WHAT ARE TREATMENT COURTS

Treatment Courts are an effective strategy for treating substance abuse and mental illness while reducing recidivism and saving taxpayer dollars. These courts have proven that a combination of supervision, treatment and support can lead people with substance use and/or mental health disorders into lives of stability, wellness and recovery.

Instead of prison time, **Treatment Courts** deliver services for lifelong recovery, keep our roads safe from impaired drivers, give parents tools they need to stay sober and maintain custody of their children, and divert individuals from a life of substance abuse, mental illness and crime. They have been proven to reduce use of jail and prison beds, emergency room admissions, family conflicts associated with domestic violence and child abuse, and foster care placements.

OUR HISTORY

Minnehaha County Drug Court was established in 2011, followed by **DUI Court** in 2013, **Veterans Court** in 2016, and **Mental Health Court** in 2020.

The public is invited to observe the following **Treatment Courts** at the Minnehaha County Courthouse at 425 N. Dakota Ave. in Sioux Falls:

- **DUI Court:**
  every Tuesday 9:30 a.m.
- **Veterans Court:**
  every other Wednesday, 9 a.m.
- **Mental Health Court:**
  every Wednesday 2:30 p.m.
- **Drug Court:**
  every Thursday 12:45 p.m.

LEARN MORE

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MAKING A DIFFERENCE
TREATMENT COURTS WORK
MAKING A DIFFERENCE

TREATMENT COURTS

MINNEHAHA COUNTY DRUG, DUI, VETERANS & MENTAL HEALTH COURT

SOUTH DAKOTA UNIFIED JUDICIAL SYSTEM

WHAT WE DO

Minnehaha County Drug, DUI, Veterans and **Mental Health Court** provide an innovative approach to rehabilitating those substantially impacted by a substance use disorder or mental health disorder who are likely to continue to commit crimes without intervention.

This is a public health approach to justice reform in which treatment providers partner with probation, defense, prosecution, law enforcement and the judge to ensure individuals before the courts receive personalized and evidence-based treatment, ongoing support and recovery services.

Changing Lives, Improving Communities

OUR PROGRAMS

Drug, **DUI**, **Veterans** and **Mental Health Court** are voluntary programs that provide intensive supervision and treatment services.

- Participation is voluntary.
- Each program is divided into five phases and takes a minimum of 14 months to successfully complete.
- Alcohol and drug testing is a major component of each program.
- Intensive supervision is provided as directed by the court.
- Treatment is provided for substance use disorders and mental health disorders, as warranted by evidenced-based assessments.
- Incentives are given for accomplishments, and sanctions are given for infractions.
- Participants make regular court appearances in front of the judge throughout the program.
- Participants are connected with recovery support services in the community.
- Participants are referred to services to improve their emotional, physical, occupational, social, spiritual, intellectual, environmental and financial wellbeing.

COURT GOALS

- Help participants achieve **RECOVERY**, not just sobriety.
- Give participants the chance to break the cycle of substance abuse and/or mental illness and crime.
- Give participants the tools to change their lives by improving their emotional, physical, occupational, social, spiritual, intellectual, environmental and financial wellbeing.
- Increase participants' length of involvement in treatment and other maintenance systems.
- Connect participants with positive support networks within their community.
- Increase public safety.
- Reduce incarceration time.
- Reduce recidivism.