

COURT-CLERGY CONFERENCE 2022

Topic: Substance Abuse, Mental Health and Collaborative Courts

**Speaker(s): Honorable Desirée A. Bruce-Lyle,
Assistant Supervising Judge, Collaborative Courts
Amy Bitner, Deputy Probation Officer
Audrey Bordeaux, Deputy Public Defender
Aidee Brunner, Deputy District Attorney**

What are three main points that the clergy should know about this subject?

- Criminal Collaborative Courts are not punitive; they incorporate principles of behavior modification using positive and negative reinforcement, incentives and sanctions, and therapeutic adjustments.
- Teams meet and discuss risks and needs, and make recommendations to the treatment plan for successful reintegration into the community.
- Participants in the collaborative courts are provided with wraparound services such as substance use, mental health, employment, housing, family support and financial literacy.

What are three ways in which clergy can help their congregants?

- Know how to ask the right questions, and make informed referrals.
- Be knowledgeable about community programs and what they do.
- Be supportive of their journey and assist the family in their needs as well.

Three websites where clergy can go to learn more:

- www.sandiegocounty.gov
- www.sdcourt.ca.gov
- www.sdca.org

Contact names, phone numbers and email addresses if clergy have questions:

- You can find contact persons on the above mentioned websites.

