Mercer County Treatment Court

Mission Statement

The mission of the Mercer County Treatment Court is to enhance public safety and reduce criminal activity by assisting those with substance use disorders to become drug and alcohol free, and productive law-abiding citizens by establishing a systematic substance abuse response among all drug and alcohol and mental health agencies in Mercer County.

Goals

Mercer County Treatment Court is an intensive program that allows offenders with substance use disorders to receive treatment and alternative sentences in lieu of incarceration.

- *Reduce criminal recidivism among substance abusers*
- *Reduce drug and alcohol relapse among offenders*
- *Reduce cost to Mercer County for providing D&A services*

Ten Key Components

1. ***Integrate drug, alcohol, and other treatment services within the justice system***
2. ***Use a non-adversarial approach.***
3. ***Identify eligible participants as soon as possible.***
4. ***Provide access to drug and alcohol treatment and rehabilitation services.***
5. ***Frequent alcohol and drug screens.***
6. ***Encourage involvement with a support partner.***
7. ***Positive or negative reinforcement for a participants' level of compliance.***
8. ***Maintain contact with Supervising Judge.***
9. ***Evaluate achievement of goals.***
10. ***Create partnerships and bonds with community- based organizations and public agencies.***

Where Treatment and Justice Meet

Mercer County



Treatment Court

Mercer County Judges

Pres. Judge Daniel P. Wallace

Honorable Judge Ronald D. Amrhein Jr.

Honorable Judge Tedd C. Nesbit

Honorable Judge Neil D. McEwen

Mercer County Commissioners

Ann Coleman

Bill Findley

Timothy M. McGonigle



"A Journey of a Thousand Miles Begins with a Single Step"

Lao Tzu

A Structured Program

The Mercer County Treatment Court Program is an individualized program that assists the participants with underlying issues that may be connected to the offense committed. A participant may be in the program from 2-3 years. There are requirements that participants must accomplish to successfully complete the program.

Treatment Team

Treatment Court is administered by a team of professionals consisting of prosecutors, defense counsel, probation officers, Treatment Court Coordinators and several drug and alcohol/mental health professionals. The Treatment Court Team is under the supervision of Common Pleas Court Honorable Judge Ronald D. Amrhein

The team meets to review each case bi-weekly to ensure the Participant is receiving the proper treatment and support and also is complying with the requirements of the program.

Resources

Treatment Court utilizes multiple resources in the community to aide participants in improving their lives and that of their families in the following areas:

- Supportive Housing
- Job Search/Placement/Retention
- Educational Needs
- Mental Health Treatment
- Drug and Alcohol Treatment
- Community Support Services

Eligibility

- Must be charged with an eligible offense
- Must be struggling with drug or alcohol issues.
- Must agree to comply with any and all treatment recommendations.
- Must not be eligible for ARD.
- Must not be charged or convicted of a violent or Sex Offender Registration Notification Act based offenses to be accepted into the program.
- All applicants will be screened prior to entry by the District Attorney's Office, Treatment Team and Court of Common Pleas

What to do next

If you are interested in applying for Treatment Court, you must fill out an application with your attorney. It will then be forwarded to the Treatment Court Coordinators for processing. An intake will then be scheduled to further the process and see if you are eligible. For any questions please contact the Treatment Court Coordinators:

Aimee Oxenham at (724)662-3800 ext. 2425

aoxenham@mercercountypa.gov

Steven Edwards at (724)662-3800 ext. 2431

sedwards@mercercountypa.gov