

## More About Treatment Courts

Tired of the same faces and the same cases repeatedly appearing before the court, a visionary group of justice professionals decided that the system as it existed was broken and there had to be a better way. They found a solution by combining drug treatment with the structure and authority of the judge. Working as a team, they were able to effect lasting change in the lifestyle and behavior of Treatment Court participants. The first Drug Court was created in Miami-Dade County, Florida in 1989. Today, the Treatment Court movement continues to spread throughout the country. Our drug court is one of nearly 3,200 nationwide annually serving 150,000 people. Treatment Courts are now the most successful justice program for reducing addiction, crime, and recidivism while saving taxpayer dollars. With the combination of accountability and treatment participants received in treatment court, they are now going back to school, reuniting with their families, finding employment, and paying taxes. This success has spawned a new generation of treatment court programs that are successfully confronting emerging issues for our nation. For example, Veteran's Treatment Courts are adapting to the needs of our heroes from the armed services, who sometimes have difficulty adjusting to life at home or coping with combat-related stress. Veteran's Treatment courts provide the treatment and structure they need to resume productive lives.

## 5 Facts About Treatment Court Participants

1. The unemployment rate for participants who graduated from a treatment court program dropped from about 50 percent at entry to less than 15 percent at graduation.
2. Twenty percent of graduates raised their highest educational attainment during their time in the treatment court program.
3. Almost 3/4 of graduates who were not compliant with their obligation to pay child support at the beginning of treatment court participation were compliant upon completion.
4. Nationwide, 75% of drug court graduates remain arrest-free at least two years after leaving the program.
5. Participants spent less time incarcerated, thereby reducing costs to taxpayers.

### REFERRALS/HOW TO GET STARTED:

#### CONTACT

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# Treatment Courts Work

## What are Treatment Courts?

Treatment Courts represent a shift in the way courts are handling certain offenders. In this approach, the court works closely with prosecutors, defense attorneys, probation officers, social workers, and community justice system partners to develop a strategy that will pressure an offender into completing a treatment program and stop repeating the behaviors that brought them to court.



## PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Each program is comprised of 4 or 5 phases. Each participant will need to make progress with requirements set by the program. Each participant is expected to work on these requirements which leads to graduation of the program. Some requirements include:

- Participate in inpatient/outpatient treatment
- Submit to random urinalysis
- Regular meetings with probation
- Weekly court hearings
- Follow curfew requirements
- Gain supportive housing
- Engage in pro-social activities
- Following all recommendations of programming including
  - DBT
  - Cognitive skills class
  - MRT
  - Mental health sessions



MINNESOTA  
JUDICIAL  
BRANCH

## DRUG COURT

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE

Basic Criteria for Drug Court:

- Felony level offenders in Anoka County - Some Exclusions
- Offenders with 12-18 months of time remaining on sentence
- Currently in violation of probation or pending a revocation (not yet resolved)
- Actively using chemicals with the inability to abstain
- Previous CD treatment attempts with continued relapses
- High risk/need
- Cognitive ability to follow Drug Court requirements and case plan
- Reliable transportation to make it to court appearances and random drug testing

### ACDC GRANT INFORMATION

Anoka County Drug Court (ACDC) was implemented in November of 2016. ACDC received a \$350,000 Bureau of Justice Treatment Court implantation grant. This grant will cover personnel, team member expenses for the National Drug Court Training, supplies, consultants/contracts, etc. It is expected that the grant life will expire in September of 2019. Continued program funding will be requested through the federal, state, and local level. Community support and donations are welcome.

### DRUG COURT DONATIONS CONTACT:

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## VETERANS TREATMENT COURT

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE

Basic Criteria for Veterans Court:

- Misdemeanors through Felony Cases- Some Exclusions
- Classified as a Veteran per statute
- Enrolled/Eligible for Benefits
- Mental Health or Chemical Dependency needs
- Low and High Risk/Needs Offenders
- Reliable transportation to make it to court appearances and random drug testing
- Willing to participate
- Post-Plea Entry
- Sentenced and placed on probation

### VTC GRANT INFORMATION

Anoka County Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) was implemented in November of 2012. VTC received a \$300,000 Bureau of Justice Treatment Court enhancement grant. This grant will cover personnel, team member expenses for the National Drug Court Training, consultants/contracts, etc. It is expected that the grant life will expire in September of 2019. Continued program funding will be requested through the federal, state, and local level. Community support and donations are welcome.

### VETERANS TREATMENT COURT

#### DONATIONS CONTACT:

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