



**“If you can get in this program, definitely do if you are serious about getting clean and being forced to take the resources that are available. It will change your life.”**

– Drug Court Participant

**“No matter what put in 100%, because it’s worth it.”**

– Drug Court Participant

**Additional Information and Referrals**

**[dgcoks.org/drugcourt](http://dgcoks.org/drugcourt)**

**“This program will change your life if you let it.”**

– Drug Court Participant

## **Douglas County Drug Court**

***Judge Mark Simpson***

The Douglas County Drug Court was established in January 2020 as a four-phase program for adults who have been arrested or charged with a non-violent felony offense and are having difficulty staying substance-free.

The Drug Court is a collaboration among the Court, Douglas County District Attorney’s Office, Criminal Justice Services, Defense Attorneys, Local Law Enforcement, DCCCA and other community-based treatment providers.

Prospective program participants should consult with their Attorneys, who in turn will contact the District Attorney’s Office.



# Douglas County Drug Court

**“Drug Court has helped me take control of my life, helping me to put strong focus and intense preparation into the man I strive to become.”**

– Drug Court Participant

## Structure/ Model

- Drug Court will accept referrals after the filing of criminal charges.
- Participants are required to:
  1. Tell the truth.
  2. Enter a guilty plea and agree to postpone sentencing.
  3. Not use, possess, distribute, or sell any drugs or alcohol.
  4. Follow a treatment plan.
  5. Submit to regular drug testing.
  6. Comply with all court ordered conditions.
  7. Obey the terms of supervision.
  8. Attend regular court appearances.
- After the participant successfully completes the program, the court will allow the guilty plea to be withdrawn and the criminal charges to be dismissed.

**I hope you're ready to drastically change your life for the better.”**

– Drug Court Participant

## Eligibility

- Resident of Douglas County, Kansas, who is 18 years of age or older.
- Score high risk/high needs on standardized assessment tool.
- Admit to substance use and agree to achieve and maintain sobriety.
- Agree to engage in required substance abuse treatment.
- Felony charges pending or on felony probation with a pending probation violation.
- Have no serious or persistent mental illness which prohibits participation in substance abuse treatment or program requirements.
- Agree to participate in Drug Court and follow program requirements.
- Approval of the Drug Court Judge and the District Attorney.

## Exclusions

1. Current Case involves a sex crimes or use of firearm.
2. District Attorney office finds defendant to be a public safety risk.
3. The case involves a Driving Under the Influence charge.
4. Defendant is larger dealer or distributor of drugs.
5. The Drug Court Team determines that the defendant is not amendable to the program.

**“It's allowed me to overcome challenges that would have normally landed me back to being incarcerated.”**

– Drug Court Participant

## Drug Court Mission

The Douglas County Drug Court seeks to enhance public safety by reducing recidivism of individuals with a substance use disorder involved in the criminal justice system by offering community treatment services and a therapeutic court setting. Drug Court provides the opportunity to develop a structured, law abiding and recovery supportive lifestyle.

## Goals

- Reduce recidivism among Drug Court participants.
- Promote and enhance public safety.
- Provide accountability and alternatives to incarceration for those with substance use disorders.
- Engage the community in the recovery process through education and awareness of the addiction cycle.

By working together, the Team provides the participants with long-term treatment; judicial oversight; consistent, supportive supervision; objective measures of abstinence; and recovery skills necessary to maintain a substance-free lifestyle. The Team hopes to provide an alternative to incarceration that positively affects the participants and strengthens their family and the community.