



MINNESOTA JUDICIAL BRANCH HENNEPIN COUNTY VETERANS COURT FACT SHEET

PROGRAM MISSION

The mission of Hennepin County Veterans Court is to promote public safety and assist and support veterans and their families by creating a coordinated response through collaboration with the veterans' service delivery system, community based services, and the criminal justice system. The program serves veterans of the United States Armed Forces charged with a criminal offense in Hennepin County who are struggling with addiction and/or serious mental illness through a combination of judicial reviews, intensive probation supervision, and behavioral health treatment.

PROGRAM GOALS



Reduce criminal recidivism

74%

of participants who left the program in 2017 had no new convictions within two years[‡]



Improve access to Veterans Administration benefits

84%

of benefit-eligible participants exited the program connected to VA services*



Improve participant life stability

65%

of participants exited the program living independently. Only two participants were homeless*



Increase compliance with treatment and other court ordered conditions

61%

of treatment referrals were completed successfully*



Facilitate participant sobriety

81%

of all drug tests were negative for participants exiting in 2019*



Improve social support connections and family relationships

46%

of participants increased their engagement in prosocial activities*

PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK

94% of participants surveyed agree they would recommend Veterans Court to a friend in a similar situation.[†]



"I've had more pride since I've been in Veterans Court, I've seen other veterans pick themselves up...and it makes me more proud to be a veteran."

KEY PROGRAM METRICS

49

Active participants in May 2020**

12

Average months in Veterans Court*

46

Percent people of color**

18

Average Veterans Court review hearings*

43

Average age of participants**



65% graduation rate*



8% women**



92% men**