHWC planning team has completed an inventory of existing treatment and trauma-informed services (including for substance use, mental health, and traumatic stress disorders) and complimentary services (including educational, prosocial, and cultural programs and activities, and elders, culture-bearers, and/or traditional healers) in the community and has identified accessible services and service gaps.					
5.	The YHWC planning team includes representation from the Tribal Court, Prosecutor Office, Probation Department, treatment, and the schools, including: a judge, probation officer/case manager, prosecutor/presenting officer, public defender/defense attorney, substance use disorder and mental health disorder treatment provider, and school official – who have co-developed the YHWC Strategic Plan, including the mission, goals, and eligibility criteria for the YHWC.					



Key Component 1

Chris Cuestas

FY 24 Lac Courte Oreilles Band

of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin (cont.)

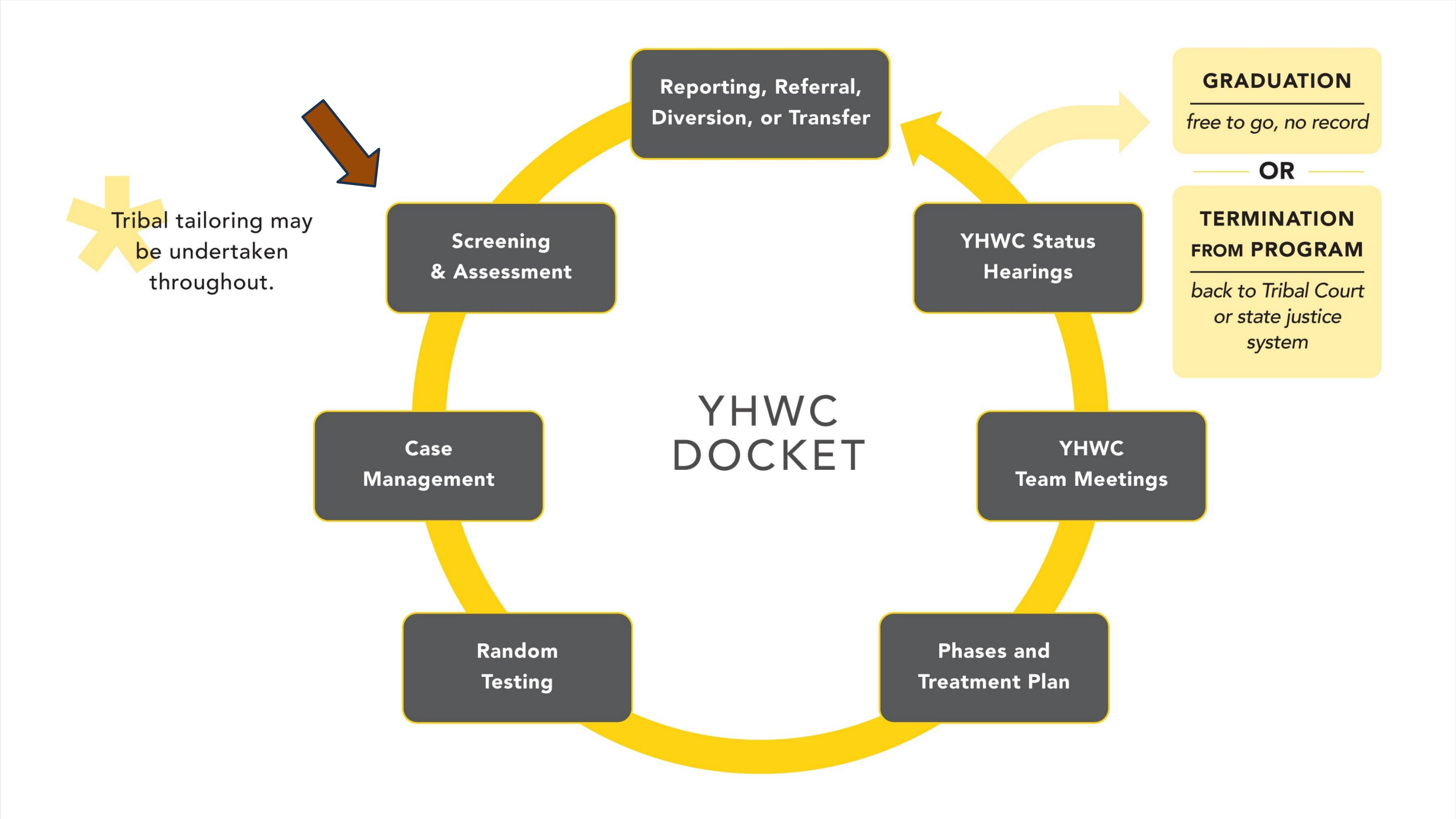
Criteria		1 – Not a current practice	2 – Under discussion or consideration	3 – Informal practice	4 – Formal operating policy	Rating
6.	The YHWC planning team includes persons with lived experience in an active advisory role (youth, parents, grandparents, etc.).					
7.	The YHWC team and steering committee revisits its mission, goals, eligibility criteria and policies and procedures on an annual basis, if not more frequently.					
8.	The YHWC has established formal partnerships with trauma-informed partners including local schools, youth services, treatment services (with providers who have specific training in treating trauma), and local colleges/universities, and cultural supports. Cross-agency collaborations identify a provider trained in trauma-focused interventions.					
9.	The YHWC planning and core teams have engaged parents, guardians and caregivers throughout the YHWC process, and have solicited feedback and have addressed the specific barriers to their full engagement. The engagement process is trauma informed.					



Key Component 3

Ashley Anderson

FY24 Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy Reservation



Key Component 3

Ashley Anderson

FY24 Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy Reservation

Key Component #3 – Screening and Eligibility:
Eligible court-involved substance-abusing parents, guardians, juveniles, and adults are identified early through legal and clinical screening for eligibility and are promptly placed into the Tribal Healing to Wellness Court.

- Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Best Practice:**
- Develop and adhere to eligibility criteria and conduct initial screening**
1. What the eligibility criteria should include:
 - Youth with substance use [disorder]
 - Youth who are 14 years or older
 - Youth who are moderate to high-risk of re-offending
 2. Assess participants for the risk of re-offending
 3. Screen participants for substance use [disorder]
 4. Divert participants who do not have substance use [disorder] and who have a low-risk of re-offending from Juvenile Drug Treatment Court process

Criteria		1 – Not a current practice	2 – Under discussion or consideration	3 - Informal practice	4 – Formal operating policy	Rating
14.	The YHWC has written <u>legal screening criteria</u> which are included in the policies and procedures (e.g., Tribal member or eligible for membership; pre or post adjudication in Tribal Court; reported, referred, transferred or diverted from State/county; eligible offense/crime; and not a “violent offender;” and appears to be otherwise eligible under the YHWC eligibility criteria).					



Key Component 3

Ashley Anderson

FY24 Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy Reservation (cont.)

15.	The YHWC has written <u>clinical screening criteria</u> which are included in the policies and procedures (e.g. youth have been initially screened to have a substance use disorder, mental health disorder, and trauma exposure and symptoms).					
16.	The YHWC has a written process for undertaking a <u>criminogenic assessment</u> which is included in the policies and procedures (e.g., where youth are assessed for their risk of reoffending, and their service, monitoring, and supervision needs, given the assessed risk/need level).					
17.	The YHWC has a written process for undertaking an assessment of trauma exposure and symptoms.					



Key Component 3

Ashley Anderson

FY24 Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy Reservation (cont.)

Criteria		1 – Not a current practice	2 – Under discussion or consideration	3 – Informal practice	4 – Formal operating policy	Rating
18.	<p>The YHWC team has reviewed their local law enforcement, Tribal Court, and treatment data on Tribal youth, and have assessed this information to discuss and determine what the <u>selected population</u> of the YHWC should be.</p> <p>[If selecting youth with low criminogenic* risk/need, then design a Tribal Youth Program. If selecting youth with moderate to high criminogenic* risk/need, then design a YHWC.]</p> <p>*“criminogenic” refers to the risk of reoffending, particularly with respect to more serious offenses and crimes (not status offenses).</p>					



Key Component 3

Ashley Anderson

FY24 Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy Reservation (cont.)

Criteria		1 – Not a current practice	2 – Under discussion or consideration	3 – Informal practice	4 – Formal operating policy	Rating
19.	The YHWC team has written <u>eligibility criteria, co-developed by the team members, which are used to formally admit</u> a youth to the YHWC (including criteria that eligible youth are 14 years old or older, have a substance use disorder, and are at a moderate to high risk of reoffending), and which are included in the policies and procedures.					
21.	The YHWC Team ensures that the YHWC Participant Handbook, which includes the eligibility criteria, is shared with participating youth and their families.					

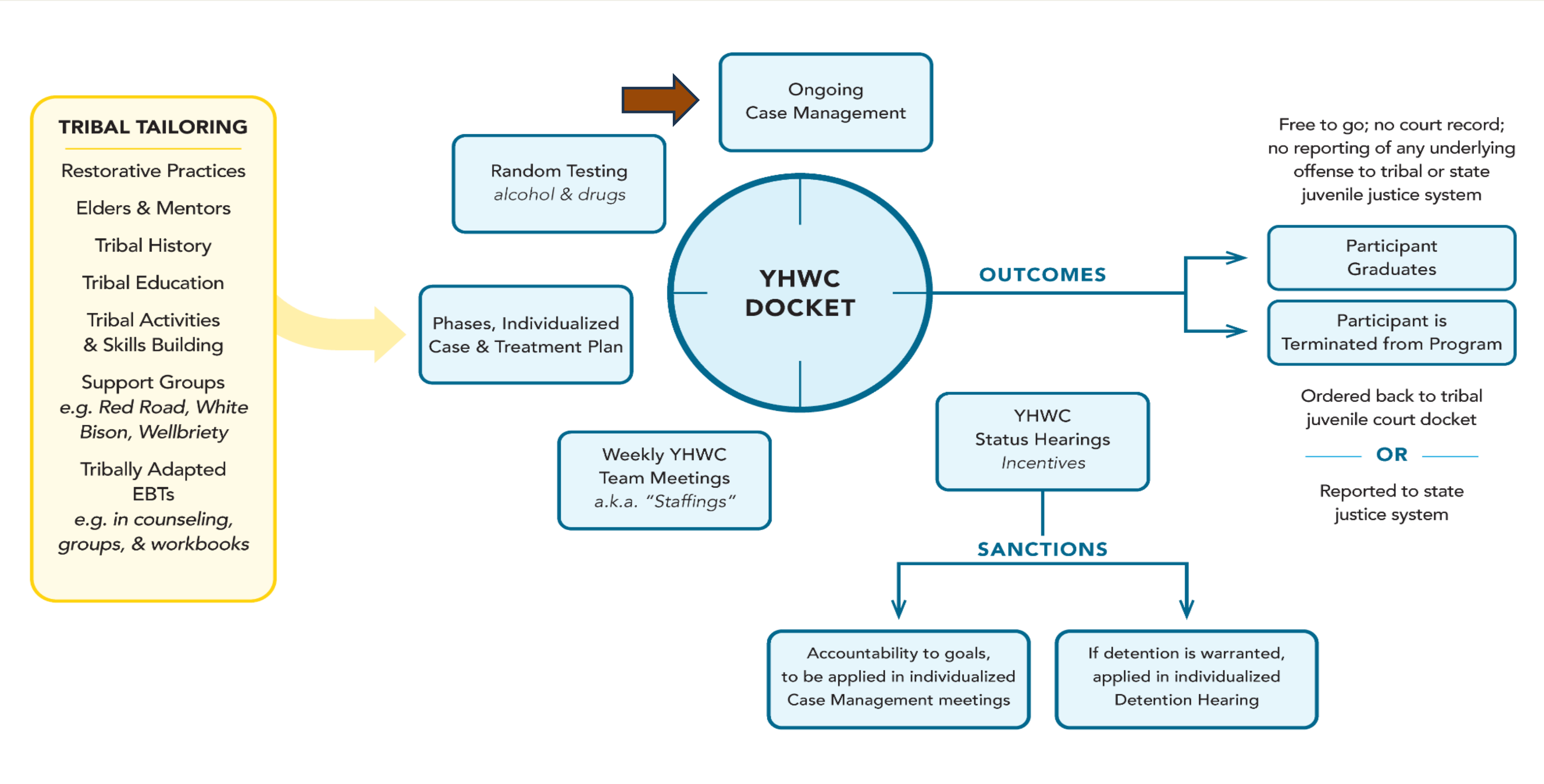


Key Component 5

Erin Thin Elk

FY24 Bishop Indian Tribal Council AND

FY24 Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes



Key Component #5 – Intensive Supervision:

Tribal Healing to Wellness Court participants are monitored through intensive supervision that includes frequent and random testing for alcohol and drug use, while participants and their families benefit from effective team-based case management.

Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Best Practice

Conduct comprehensive needs assessments that inform individualized case management.

1. Needs assessments should include information for each participant on:
 - Use of alcohol or other drugs
 - Criminogenic needs
 - Mental health needs
 - History of abuse or other traumatic experiences
 - Wellbeing needs and strengths
 - Parental alcohol/ drug use, parental mental health needs, and parenting skills
2. Case management and treatments plans should be individualized and Tribally-tailored and, based on an assessment of the youth's and family's needs



Key Component 5

Erin Thin Elk

FY24 Bishop Indian Tribal Council AND

FY24 Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes (cont.)

Criteria		1 – Not a current practice	2 – Under discussion or consideration	3 - Informal practice	4 – Formal operating policy	Rating
Case Management						
33.	The YHWC team’s ongoing case management of youth focuses less on the detection of violations of program requirements than on addressing their needs in a holistic manner, including a strong focus on behavioral health treatment, including a provider trained in treating trauma, family interventions, and culture.					
34.	The YHWC’s case management process includes the use of a “behavior contract” as an integral part of each youth’s case plan to specify milestones, responsibilities, and timeframes. The contract clarifies the short-term steps a youth and family will take to reach goals, identifies the resources available to support their efforts, and outlines the consequences for achievement and noncompliance.					



Key Component 5

Erin Thin Elk

FY24 Bishop Indian Tribal Council AND

FY24 Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes (cont.)

Criteria		1 – Not a current practice	2 – Under discussion or consideration	3 – Informal practice	4 – Formal operating policy	Rating
Case Management (cont.)						
35.	<p>YHWC participant case management plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Are individualized (not just an application of a standard list of services and activities);•Include behavior <u>contracts</u>;•Consider the general well-being needs and strengths of the individual youth and their <u>family</u>;•Provide an opportunity for participant to give input on their trauma history and input into the creation of the <u>plan</u>;•Include an assessment and explanation of identified protective <u>factors</u>;•Are team-based (the YHWC team has coordinated input, is regularly updated on progress, and coordinates responses)•Are informed by the youth’s assessed substance use, mental health, criminogenic, trauma, and cultural <u>needs</u>;•Are informed by the parent’s, guardian’s, or custodian’s assessed substance use, mental health, trauma history, cultural, and parenting <u>needs</u>;•Integrate substance use and mental health treatment plans, including treatment for trauma; and•Integrate cultural plans.					



Key Component 5

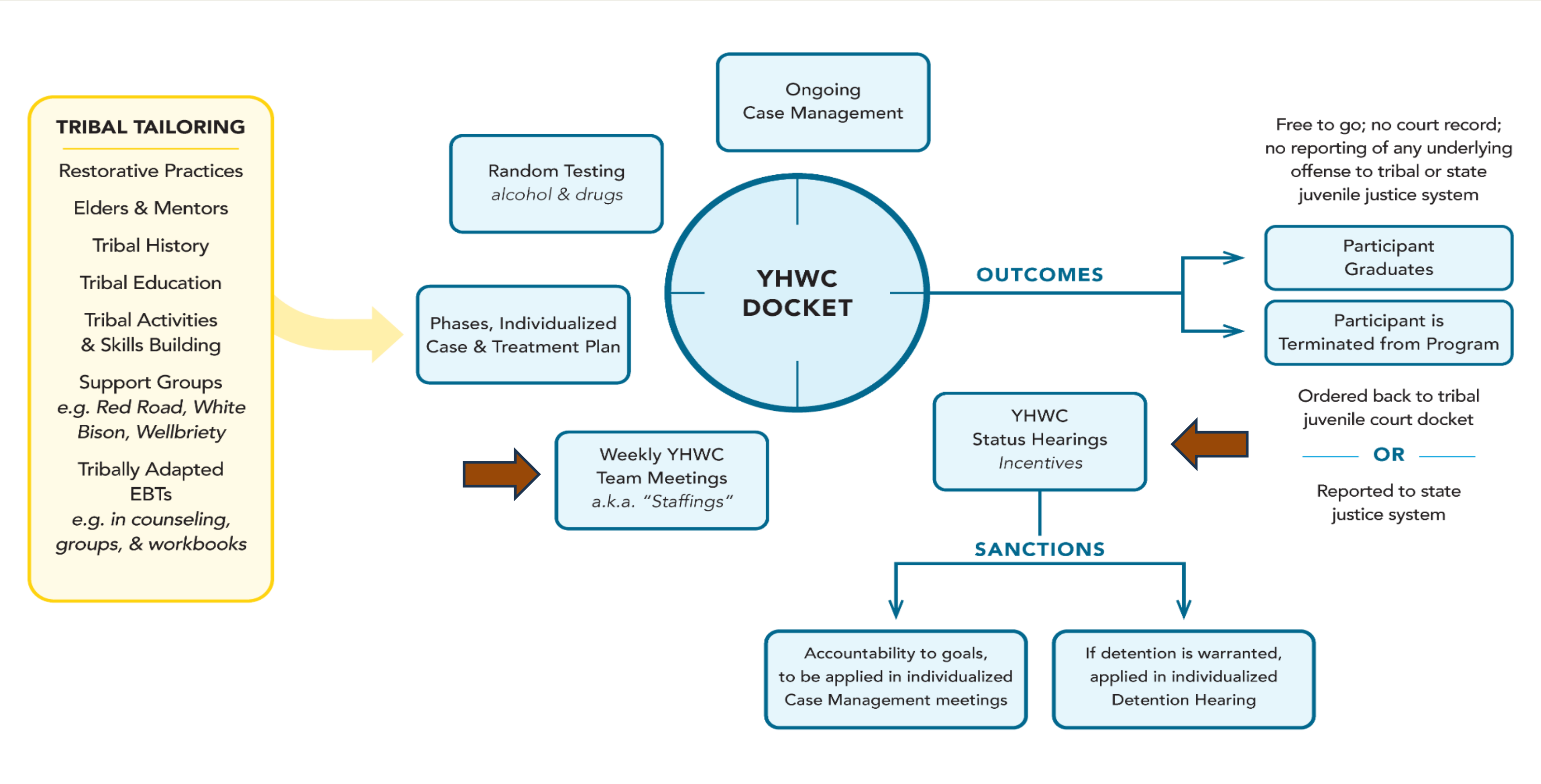
Erin Thin Elk

FY24 Bishop Indian Tribal Council AND

FY24 Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes (cont.)

Criteria		1 – Not a current practice	2 – Under discussion or consideration	3 – Informal practice	4 – Formal operating policy	Rating
Case Management (cont.)						
36.	<p>YHWC Case Manager (or person in the position designated to fill this role)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Engages participant in personal, treatment, and cultural goal setting as part of their case management plan <u>development</u>;•Regularly reviews participant behavior and its impact on the successful achievement of those goals; and•Regularly updates the YHWC team on progress toward these goals.					
37.	<p>The written policies and procedures require and allot time and space in case planning for youth and families to be heard with respect to the needs and resources that they themselves identify.</p>					





Key Component 7
Pat Sekaquaptewa

FY24 Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma AND
FY24 Seminole Nation of Oklahoma (cont.)

Key Component #7 – Judicial Interaction: Ongoing involvement of a Tribal Healing to Wellness Court judge with the Tribal Wellness Court team and staffing, and ongoing Tribal Wellness Court judge interaction with each participant are essential.						
Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Best Practice Provide a Juvenile Drug Treatment Court process that engages the full team and follows procedures fairly. <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The team should work collaboratively with parents, guardians, and caretakers to encourage active participation in:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Status and other court hearings• Supervision and discipline of their children in their home and community• Treatment and Tribal programs2. The Judge should interact with participants in a non-judgmental and procedurally fair manner3. The Judge should be consistent when applying Juvenile Drug Treatment Court requirements (including incentives and sanctions)4. The team should meet weekly to review progress for participants and consider incentives and sanctions based on reports of each participant progress across all aspects of the case management and treatment plans.						
Criteria		1- Not a current practice	2 – Under discussion or consideration	3 – Informal practice	4 – Formal operating policy	Rating
67.	The YHWC team, including the YHWC Judge, meets weekly to review the progress of participants and to consider incentives and sanctions based on reports of each participant’s progress across all aspects of their case management and treatment plans. The YHWC team ensures that it regularly incorporates the input of the youth participants, and their families relayed by the YHWC Case Manager.					



Key Component 7
Pat Sekaquaptewa

FY24 Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma AND
FY24 Seminole Nation of Oklahoma (cont.)

Criteria		1- Not a current practice	2 – Under discussion or consideration	3 – Informal practice	4 – Formal operating policy	Rating
68.	<p>The YHWC uses strengths-based processes and a court room protocol (sometimes referred to as a 100% Club, Rocket Docket, or Star of the Week protocol) which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•<i>How court cases are reviewed</i> – the court status hearing begins with youth and families who have made progress since the last court session; the protocol lists three or four objective requirements that define progress; the protocol requires the posting of the requirement; always ask the youth why they get to go first (they should be able to articulate this to the judge); and the protocol requires the handing out of a tangible or intangible incentive that is given out for meeting the requirements listed in the protocol.•<i>Setting the stage for strengths-seeking conversations</i> – there are increased opportunities for the judge to engage with the youth in positive, strengths-based conversations by focusing on achievable goals identified during case planning (talks about “strengths, interests, hopes and visions”); and•<i>Alternatives for delivering sanctions in court</i> – Instead of having the judge deliver the sanctions, the case manager responds with consequences during individualized case management meetings, as well as holding separate detention hearings (if detention is used and warranted).					



Key Component 7
Pat Sekaquaptewa

FY24 Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma AND
FY24 Seminole Nation of Oklahoma (cont.)

Criteria		1- Not a current practice	2 – Under discussion or consideration	3 – Informal practice	4 – Formal operating policy	Rating
69.	The YHWC works collaboratively with parents, guardians, and caregivers throughout the court process to encourage active participation in (a) regular court hearings (status hearings), (b) supervision and positive discipline of their children in the home and community, and (c) in treatment, school, and cultural programs.					
70.	The YHWC Judge is familiar with the cultural practices and is open to working with the cultural practices of the community.					
71.	The YHWC Judge participates in YHWC and community activities (outside of the court room) when invited and appropriate.					

