

## Drug Court Is...

- A judicially supervised treatment based program for adults who are charged with certain eligible felony crimes and facing criminal prosecution.
- A program offering non-traditional and individualized treatment for chemical dependency as an alternative to criminal prosecution.
- An environment with clear and specific expectations and goals. It features a team approach to rigorous treatment, coordinated with intensive supervision, random drug and alcohol testing, regular and frequent court appearances and educational opportunities.
- A proven method of controlling both the drug usage and criminality of drug-using offenders.
- It is not an easy way out of jail or prison.

*Drug Court Research reflects that for every \$1 spent on Drug Courts there is a savings of \$10 due to reduced jail/prison use, reduced criminality and lower criminal justice system costs.*

*- National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, Columbia University.*

### Contact Information:

For Drug Court information or to schedule a community presentation on Drug Court, contact the Drug Court Manager at 360-337-4508

For Drug Court Eligibility information, contact the Kitsap County Prosecutor's Office at 360-337-7174

For Drug Court Compliance information, contact the Drug Court Compliance Specialist at 360-337-4835

For treatment information at Kitsap Recovery Center, call 360-337-5725

Drug Court Resources – Facts and Statistics from the National Criminal Justice Reference Service

Drug Court participants named 3 factors that led to their success in drug court programs. Close supervision and encouragement by judges, intensive treatment and ongoing monitoring. More than 25% of the respondents had been in at least 1 treatment program during the previous 3 years and had left that program unsuccessfully. (Source: Drug Court Participant Comments)

Drug use is substantially reduced among defendants while they are participating in drug court programs. For participants who graduate from the programs (ranging from 50% to 65%), drug use is eliminated altogether. (Summary Assessment of the Drug Court Experience)

Researchers estimate that more than 50% of defendants convicted of drug possession will recidivate within 2 to 3 years. Recidivism among all drug court participants has ranged from 5 to 28% and less than 4% for drug court graduates. (Looking at a Decade of Drug Courts, 1999)

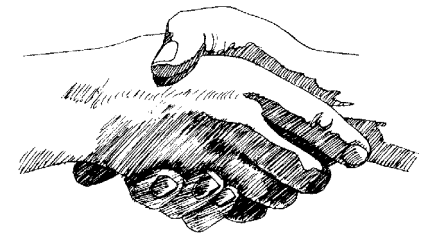
*"After having sat through what I can only describe as the most moving court session I have ever attended, I have gone from being mildly supportive of the idea of drug courts to being a zealous advocate for the concept."*

*Former Chief Justice Gerry Alexander*



# Kitsap County Drug Court

## Citizen's Guide to the Kitsap County Adult Felony Drug Court



Kitsap County Superior Court

## *Eligibility and Suitability.*

### Judicially Supervised Treatment

Screening for participation is a two-step process

The Prosecutor is primarily responsible for determining a participant's legal eligibility for Drug Court.

Drug Court is limited to defendants who

- Have no conviction history of violent felony offenses
- Have no history of sexual offenses
- No use of firearm in current charge
- Are charged with eligible offenses
  - Drug offenses including possession
  - Non-Drug offenses if drug drivenSuch as Forgeries, Thefts, etc.

After a participant has been found eligible, he or she must be screened to determine suitability for chemical dependency treatment. The candidate must be willing to participate in treatment and education programs.

Screening has two phases:

- Orientation by the Drug Court Compliance Specialist with background checks.
- Chemical Dependency Evaluation completed by the Drug Court Treatment Counselor to determine the level of substance dependency and likelihood of successful completion of the Drug Court Program.

In all phases, participants must attend 12- step meetings, chemical dependency counseling, undergo drug testing, have contact with the Drug Court Compliance Officer, maintain a 12- step sponsor and attend court hearings.

## *Drug Court Program Elements*

- **PHASE I – Initiation and Stabilization**  
The participant is expected to cease using drugs, stabilize physical health and cease criminal activity. Treatment focuses on
  - Compliance and Accountability
  - Addiction Recovery
  - Recognition of the Seriousness of the offense
- **PHASE II – Consolidation**  
The participant is expected to remain drug-free and crime-free, stabilize social and domestic environment, develop life and job skills, address major life issues and remain in good health. Treatment focuses on
  - Relapse Prevention
  - Exploration of Strengths and Weaknesses
  - Lifestyle Changes and Accountability
- **PHASE III – Reintegration**  
The participant continues to be expected to remain drug-free and crime-free, remain in a stable social and domestic environment, employed or ready to gain employment and be fiscally responsible. Treatment focuses on
  - Maintenance of a Personal Recovery Plan
  - Vocational Training or Education
  - Accountability
- **PHASE IV – Aftercare**  
Participants are expected to remain drug-free and crime-free, remain in a stable social and domestic environment, be employed or in an educational program and be financially responsible. Components include
  - Continued maintenance of a personal recovery plan
  - Continued maintenance of employment, education or volunteer service
  - Giving back to the community by way of Mentorship and/or Recovery Service work



*The Washington State Methamphetamine Initiative A partnership of law enforcement, treatment and prevention groups, lawmakers and community organizers - is one of the premiere anti-meth programs in the country.*

*The initiative began as the deadly methamphetamine plague swept across the state in the late 1990's. In 2000, the founders identified all stakeholders in the meth problem and gave each a seat at the table.*

*Since its founding, the initiative has provided training and assistance to hardened law enforcement personnel as well as vulnerable school students.*

## *Drug Court Commencement*

Successful completion of the Drug Court Program is recognized by a Commencement ceremony. Guest speakers acknowledge the efficacy of the program and the success of the participant. Graduation certificates are awarded and the original criminal charge(s) against the participant are dismissed.

## *Drug Court Termination*

Failure of a participant to abide by the Drug Court requirements results in termination from the program. There is no trial. The record is read, finding is made and sentencing occurs immediately.