

MENTAL HEALTH COURT OFFERS

JUDICIAL SUPERVISION

MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT

CASE MANAGEMENT

CLINICAL ASSESSMENTS

DRUG TESTING

Team Leader

Mental Health Court Judge

Timothy M. Kenny

Presiding Judge

Mental Health Court Prosecutor

William Heaphy Jr.

Deputy Chief, Diversion

THIRD CIRCUIT MENTAL HEALTH COURT

CONTACTS

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Third Judicial Circuit of Michigan
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A PROBLEM SOLVING COURT PROGRAM

Information is shared with the Mental Health Court Treatment Team on an ongoing basis using a formative process which allows the program to be uniquely tailored to the strengths and weaknesses of each client.

**MENTAL
HEALTH
TREATMENT**

**RESIDENTIAL
TREATMENT**

**RELAPSE
PREVENTION
CLASSES**

**DRUG
EDUCATION
CLASSES**

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Mental Health Court Program length is a minimum of 18 months. Residential treatment stays are typically 90 to 120 days. Additional recommendations for length of stay in a level of care are addressed through treatment reviews with the Mental Health Court Treatment Team.

Cases are considered individually and are based on the length of prior mental health and severity, substance abuse history, treatment, and sentencing guidelines.

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

The Mental Health Court Program provides a problem solving approach for Wayne County Jail inmates who are seriously and persistently mentally ill, have a non-violent history, and have a non-violent offense. The majority also have co-occurring substance abuse disorders.

Defendants are given an opportunity to voluntarily participate through conditional release in community treatment and court approved service plans. This serves as an alternative to incarceration and the normal criminal prosecution process.

Defendants are eligible for this program if any of the following apply:

1. A history of failing to appear for scheduled court dates.
2. Previous failures at traditional mental health treatment programs.
3. Residential instability.
4. A history of failing to comply with treatment and/or medications.
5. Mental health and substance abuse issues.

PROGRAM GOALS

The Mental Health Court Program goals are to:

1. Reduce the involvement of persons with serious mental illnesses and co-occurring substance abuse disorders in the criminal justice system.
2. Reduce recidivism.
3. Reduce the length of stay in jail.
4. Incorporate the principles of recovery, increasing public safety.
5. Reduce the costs to Wayne County for mental health services.

PROGRAM BENEFITS

Judicial supervision, appropriate effective medication, and a wide range of services tailored to the participants enable most defendants who live with serious mental illnesses the balance that is needed to manage their illness and thus significantly reduce criminal activity. Defendants also find a satisfying measure of achievement and independence. The Third Circuit Mental Health Court Program helps participants become experts in developing strategies to manage their illness and follow the conditions and rules set forth by the Court.

Grant funding for this program is through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.