

When one person rises out of substance use and crime, We all rise

Clark County Superior Court manages four well-respected Therapeutic Specialty Court programs: Adult Drug Court, Residential DOSA (Drug Offender Sentencing Alternative) Drug Court, Family Treatment Court and Juvenile Recovery Court. “Therapeutic Specialty Courts” (TSC’s) are formal court programs used to divert non-violent high risk and high needs court-involved individuals from the traditional trial route and allow the participant an opportunity to obtain treatment and other recovery support services to address the underlying disorders (substance use, mental health/co-occurring disorders, trauma , domestic violence) that may have contributed to the court involvement. The therapeutic specialty court model involves a multidisciplinary team approach that contributes to the intensive supervision of participants with services, structure and strict accountability. Teams include a judge, prosecutor/assistant attorney general, indigent defense attorney, program coordinator, probation officer/law enforcement, social workers, treatment professionals, peer mentors and other court personnel. Individuals who wish to participate in a therapeutic court must meet certain eligibility criteria, are identified early in the case processing and enter into a legal contract to meet stringent program requirements, generally over the course of at least one year.

Nationally, Drug Courts are recognized as the most successful criminal justice intervention in our nation’s history and rigorous evaluations have proven to save up to \$27 for every \$1 invested and up to \$13,000 for every individual they serve. These specialty court programs offer community solutions and a huge cost-savings to traditional case processing. Each Therapeutic Specialty Court operates from standard guidelines or key principles that assist with program fidelity as it relates to evidenced-based best practices. Starting in 1989 in Miami—Dade County, Florida with the first Drug Court program, the concept has now expanded to include over 3,000 programs nationwide, 83 in Washington State and a total of seven programs in Clark County between District and Superior Courts.

Therapeutic Specialty Court programs are supported by a variety of different federal, state and local funding streams. Expansion in each of the programs have in large part been made possible by the specialized one-tenth of one percent local sales tax, the Affordable Care Act—specifically the Medicaid expansion and through multiple enhancement grants.

This report summarizes the **2015-2016** activity of the Superior Court Therapeutic Specialty Court programs. Through collaboration, specialty courts facilitate community wide partnerships with multiple public agencies and non-profit based organizations to significantly reduce substance abuse and crime, increase public safety and work towards safe and timely family reunifications. There are countless agencies and personnel that demonstrate their unwavering dedication and commitment to the Therapeutic Specialty Court programs and the participants we serve, and I would like to say a heartfelt THANK YOU to all of you for providing recovery and compassion in the justice system!.

Shauna McCloskey

Therapeutic Specialty Courts Coordinator

SUPERIOR COURT

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10 Key Components of Drug Court

- #1** Drug courts integrate alcohol and other drug treatment services with justice systems and case processing.
- #2** Using a non-adversarial approach, prosecution and defense counsel promote public safety while protecting participants' due process rights.
- #3** Eligible participants are identified early and promptly placed in the drug court program.
- #4** Drug courts provide access to a continuum of alcohol, drug, and other related treatment and rehabilitation services.
- #5** Abstinence is monitored by frequent alcohol and other drug testing.
- #6** A coordinated strategy governs drug court responses to participants' compliance.
- #7** Ongoing judicial interaction with each drug court participant is essential.
- #8** Monitoring and evaluation measure the achievement of program goals and gauge effectiveness.
- #9** Continuing interdisciplinary education promotes effective drug court planning, implementation, and operations.
- #10** Forging partnerships among drug courts, public agencies, and community-based organizations generates local support and enhances drug court program effectiveness.

As defined by BJA & the Nat'l Asscn of Drug Court Professionals. For more information, please visit www.allrise.org

DRUG COURT 2015



Drug Court

Honorable Gregory Gonzales presided May 2014 - 2016

Judge Gregory Gonzales took the Drug Court bench in the spring of 2014 and continued to provide opportunities for participants to rehabilitate their lives by improving community safety. Judge Gonzales placed a strong emphasis on our local peer mentoring program, REACH Too, in which past program graduates dedicate time to give back to the program and assist the participants through their recovery and Drug Court journey. Judge Gonzales also encouraged the participants every court hearing by starting the docket with an inspirational quote.

The Clark County Adult Drug Court was established in May 1999 by Judge James E. Rulli and continues to be a well-established and highly esteemed Drug Court Program statewide. The mission of Clark County Drug Court is to provide effective substance abuse and/or co-occurring treatment services to eligible non-violent felony offenders whom are determined to be at high risk to reoffend if underlying disorders are not treated, thereby reducing crime and improving the quality of life and safety in our community. Goals for Drug Court include reducing criminal recidivism by providing assessment, education and treatment to substance abusing criminal offenders; monitor treatment compliance through frequent court contact and supervision; require strict accountability from program participants and impose immediate sanctions for unacceptable behavior to promote long-term recovery and stability; reallocate resources to provide an effective alternative to traditional prosecution and incarceration of non-violent/non-sex felony level offenders; and reduce costs within the County’s criminal justice system. An incentive to participate is offenders have their current sentence suspended, some charges even dismissed if the program is successfully completed.

Accept what is, Let go of what was and have Faith in what will be!

Good, Better, Best - Never let it Rest, until Your Good is Better and Your Better is Best!

ENDING CASELOAD AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2015	110
TOTAL REFERRALS	150
OPTED IN	86
GRADUATED	44
OPTED OUT	17
TERMINATED	20
TOTAL # OF GRADUATES SINCE INCEPTION (1999)	524

DRUG COURT 2015 continued

Drug Court, in conjunction with District Court's Substance Abuse Court, has enhanced its services through the help of a joint Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) federal grant amounting to a total of \$1.275 million over the course of 3 years. Justice-involved individuals frequently have substance use disorders, mental health disorders, traumatic histories and other risk factors. The program was able to offer life-changing medication-assisted treatment to address the opioid overdose crisis as well as a more intensive mental health screening and trauma therapy. With the assistance of the federal grant, the Clark County Sheriff's Office was also able to conduct more field supervision to ensure compliance of program requirements.

Focus group participant quotes: Speaking about the best part of drug court.

- *"It's nice to be viewed by people of authority as not just a criminal or a case. Someone who needs help. Instead of just being sent to jail."*
- *"Structure. Just helping you get organized. They are trying to understand where we are coming from. It's not just stay clean or you go to jail."*
- *"I like how they generally just care."*

Focus group participant quotes: Speaking about what they like most about the program.

- *"The positive praise helps a lot. The judge said he was proud of me and I liked that. It made me feel good to do well."*
- *"It's always good to hear someone say they're proud of you and doing good. Especially coming from a person of authority like a judge."*

NPC

Research, a nationally recognized firm in Drug Court research and evaluation, is contracted with Clark County to study the program as it measures up to the fidelity of the model, aligns with best practices in the field as well as how effective our program is operating. The evaluation team interviewed active

"I've been to prison. I have an extensive criminal history. This is the first time I ever had the opportunity for treatment to acknowledge my drug problem instead of just being incarcerated. Each time before, I just did my time so I could get back out and get high as soon as possible. It was 20 years of continuous use without any treatment. Now I have several months of sobriety, which I've never had in my life. Now I see how I have the potential to live sober. I wish this had come to me a long time ago."

participants in the program to gain an objective and confidential insight to how the program is operating. The final evaluation will be completed in the fall of 2017 but the following commendations were given during the Year One Process review and some comments from the participants.

Defense Attorney, Mary Arden



Utilizing federal grant monies, the Drug Court and Substance Abuse Court team members were given the opportunity to attend National Drug Court conferences, where an average of over 4,000 professionals gather to learn the most effective best practices in the field of addictions, trauma, criminal justice and therapeutic jurisprudence. It's also a great way to earn continuing legal education credits!

Planting the Seeds of Recovery

Mabry Center: 8101 NE 117th Ave

May is National Drug Court Month, and Clark County Therapeutic Specialty Court participants give back to the community. In partnership with District Court and the Veterans Community Garden, the Therapeutic Specialty Court participants spent a Saturday afternoon planting seeds for a bountiful harvest for disabled veterans. The Columbian covered the garden towards the end of the harvest and the full article can be read at <http://www.columbian.com/news/2015/sep/12/service-time-veterans-garden-homeless-food/>



How is gardening a lot like your recovery?

If I work hard setting things up at first and tend to it, beautiful things will happen!

Gardening is like replanting ourselves: Getting rid of the weeds and growing stronger roots

Drug Court Participants help a local non-profit, Second Step Housing, with their annual “Run Like a Girl” event and create great lasting memories with their families.



DRUG COURT 2016

The Honorable Bernard F. Veljacic began presiding over Drug Court in the spring of 2016 and brought with him a unique experience, having served as the Drug Court Prosecutor earlier in the program (circa 2005). In preparation for taking the Drug Court bench, Judge Veljacic attended the National Drug Court Institute's Judge-specific conference in Reno, Nevada. Equipped with the NPC Research evaluation and the information from the training, Judge Veljacic has embraced the research and science and taken the program to even greater heights. His strength-based approach and calm demeanor naturally encourages our participants to achieve their goals; and he loves using Drug Court personalized fortune cookies to highlight client accomplishments.



**DRUG COURT JUDGE
MAY 2016 – PRESENT**



In the summer of 2016, Clark County Drug Court was asked to participate in a national pilot project in which two Adult Drug Court programs are trained to become “peer reviewers”. Clark County Adult Drug Court and Cowlitz County Drug Court partnered and were coached by the Center for Court Innovation, NPC Research, Washington Administrative Office of the Courts and the Division of Behavioral Health & Recovery. This was a valuable experience in which both programs were able to observe and interview each other (team members, participants and witness another court in action).

INNOVATIVE PRACTICES THAT CLARK COUNTY DRUG COURT HAS IMPLEMENTED

- All team members have a job during court which emphasizes the team aspect of drug court to the participants. Prosecution and Defense are very active with the participants.
- The team had significant access to information regarding participant compliance and activities during pre-docket and court leading to more effective communication and monitoring.
- Online client web-report with self-report included on the docket for personalized information
- Minimally restrictive access to Medically Assisted Treatment for participants who need it.
- Every new participant is assigned a mentor and rewarded for using them.
- Peer support circles run by mentors allow a safe place for participants to meet for a sober support group while also creating a place to discuss drug court related issues and soliciting advice from peers.
- Participant's writing letters to their arresting officer upon graduation is a great way to foster a positive relationship with local law enforcement and show them the value of Therapeutic Courts.

OTHER POSITIVES OR HIGHLIGHTS

- Treatment Case Managers specifically for Drug Court participants allow for better communication between treatment and the court.
- Very strong communication and respect among the team members.
- In court, the judge set goals for clients to reach with deadlines. Judge spoke about distal and proximal goals during pre-docket and with clients when addressing behaviors

Year 2 Update: The program has also made tremendous progress in the use and delivery of incentives. The new judge has done an excellent job in requesting that the team in staffings provide him with positive information about each participant first before discussing any poor behavior. The judge is also focused on improving conversations with participants in court, being positive with participants and looking for areas to commend them. For example, with participants who are struggling, the judge notes that the participant was honest and showed up to court, despite knowing the potential consequences. The program has also created a positive reinforcement chart, which notes low/moderate/high levels of reinforcement they can use, ranging from applause to gift cards. Additionally, small but very notable changes have been implemented to encourage participants and create a positive atmosphere. The team will hand out “PayDay” bars when someone gains employment, and “Smarties” when they enroll in school or other classes, and hand out fortune cookies with recovery language “fortunes” when the judge wants to give a small token of recognition. The coordinator and team are creative, and are implementing innovative methods in hopes of building up the participant’s self-worth and confidence. The team is also giving participants a very positive and supportive atmosphere in which they try to better their lives (an atmosphere that many have never experienced). The positive atmosphere in staffings and court has also resulted in increased team member job satisfaction. Such methods are not easily implemented by programs, and therefore it is with great distinction that we commend the program for their efforts in this area. ~ *NPC Research*

DRUG COURT 2016 continued

ENDING CASELOAD on DECEMBER 31, 2016	114
REFERRALS	126
OPTED IN	81
GRADUATED	36
OPTED OUT	11
TERMINATED	29
TOTAL # OF GRADUATES FROM INCEPTION 1999	560
TOTAL # OF PARTICIPANTS SINCE INCEPTION	1452



update

NPC Research Year 2 Update: The program continues to reach out to several community members, including those who already work with the drug court. The importance of fostering relationships is not lost among the team, and it shows in their continued willingness to work with agencies so that a compromise can be met. The team has taken the approach of “what can we do for you?” which will serve them well as they move forward into this new chapter of program operations. The program is praised for continuing the practices that resulted in these commendations.

Top 10 Best Practices that REDUCE RECIDIVISM:

10. The Results of Program Evaluations have led to modifications in Drug Court operations
9. Law Enforcement is a member of the Drug Court team
8. Drug Court allows non-drug charges
7. A representative from treatment attends court sessions
6. Review of the data/program stats has led to modifications in Drug Court operations
5. A representative from treatment attends drug court team meetings (staffings)
4. Treatment communicates with court via email
3. Judge spends an average of 3 minutes or greater per participant during hearings
2. Participants are expected to have greater than 90 days clean/sober before graduation
1. Review of the data and stats has led to modifications in Drug Court operations



Top 10 Best Practices that produce the most COST SAVINGS:

10. Law Enforcement attends court sessions
9. In the first phase of Drug Court, drug tests are collected at least 2x/week
8. Drug test results are back in 48 hours or less
7. Team members are given a copy of the guidelines for sanctions
6. A representative from treatment attends court sessions
5. In order to graduate the program, participants must have a job or be in school
4. Defense Attorneys attend Drug Court team meetings (staffings)
3. Sanctions are imposed immediately after non-compliant behavior (in advance of a client's regularly scheduled court hearing---i.e. have them report the *next* court hearing)
2. The results of program evaluations have led to modifications in Drug Court operations
1. Review of the data and stats has led to modifications in Drug Court operations

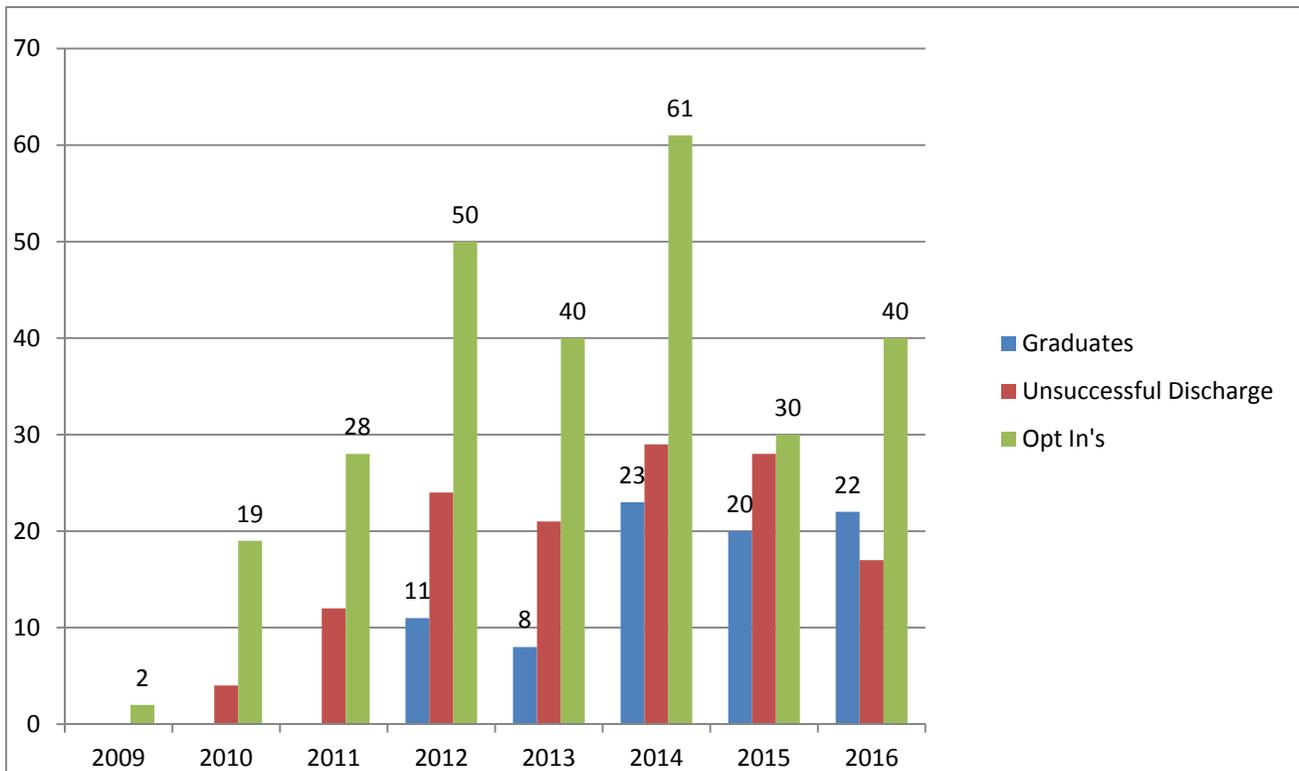
Additional Best Practices of Particular Interest

- ❖ Drug Courts that offer parenting classes had 68% greater reductions in recidivism AND 52% greater cost savings. (in adult, family and juvenile Courts)
- ❖ Courts that use jail greater than 6 days have WORSE (higher) recidivism with the peak effectiveness showing at 2 days jail
- ❖ Drug Courts that accepted participants with prior violence had equal reductions in recidivism (so, demonstrating that disqualifying for violence may not be cost-effective)

RESIDENTIAL DOSA DRUG COURT

The Residential Drug Offender Sentencing Alternative (DOSA) is designed to provide chemical dependency treatment and community supervision for addicted offenders who committed a drug crime or another crime that is related to an addiction in lieu of prison time. Only offenders without violent or sex offenses are eligible. The goal of DOSA is to reduce or eliminate confinement time for offenders in exchange for full participation and completion of chemical dependency treatment and adherence to strict supervision requirements. Offenders can be sentenced to Prison DOSA or Residential DOSA options. Offenders sentenced to the Residential DOSA option serve the entirety of their sentence under community supervision (12-24 months). These offenders are screened and then must complete at least 90 days of inpatient treatment. Residential DOSA sentencing option can be revoked if the offender fails to participate in chemical dependency treatment and comply with all other community supervision and treatment requirements.

In 2009, Clark County Superior Court worked in conjunction with the WA Department of Corrections and the Superior Court bench and decided to maximize state-funded resources and create a separate track within the Adult Drug Court program. The program has grown over the past seven years and now is held on a separate court docket Fridays at noon. The Residential DOSA Drug Court team is a combination of the standard Adult Drug Court team of professionals, with the strong partnership with the Washington Department of Corrections and the primary treatment services of American Behavioral Health Systems (ABHS) used for residential inpatient treatment (Chehalis and Spokane, WA) and Community Services Northwest locally for outpatient treatment services.



Caseload as of December 31, 2016	51
Total # of Graduates since 2009	84
Total # of Residential DOSA Drug Court Participants since 2009	270

10 Key Guidelines for a Family Treatment Drug Court

- 
- #1** Create Shared Mission and Vision
 - #2** Develop Interagency Partnerships
 - #3** Create Effective Communication Protocols for Sharing Information
 - #4** Ensure Interdisciplinary Knowledge
 - #5** Develop a Process for Early Identification and Assessment
 - #6** Address the Needs of Parents
 - #7** Address the Needs of Children
 - #8** Garner Community Support
 - #9** Implement Funding and Sustaining Strategies
 - #10** Evaluate for Shared Outcomes and Accountability

Children and Families Futures. (2013 rev 2015). Guidance to States: Recommendations for Developing Family Drug Court Guidelines. Prepared for the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Office of Justice Programs. Retrieved from:<http://www.cffutures.org/files/publications/FDC-Guidelines.pdf>

FAMILY TREATMENT COURT – 2015



Family Treatment Court

Honorable Carin Schienberg presiding 2011 - present

Commissioner Carin Schienberg presides over the Family Treatment Court program which began in January 2006. The FTC program is a supplemental program to child dependency cases that parents voluntarily enter. It is designed to improve the safety and well-being of children in the dependency system by providing comprehensive and individualized services for parents and their families. Her background as an educator is highly visible in her interactions with the participants as she is very encouraging when assisting the parents throughout the process.

RESTORE – RECOVERY - REUNITE

CAM – Children Affected by Methamphetamine grant was awarded to Clark County Family Treatment Court by SAMHSA (totaling \$1.48 million over 4 years). The grant cycle was from 2010-2014. The grant expanded services in the Family Treatment Court to forge stronger partnerships with the Children’s Center and the SW WA chapter of Children’s Home Society. The resources that were made possible by this federal funding provided a more thorough neuro-psychological testing for both parents and children to understand the learning style and level of executive functioning. The grant also aided into more evidenced-based parenting classes, therapy for children and families and a clinical staffing team. Due in large part of the efforts of the Clark County Department of Community Services, the Department of Children and Family Services and other partnering agencies and Medicaid expansion, the resources provided were sustained beyond the grant.

“Family treatment court has been an amazing program in helping me get my children back and becoming a productive member of society. It has given me tools to get and stay sober. It has also helped me find the services needed to get myself back on my feet and become the parent to my children that they deserve.

~ Jenn





Clark County Family Treatment Court Evaluation Fact Sheet

September 2015

The purpose of family treatment courts is to guide child welfare involved families with drug abuse issues into treatment under intensive judicial supervision to reduce drug dependence, reduce child welfare and criminal recidivism, and improve the quality of life for participants and their families.

With assistance from a SAMHSA grant for children affected by methamphetamine (CAM), Clark County's Family Treatment Court (CCFTC) implemented several new evidence based services for children. NPC Research conducted an evaluation, completed in September 2015, which included families who entered the program from 2010 to 2014 (N=65), and a matched comparison group of families who were eligible but were not referred to the program (N=61). Comparisons were also made between CCFTC families before and after CAM implementation.

Do family drug courts reduce child welfare involvement?

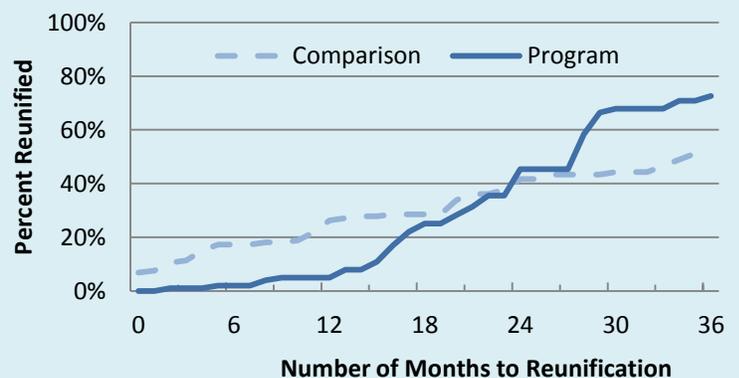
FTC Children have fewer Maltreatment Episodes



Children of CCFTC program participants were significantly less likely to be victims of any type of maltreatment (allegations) than children of parents who were eligible for the program but did not participate ($p < .05$). Specifically, children of program participants were less likely to be physically abused and significantly less likely to be neglected 2 years post program entry ($p < .05$).

Do family drug courts increase reunification rates?

Children of FTC participants were more likely to be reunified and stay reunified with their parents than children of parents who were eligible for the program but did not participate (63% to 49%). Although, both groups averaged just over 2 years to reunification, post-reunification, children of program parents were more likely to stay at home (95% compared to 83%).

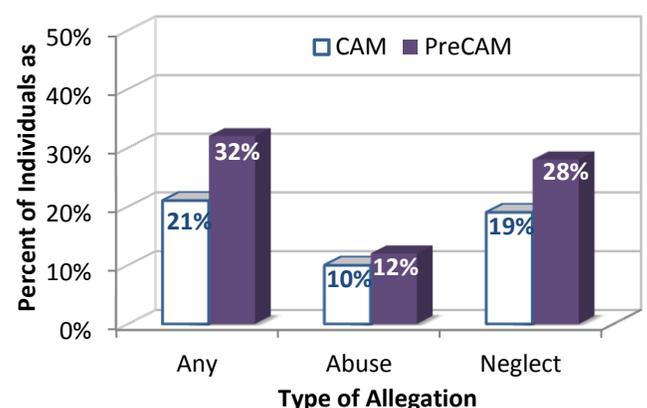


Do family drug courts improve with children-specific services?

The addition of CAM services to FTC resulted in significant improvements in child welfare outcomes compared to FTC prior to CAM services (FTC-PreCAM). At Year 2 post program entry:

- CAM parents were perpetrators on significantly fewer maltreatment allegations ($p < .05$)
- CAM children had fewer new placements ($p < .05$)
- CAM children were less likely to be victims of maltreatment
- CAM children spent fewer days in out of home care

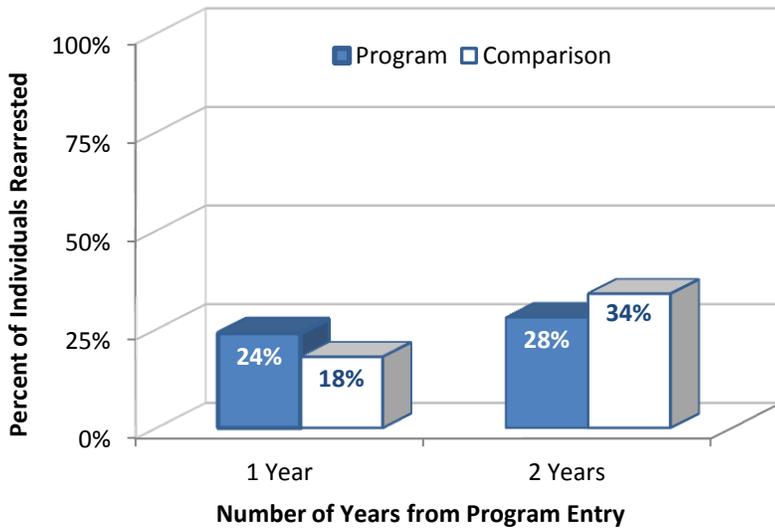
FTC-CAM Parents Less Likely to be Perpetrators



Do family drug courts reduce criminal justice recidivism?

Participants, though not identified through criminal justice courts, were less likely to be re-arrested than the comparison group in the 2 years after FTC entry (not sig. due to small sample size).

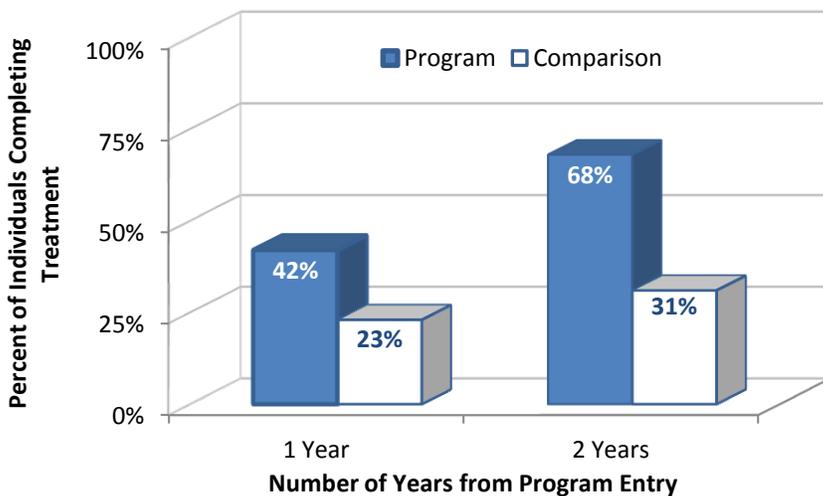
Fewer FTC Adults Re-Arrested by Year 2



Do family drug courts increase substance abuse treatment success?

Adults participating in CCFTC were significantly more likely to complete an outpatient substance abuse treatment program than adults who were eligible but never participated in the program ($p < .001$). Regardless of successful completion, participants spent more than double the number of days in treatment than non-FTC parents 2 years post entry (232 days to 92 days, $p < .001$).

Successful Treatment Completion over 2 Years



Do family drug courts result in cost savings to the taxpayer?

There were substantial cost savings related to parent participation in FTC.

The total cost related to child welfare and criminal recidivism 2 years post FDC entry per participant (regardless of graduation status) was \$21,518, while the cost per comparison group member was \$31,748. This results in a total cost savings of **\$10,230** per CCFTC participant, which translates to resources (such as out of home care placements) that are now available for other children.

Cost Savings by Agency

Agency	Savings per FTC Participant
Superior Criminal Court	(\$36)
District Court	\$72
Prosecuting Attorney's Office	(\$21)
Office of Public Defense	\$45
Dept of Corrections	(\$1,603)
Law Enforcement	\$38
Sheriff's Office	\$566
DSHS	\$3,931
Treatment	\$3,069
Victimizations	\$4,169
TOTAL	\$10,230

When the per participant amount is multiplied by the average number of participants served by the program per year (approximately 40 parents), the total amount "saved" by the program per year due to positive outcomes for its participants (i.e., fewer days out of home, lower recidivism) is **\$204,600**, which can then be multiplied by the number of years the program is in operation and by new participant cohorts each year. After 5 years, the accumulated resource savings come to over **\$3 million**.

These results demonstrate that the CCFTC program is effective in reducing child welfare and criminal justice recidivism while using fewer child welfare and criminal justice system resources. Clark County and the State of Washington would benefit from sustaining this program.



FAMILY TREATMENT COURT - 2016



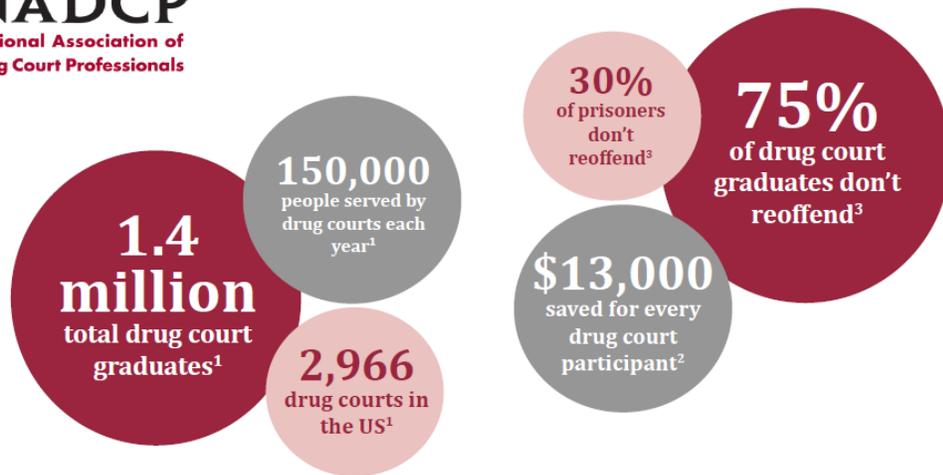
GOALS

- ❖ Increased reunification of children with their parents
- ❖ Decreased length of time children spend as dependents
- ❖ Increased recovery and stability of parents
- ❖ Decreased re-entry of family into child protective services

	2015	2016
ENDING CASELOAD AS OF DECEMBER 31ST	21 Parents	16 Parents
	29 Children	24 Children
REFERRALS	27	14
OPTED IN	14	9
GRADUATES	7 Parents	11 Parents
	16 Children	15 Children
UNSUCCESSFUL DISCHARGES	10	3
TOTAL NUMBER OF GRADUATES SINCE FTC INCEPTION (2006)	80	91
TOTAL # OF PARENTS THAT JOINED FTC TO DATE		167

“Incredible change happens in your life when you decide to take control of what you do have power over instead of craving control over what you don’t” ~ Kayla





DRUG COURTS ARE CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

Drug courts are the *single most successful* criminal justice intervention for seriously addicted offenders. Proven to *save lives, save money, and reduce crime*, these courts:

- ✓ Treat substance use disorders
- ✓ Treat mental health needs
- ✓ Deliver services for lifelong recovery
- ✓ Secure education, employment, and housing
- ✓ Produce tax-paying, productive citizens
- ✓ Break the cycle of addiction in families
- ✓ Reduce re-arrests and re-incarcerations
- ✓ Reduce substance use and overdose
- ✓ Reduce emergency room admissions
- ✓ Reduce foster care placements

“This is long overdue, but I wanted to again thank you and all of you I met involved with the adult drug court. The court has made an everlasting impression on me. I never knew there existed such a dedicated group of people who, behind the scenes, bring their expertise, their thoughtfulness, and their passion together to lift up those unfortunate people caught in the spiral of addiction and relapse. You give them their lives back piece by piece and, along with it, you bring back solace and joy to an entire sphere of families and friends who are caught with them in that spiral. I suspect that many of those you help are discovering who they can be for the very first time.”

Barbara A. Sorg, Ph.D.,
WSU Dept. of Integrative Physiology & Neuroscience



REACH Too

REACH Too is a peer to peer mentoring program of Community Voices Are Born that supports participants of the Clark County Therapeutic Courts. With the help of a three year Peer-to-Peer SAMHSA grant project, **REACH Too**'s main objective is helping people to achieve and maintain recovery in which improves the overall quality of life for those being served. Some main goals of the **REACH Too** Program: to increase engagement of participants in recovery activities, retain alumni in recovery through mentoring and decrease the impact of substance use on the community

REACH Too provides one-on-one mentoring, recovery support groups, classes, pro-social activities, recovery events, recovery mentor training and volunteer mentoring opportunities. These activities allow participants opportunities to practice social skills and forge new positive relationships with their peers in recovery while also finding new hobbies and fun things to do in recovery.



“Being able to give back to a program that helped me so much is one of my greatest pleasures. It continues to help me grow as an individual and the blessings I witness bring me hope and joy. I absolutely love being a mentor!!!!” - Robert S.

Support Circles - Small mentor led process groups that foster an environment of camaraderie and trust.

“I love my Support Circle! It gives me a place to talk about my troubles and to make new friends.” -Andrea M.



Focus group participant quotes: Speaking about the mentor program.

- *“I think mentor program is awesome. You can say anything you want in mentor groups and it doesn't leave the room.”*
- *“I hang out with my mentor regularly. We talk daily and do things together, it's great.”*
- *“My mentor Phil is more than a mentor. He is my friend, my confidant and my advisor. With my mentor, I am never alone.”*

September of 2016 marked the end of the first 3 year grant cycle. Over the course of the past 3 years

REACH Too has:

- * trained **78** TSC Graduates as Recovery Mentors
- * provided recovery support to **355** participants
- * **5664** contacts made between mentor/mentee
- * **290** participants attended groups, classes and activities **3113** times!

An evaluation conducted by NPC research found that

REACH Too is viewed as a positive service by the participants of the Therapeutic Specialty Courts and also has increased positive outcomes for participants that engage in those services. The focus group data collected indicated that **REACH Too** participants engaged with mentors were very positive about their experiences with their mentors.

“Don't be scared of Change”
~ Shannon & TJ

They (participants) appreciated the general support and encouragement, the assistance with specific life stressors (housing, employment, etc.), as well as the court-related advice and guidance that they received from their mentors. They credited their mentors and the **REACH Too** activities with helping them expand their social circles. They felt very supported and cared for by the **REACH Too** staff and were appreciative of the program's diverse offerings.

Pottery Class

Participants can learn basic and advanced level pottery including hand building and throwing techniques, firing and glazing.



“Pottery is my escape from everyday reality.” - Matt M.

“Pottery can teach you patience and how to see something through to the end if you are willing.” - Daniel S

Creative Art

Participants explore their creativity using a variety of mediums with new projects every 2 weeks.

“Through this class I found out I find art very therapeutic. I found out I really like it.” -Aleasha B.

“I thought the Art class was wonderful and very fun!” -Pamela C

“My mentor Sara gives me the inspiration to work harder and complete my goals. I want to be like her when I grow up!” Anna R.



Monthly Activities and Quarterly Events

REACH Too hosts prosocial activities and events throughout the year that includes Potlucks, Going out for Coffee, Bowling, Holiday Parties, Summer BBQ's and Softball Games.



“Playing softball is a great opportunity for me to be a part of the recovery community. It's very exciting to play softball and have so much fun while being clean and sober!” Tyler H.

16 Key Strategies of a Juvenile Drug Court

Collaborative Planning—Engage all stakeholders in creating an interdisciplinary, coordinated, and well documented systemic approach to working with youth and their families. Develop and maintain written policies and procedures for the implementation and operation of the juvenile drug court.

Teamwork—Develop and maintain an interdisciplinary, non-adversarial work team.

Clearly Define Target Population and Eligibility Criteria—Define a target population and eligibility criteria that are aligned with the program’s goals and objectives.

Judicial Involvement and Supervision—Schedule frequent judicial reviews and be sensitive to the effect that court proceedings can have on youth and their families.

Monitoring and Evaluation—Establish a system for program monitoring and evaluation to maintain quality of service, assess program impact, and contribute to knowledge in the field.

Community Partnerships—Build partners with community organizations to expand the range of opportunities available to youth and their families.

Comprehensive Treatment Planning—Tailor interventions to the complex and varied needs of youth and their families.

Developmentally Appropriate Services—Tailor treatment to the developmental needs of adolescents.

Gender-Appropriate Services—Design treatment to address the unique needs of each gender.

Cultural Competence—Create policies and procedures that are responsive to cultural differences and train personnel to be culturally competent.

Focus on Strengths—Maintain a focus on the strengths of youth and their families during program planning and in every interaction between the court and those it serves.

Family Engagement—Recognize and engage the family as a valued partner in all components of the program.

Educational Linkages—Coordinate with the school system to ensure that each participant enrolls in and attends an educational program that is appropriate to his or her needs.

Drug Testing—Design drug testing to be frequent, random, and observed. Document testing policies and procedures in writing.

Goal-Oriented Incentives and Sanctions—Respond to compliance and noncompliance with incentives and sanctions that are designed to reinforce or modify the behavior of youth and their families.

Confidentiality—Establish a confidentiality policy and procedures that guard the privacy of the youth while allowing the drug court team to access key information.

JUVENILE RECOVERY COURT 2015 - 2016 ...



Juvenile Recovery Court

Honorable James E. Rulli presiding 2007 – present

Judge James E. Rulli has been instrumental in saving lives and changing our community one individual and one family at a time for nearly 18 years in his work in Therapeutic Specialty Courts. Judge Rulli started the county’s first program of this kind, the Adult Drug Court back in 1999. Seeing the positive results in reducing criminal recidivism and illicit substance use, the concept expanded into other justice-involved populations. His forward-thinking vision helped lead the charge in implementing the Juvenile Recovery Court program in 2007. Judge Rulli has adapted the model to meet the needs of our at-risk youth placing a strong emphasis on education and prosocial activities.

County’s Juvenile Recovery Court marks milestone

<http://www.columbian.com/news/2015/may/27/clark-county-juvenile-recovery-court-milestone/>

Program aimed at helping troubled youths get back on track now has 100 graduates

“They’re very busy during this program, and we intensively supervise their daily lives,” Superior Court Judge James Rulli said in an interview.

“My philosophy has been, if we don’t address these issues when these children are teenagers, we are only opening the door wider for them to be involved in the criminal justice system as they grow older. This is what Juvenile Recovery Court tries to accomplish,” he said



Jessica Prokop, Columbian Courts Reporter
Published: May 27, 2015, 5:00 PM

2015 **2016**

ENDING CASELOAD on December 31	38	41
TOTAL REFERRALS	51	50
OPTED IN	38	35
GRADUATED	13	16
UNSUCCESSFUL DISCHARGES	19	18
TOTAL # OF GRADUATES SINCE INCEPTION		125
TOTAL # OF PARTICIPANTS WHO’VE JOINED		282



JRC team receives on-site training by Nat'l Council of Juvenile & Family Court Judges

SAMHSA awarded Clark County Juvenile Recovery Court an Enhancement grant of \$975,000 to spend over the course of 3 years (Oct 2014 – Sept. 2017) to:

- 1) Enhance co-occurring services and family engagement. The program currently has a professional service contract with Dr. Shirley Shen, Clinical Psychologist.
- 2) Enhance recovery support services – specific to job readiness and job training. The program currently collaborates with Partners in Careers (PIC). See following page for more info.
- 3) Enhancement to continue with peer mentoring. The program currently has a Mentoring program for youth maintained by Lifeline Connections.
- 4) Ongoing education and training in best practices for juvenile drug courts
- 5) Formal Process and Outcome Program evaluation. Dr. Clay Mosher, Professor, Dept. of Sociology, Washington State University currently evaluating the JRC program.

“At the pre-court staff meeting, team members appeared very knowledgeable of the youth and families in the program; discussions about their needs and progress were individualized and in-depth. Team members took a problem-solving approach to cases and how to overcome barriers. The team considered alternatives in responding to youth behavior and opportunities for pro-social activities that would fit different youth.”~ Dr. Martha Elin-Blomquist, NCJFCJ

	Mental Health	Access to Mental Health Treatment
Local	Per Clark County GAIN data, 43% of youth in JRC had any internalizing disorder, 30% had major depressive disorder, 20% had suicidal ideation and 25% had traumatic stress disorder (Mosher, 2013)	Of those youth, 80% ever received mental health treatment but few remained consistently engaged in services (Mosher, Evaluation of Clark County Juvenile Recovery Court AAFT Program, 2013)
State	In Washington, about 53,000 youths (10.4% of all youths) per year in 2008-2012 had at least one Major Depressive Episode (MDE) in the year prior to being surveyed. (SAMSHA, 2013)	In Washington, 69.1% of youth with MDE did not receive treatment from 2008-2012 within the year prior to being surveyed. (SAMSHA, 2013)
National	In the United States, 9.1% of 12- to 17-year-olds (an estimated 2.2 million youths) in 2012 had at least one MDE within the year prior to being surveyed. (SAMSHA, 2013)	In the United States, 63% of youth with MDE did not receive treatment for depression within the year prior to being surveyed. A higher percentage of females (40.1%) received MDE treatment than males (28.3%). (SAMSHA, 2013)



EPICCC
Employability. Positivity. Integrity.
Community Connections

Purpose: Assist youth involved in juvenile justice with development of technical and professional employment skills through job training classes, unpaid and paid work experiences and program support. Youth participate in EPICCC Job Skill Development Classes. Classes combine lecture and activities:

1. Identifying values, setting goals, and investing in yourself	6. Job Interview part 1
2. Job searching and applications	7. Job Interview part 2
3. Being a professional	8. Criminal History & employment
4. Resumes part 1	9. Budgeting
5. Resumes part 2	10. Maintaining your job

After attending EPICCC, students meet with an Employment Specialist one-on-one to determine what their needs are. For some students this means connecting with GED options, re-enrolling into high school, enrolling into a workforce investment program, or engaging in in school programming provided by PIC that helps students make up lost credits and graduate on time with their class. We have students from JRC that are co-enrolled in our in school program and are able to receive school credit for their participation in the paid job internships they have gotten through JRC/PIC programming. We also had students complete their GEDs through other program options here at Partners in Careers.

As students are graduating from JRC, many of them choose to stay involved with Partners in Careers. For some JRC graduates this has meant continuing drug and alcohol counseling and support here at Partners in Careers. This year PIC has opened its doors to Community Services Northwest who provides individual and group counseling for students enrolled in programs at Partners in Careers. This is a unique opportunity for students who have graduated JRC because they are able to access this support in the same building that they are engaging in education and employment training. In addition, they are able to participate in group sessions with their peers.

Over the course of the year, students have also been able to access a number of events at Partners in Careers including worksite tours, employer exposure events, career-matched mentoring events, and workshops that focus on employer needs, giving back to your community, and making the most of opportunities.





Clark County Food Bank partners with JRC youth to provide “Cooking Matters” classes



FRIDAY FITNESS – Various outings like flag football in the park, hiking in the gorge, rock-climbing



The Source





Bi-Zi Farms

Pumpkin patch & corn maze

JRC goes Bowling



In a Dec. 2016 report from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), U.S. Department of Justice: Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Guidelines:

Objective 6. Refer participants to evidence-based substance use treatment, to other services, and for **prosocial connections**.

Art in the park

Gallery 360



RCW 2.30.030

The Revised Code of Washington (RCW) is the compilation of all permanent laws now in force. All of the Clark County Superior Court Therapeutic Specialty Courts operate within the definition set forth by this RCW 2.30.030

Authority: RCW 2.30.030

Therapeutic courts authorized—Establishment of processes—Determination of eligibility—Persons not eligible—Use of best practices—Dependency matters—Foreign law limitations.

(1) Every trial and juvenile court in the state of Washington is authorized and encouraged to establish and operate therapeutic courts. Therapeutic courts, in conjunction with the government authority and subject matter experts specific to the focus of the therapeutic court, develop and process cases in ways that depart from traditional judicial processes to allow defendants or respondents the opportunity to obtain treatment services to address particular issues that may have contributed to the conduct that led to their arrest or involvement in the child welfare system in exchange for resolution of the case or charges. In criminal cases, the consent of the prosecutor is required.

(2) While a therapeutic court judge retains the discretion to decline to accept a case into the therapeutic court, and while a therapeutic court retains discretion to establish processes and determine eligibility for admission to the therapeutic court process unique to their community and jurisdiction, the effectiveness and credibility of any therapeutic court will be enhanced when the court implements evidence-based practices, research-based practices, emerging best practices, or promising practices that have been identified and accepted at the state and national levels. Promising practices, emerging best practices, and/or research-based programs are authorized where determined by the court to be appropriate. As practices evolve, the trial court shall regularly assess the effectiveness of its program and the methods by which it implements and adopts new best practices.

(3) Except under special findings by the court, the following individuals are not eligible for participation in therapeutic courts:

- (a) Individuals who are currently charged or who have been previously convicted of a serious violent offense or sex offense as defined in [RCW 9.94A.030](#);
- (b) Individuals who are currently charged with an offense alleging intentional discharge, threat to discharge, or attempt to discharge a firearm in furtherance of the offense;
- (c) Individuals who are currently charged with or who have been previously convicted of vehicular homicide or an equivalent out-of- state offense; or

RCW 2.30.030 continued

(3) continued

(d) Individuals who are currently charged with or who have been previously convicted of: An offense alleging substantial bodily harm or great bodily harm as defined in RCW [9A.04.110](#), or death of another person.

(4) Any jurisdiction establishing a therapeutic court shall endeavor to incorporate the therapeutic court principles of best practices as recognized by state and national therapeutic court organizations in structuring a particular program, which may include:

- (a) Determining the population;
- (b) Performing a clinical assessment;
- (c) Developing the treatment plan;
- (d) Monitoring the participant, including any appropriate testing;
- (e) Forging agency, organization, and community partnerships;
- (f) Taking a judicial leadership role;
- (g) Developing case management strategies;
- (h) Addressing transportation, housing, and subsistence issues;
- (i) Evaluating the program;
- (j) Ensuring a sustainable program.

(5) Upon a showing of indigence under RCW [10.101.010](#), fees may be reduced or waived.

(6) The department of social and health services shall furnish services to therapeutic courts addressing dependency matters where substance abuse or mental health are an issue unless the court contracts with providers outside of the department.

(7) Any jurisdiction that has established more than one therapeutic court under this chapter may combine the functions of these courts into a single therapeutic court.

(8) Nothing in this section prohibits a district or municipal court from ordering treatment or other conditions of sentence or probation following a conviction, without the consent of either the prosecutor or defendant.

(9) No therapeutic or specialty court may be established specifically for the purpose of applying foreign law, including foreign criminal, civil, or religious law, that is otherwise not required by treaty.

(10) No therapeutic or specialty court established by court rule shall enforce a foreign law, if doing so would violate a right guaranteed by the Constitution of this state or of the United States.

[[2015 c 291 § 3.](#)]



Clark County

Therapeutic Specialty Courts

Court Schedule

MONDAYS

District Court : **Veterans Therapeutic Court** 10:00am

Main Courthouse, Dept. 6

Judge John P. Hagensen

Superior Court: **Family Treatment Court** 3:00pm

Family Law Annex, Courtroom 1

Commissioner Carin Schienberg

TUESDAYS

District Court : **Substance Abuse Court** 10:30am, 2:00pm

Main Courthouse, Dept. 4

Judge Sonya L. Langsdorf

WEDNESDAYS

District Court : **Mental Health Court** 2:00pm

Main Courthouse, Dept. 5

Judge Kelli E. Osler

Superior Court: **Juvenile Recovery Court** 4:00pm

Juvenile Court, Courtroom 2

Judge James E. Rulli , Dept. 7

THURSDAYS

Superior Court: **Adult Drug Court** 10:30am, 2:30pm

Main Courthouse, Dept. 5

Judge Bernard F. Veljacic

FRIDAYS

Superior Court: **Residential DOSA Drug Court** Noon

In-Custody Drug Court/DOSA 1:00pm

Main Courthouse, Dept. 5

Judge Bernard F. Veljacic

Therapeutic Specialty Court Contact Info

<https://www.clark.wa.gov/superior-court/therapeutic-specialty-courts>

Clark County Superior Court:



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Clark County District Court:



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