



JACKSON COUNTY ADULT TREATMENT COURT



Fact Sheet

Answers to some of the most frequently asked questions about Treatment Court

Why do we need a Treatment Court?

The connection between substance use disorders (SUD) and crime has been well documented at the local, state, and federal level. The cycle of substance use, criminal prosecution, and incarceration has not been shown to deter recidivism in individuals with a SUD. Recent studies indicate that more than 70% of people sent to prison, will return to prison within three years of their release. Treatment Court attempts to change this cycle using a collaborative justice model, where the criminal justice system links with the treatment system to challenge offenders with a SUD to become stable and law-abiding citizens.

What entities are involved in the Adult Treatment Court?

The Treatment Court Team consists of representatives from the following entities; Circuit court Judge and support staff, District Attorney, Public Defender, Law Enforcement, Treatment Providers and Probation and Parole.

What are the eligibility criteria?

- 18 yrs. of age and a resident of Jackson County
- Meet DSM-V criteria for Alcohol/Drug dependence
- Either post-adjudication, pre-plea or in ATR status
- Must be on probation
- Voluntarily agree to abide by program rules
- No existing in-state or extraditable warrants or pending charges not resolved at the time participation begins
- Not a predatory drug dealer

Are violent/serious offenders eligible?

Jackson County's Treatment Courts exclude offenders who have been convicted of a deliberate homicide or murder, kidnapping, robbery, felony assault, other violent felonies, sex offenses or who are deemed predatory drug dealers. Protecting public safety is the most important goal.

Are Treatment Courts another "soft on crime" program?

Treatment Courts across the county rely on close law enforcement supervision and immediate sanctions

More Information?

If you would like additional information about the Jackson County Adult Treatment Court program, contact the coordinator at 715-284-0287

when warranted. Multi-faceted supervision including supervision by law enforcement, random drug testing and regular judicial contact, create a comprehensive case management approach. Treatment Court places more stringent conditions on offenders than traditional approaches.

How often does Treatment Court convene?

The Treatment Court Team meets bi-weekly to staff participant cases to include a progress report which is prepared by the coordinator, treatment provider and updates are also provided by law enforcement. Participants appear before the judge bi-weekly in the early phases of the program or may move to monthly appearances in later phases of the program.

What does the Treatment court program entail?

The Treatment Court Team and the Treatment provider work together to design a substance intervention program that meets the needs of the participant, provides an early opportunity for treatment, and a cost-effective approach to rehabilitation. The program has been established cooperatively by the Circuit Court, Public Defender's Office, District Attorney's Office, Contracted Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse services, and law enforcement agencies. Treatment services are designed to meet the participant's needs; services include group and individual therapy, coordinated case management, drug testing, placement in residential treatment, sober living and mental health programs as deemed appropriate by the Treatment Court Team and availability of resources.

In addition, referrals to ancillary services are provided. These may include; job and employment assistance, education, such as obtaining a G.E.D., and healthcare referrals.

Upon completion of the program, the participant, along with their family and friends, are invited to a graduation ceremony to celebrate their accomplishments. Post-program activities include aftercare plans, attending court sessions and possible mentoring opportunity.