

“Treatment Court provides encouragement and accountability to make positive life changes. They believed in me when I didn’t believe in myself”

-Former Participant



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Hennepin County Treatment Courts

Drug Court
DWI Court
Mental Health Court
Veterans Court



Helpful Information for Potential
Participants to review with their
Attorneys

What is a Treatment Court?

Treatment Courts supervise defendants who are residents of Hennepin County that have been placed on probation for a criminal offense, need mental health, and/or substance use treatment, and who agree to have their probation supervised by the treatment court.

The goal of the program is to assist you in gaining the skills you need to meet your treatment and mental health goals and to benefit your overall quality of life.

As a participant in the Treatment Court, you will be asked to attend Court regularly, follow the directions given in Court by the Judge, and follow a treatment plan that you and your treatment team work on together.

There are many people who make up the Treatment Court Team and they all want to see you succeed. If you take advantage of the support offered, you can discover many ways to make a better life for yourself and reach your goals.

Who is Eligible?

- Individuals with pending charges in Hennepin County who are found to meet the criteria for our Treatment Courts and who agree to have their probation supervised by the Treatment Courts as a condition of their sentence.
- Individuals must be a Hennepin or Ramsey County resident (DWI Court currently only accepts Hennepin County residents).
- Participants must have a substance use or mental health need.
- Individuals must voluntarily agree to participate in the Treatment Court.

Information about the Treatment Courts

Drug Court (MDC)

- Drug Court helps people who are charged with a felony and have a moderate or severe substance use disorder.
- It requires a minimum commitment of 14 months.
- Drug Court is held Mondays at 2 pm (males), and Wednesdays at 10 am (females) and Thursdays at 2 pm (males).

Mental Health Court (MHC)

- MHC helps people who have mental health needs.
- MHC requires a minimum commitment of 9 months for Misdemeanor and Gross Misdemeanor offenses and 12 months for Felony level offenses.
- Felony MHC is held Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 am, and Misdemeanor MHC is held Wednesdays at 10 am.

DWI Court

- DWI Court is designed for repeat DWI offenders.
- DWI Court only accepts Hennepin County residents.
- It requires a minimum commitment of 14 months.
- Participants receive random home visits by law enforcement.
- DWI Court is held Fridays at 10 am.

Veterans Court

- Veterans Court serves past or current service members of the US Armed Forces who have substance use and/or mental health needs.
- Individuals with honorable and dishonorable discharges are eligible.
- It requires a minimum commitment of 12 months.
- Veterans Court is held Mondays at 10 am.

What you can expect during the Triage Process

- Once referred, a probation officer will call you within one to two weeks to discuss your family, social, and criminal history.
- They will share information about Treatment Courts with you and answer any questions you might have.
- If you meet initial criteria, a Social Worker will call you to assess your mental health and/or substance abuse needs and see which Treatment Court is the best fit for you.
- The triage process takes 3 weeks if you are in custody and 8 weeks if you are out of custody.
- Please provide your current contact information to the Court at the time of your referral so we can reach out to you as soon as possible.
- You must observe one treatment court session prior to entering a treatment court, see Notice of Triage Referral and Court Observation for the zoom links.
- For attorneys: if your client is in custody outside of Hennepin County, please be prepared to assist in facilitating the Triage assessment.