

KENTUCKY DRUG COURT

THE TEN KEY COMPONENTS

#1: DRUG COURTS INTEGRATE ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG TREATMENT SERVICES WITH JUSTICE SYSTEM CASE PROCESSING.

A Drug Court Team is formed and includes the Judge, Prosecutor, Defense Attorney, Treatment Provider, Law Enforcement, local community leaders, and policymakers.

The Drug Court Team will develop a mission statement, individual goals, eligibility criteria, and adopt the statewide procedures manual and participant handbook.

Goals and objectives must be performance-based and measurable.

The Judge plays an active role in the treatment process. The Drug Court Team provides valuable input to assist the Judge in the decision making process.

#2: USING A NONADVERSARIAL APPROACH, PROSECUTION AND DEFENSE COUNSEL PROMOTE PUBLIC SAFETY WHILE PROTECTING PARTICIPANTS' DUE PROCESS RIGHTS.

Prosecutors and defense attorneys collaborate on program design and implementation.

Defense attorneys protect clients' rights by explaining drug court concepts and procedures.

Terms of service for prosecutors and public defenders are long enough to ensure team building, stability, and consistency.

#3: ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS ARE IDENTIFIED EARLY AND PROMPTLY PLACED IN THE DRUG COURT PROGRAM.

Eligibility screening is done by local Drug Court staff before being admitted to the program.

The Drug Court staff assess eligible Drug Court individuals for alcohol and other drug (AOD) problems and treatment suitability.

Initial appearance before the Drug Court Judge is expedited.

The Drug Court Judge requires eligible participants to enroll in AOD services immediately.

#4: DRUG COURTS PROVIDE A CONTINUUM OF ALCOHOL, DRUG, AND OTHER TREATMENT AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES.

Treatment services are comprehensive, have quality controls, and are accountable.

Referrals to ancillary services are available through total case management.

Funding, and services for treatment, needs to be adequate, stable, and dedicated to Drug Courts.

Treatment designs are sensitive to issues of race, culture, religion, gender, age, ethnicity, and sexual orientation.

#5: ABSTINENCE IS MONITORED BY FREQUENT ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG TESTING.

Frequent and random testing is utilized.

Drug Court Judge imposes immediate sanctions when participant fails screen, gives adulterated sample, or misses a test.

Standardized testing guidelines are used to ensure test results reliability.

#6: A COORDINATED STRATEGY GOVERNS DRUG COURT RESPONSES TO PARTICIPANTS' COMPLIANCE.

Sanctions and incentives are developed jointly and are imposed after conferring with the Drug Court Team.

Imposed sanctions are graduated and are proportional with the infraction.

Compliance with program requirements are rewarded.

Consequences for program compliance/noncompliance are clearly explained to participant.

#7: ONGOING JUDICIAL INTERACTION WITH EACH DRUG COURT PARTICIPANT IS ESSENTIAL.

The Drug Court Judge has a balanced approach; interacting with participants in a direct and personal way.

Judge-participant interaction shows to participant observers the benefits of program compliance and consequences for noncompliance.

The Drug Court Judge applies appropriate sanctions and incentives to match participant behaviors.

#8: MONITORING AND EVALUATION MEASURE THE ACHIEVEMENT OF PROGRAM GOALS AND GAUGE EFFECTIVENESS.

The Drug Court Evaluator works with the team during the planning stage to ensure that evaluations are initiated and ongoing.

Drug Court Manager and Staff periodically review monitoring and management data.

Written guidelines are available and protect confidentiality and unauthorized disclosure of personal information.

#9. CONTINUING INTERDISCIPLINARY EDUCATION PROMOTES EFFECTIVE DRUG COURT PLANNING, IMPLEMENTATION, AND OPERATIONS.

Drug Court staff are required to maintain a specific level of education. Team building is part of the regular training process.

Attendance at educational training workshops is strongly encouraged, (i.e., the Kentucky School on Alcohol and Other Drug Studies, a week long workshop where continuing education credits may be earned).

The entire Drug Court Team undergoes training in addiction and substance abuse treatment.

#10: FORGING PARTNERSHIPS AMONG DRUG COURTS, PUBLIC AGENCIES, AND COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS GENERATES LOCAL SUPPORT AND ENHANCES DRUG COURT PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS.

Develop linkages between community groups and the criminal justice system.

Develop partnerships between Drug Courts and law enforcement, i.e., community policing.

Drug Court staff is professional and reflects the population it serves. Cultural diversity training is included in ongoing staff development.