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
- Improve access to Veterans Administration benefits
- Improve participant life stability
- Increase compliance with treatment and other court ordered conditions
- Facilitate participant sobriety
- Improve social support connections and family relationship

**PROGRAM GOALS**

- 89% of participants who exited the program in 2016 had no new crime
- 66% of participants exited the program living independently. Only one participant was homeless
- 80% of all drug tests were negative for participants exiting in 2018
- 92% of benefit-eligible participants exited the program connected to VA services
- 59% of treatment referrals were completed successfully
- 45% 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**

- 50 Active participants in May 2019
- 15 Average months in Veterans Court
- 71 Veterans Court referrals in 2018
- 17 Average Veterans Court review hearings
- 41 Average age of participants
- 62% graduation rate
- 8% women
- 92% men

*Data based on participants who exited Veterans Court during 2018; **Data based on participants who were active in Veterans Court in May 2019
†Data based on surveys conducted with Veterans Court participants during August, 2017