

BUTLER COUNTY DRUG TREATMENT COURT
MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Butler County Drug Treatment Court (DTC) is to reduce the crime rate through a collaborative effort among the members of the community and the criminal justice system, resulting in a safer community and a better quality of life for all.

The vision of the Butler County DTC is to be achieved through the diversion of qualifying offenders into a program of comprehensive treatment, education, offender accountability, and intensive court supervision to assist participants in order to gain control of their lives and to stop the cycle of recidivism, caused by their addiction.

DRUG TREATMENT COURT PROGRAM DISCRIPTION

The Butler County DTC is a highly structured program, different from any prior supervision program with which you may be familiar. DTC combines drug and/or alcohol treatment, rehabilitation and other support services with **more intensive Court supervision**.

DTC is designed for those individuals with a substance abuse problem which has led to their repeated, non-violent criminal behavior. DTC is unique because it encompasses a much closer working relationship between treatment and the criminal justice system. The end goal is the reduction of recidivism. Those participants who remain drug free are more likely to become productive members of the community thereby benefiting all aspects of the criminal justice system and society.

REFERRAL PROCESS

Referrals to the program **must** include the following items:

- Completed referral form
- Copy of the Criminal Complaint and Affidavit of Probable Cause/Probation/Parole violation

The referral source will forward a copy of the referral and all accompanying documentation to the DTC Coordinator/Probation Officer. The DTC Coordinator/Probation Officer will prescreen applications and forward to the District Attorney's Office. **The defendant's admission into the program is subject to the discretion of the District Attorney's Office.**

REFERRAL SOURCES

Referrals may originate from, **but are not limited to**, the following sources:

- Police Officers
- Magisterial District Judges
- Public Defenders
- Private Attorneys
- Probation Officers
- District Attorney
- Judges
- Self

SUPERVISION

DTC requires intensive supervision. In the beginning participants are required to report at least three (3) times a week. The Probation Officer is required to verify employment, attendance at AA or NA or other such program meetings, attendance at counseling, interaction with sponsor, payment of financial obligations and abstinence of drug use (via drug testing).

EXCLUSIONARY FACTORS FOR DRUG TREATMENT COURT

Offenders are considered ineligible if there are any unresolved out-of- county and/or out-of-state charges. It is the responsibility of the offender's counsel to resolve any pending out-of-county and/or out-of-state charges or state parole violations before the offender can be accepted into DTC.

Butler County DTC values the opinion of crime victims. Victims of crimes will be consulted for their opinion of diverting offenders to DTC. Crimes involving physical violence towards another person will prevent admission into DTC if the crime victim does not consent to the offender's participation. *Butler County DTC will review the offenses pertaining to each referral made to the program.*

PROGRAM LENGTH

The length of participation in DTC will depend on the participant's ability to achieve program goals and remain drug free. The DTC Team reserves the right to review all cases in which individuals exceed 18 months in the program in order to determine if continued participation in the program is appropriate.

DRUG TREATMENT COURT SESSIONS

DTC sessions will be held weekly in open Court to monitor the participants' compliance, progress and participation in the DTC Program. Participants who are receiving treatment at an inpatient or residential program may not be required to attend weekly DTC sessions, at the discretion of the Judge.

The DTC Team will accept participants at any level of care; however, participants are expected to complete treatment. In addition, participants are also expected to maintain honesty, participate in AA/NA meetings, submit to random urinalysis and attend regular DTC sessions. After admittance to the DTC, the Judge determines when a participant shall be removed from the program through a termination process.

Please refer to the Butler County Web site www.co.butler.pa.us. Click on Court Service, Specialty Court and then Drug Treatment Court for all available forms.

Contact information

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