

## Ten Key Components of Drug Courts

- Drug courts integrate alcohol and other drug treatment services with justice system case processing.
- Using a non-adversarial approach, prosecution and defense counsel promote public safety while protecting participants' due process rights.
- Eligible participants are identified early and promptly placed in the drug court program.
- Drug courts provide access to a continuum of alcohol, drug, and other related treatment and rehabilitation services.
- Abstinence is monitored by frequent alcohol and other drug testing.
- A coordinated strategy governs drug court responses to participants' compliance.
- Ongoing judicial interaction with each drug court participant is essential.
- Monitoring and evaluation measure the achievement of program goals and gauge effectiveness.
- Continuing interdisciplinary education promotes effective drug court planning, implementation, and operations.
- Forging partnerships among drug courts, public agencies, and community based organizations generates local support and enhances drug court program effectiveness.



**RESTORES  
DIGNITY**

To submit a **PROGRAM REFERRAL**, please contact the Drug Court Coordinator:

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**SMALL STEPS  
ADDING UP TO BIG  
ACHIEVEMENTS**

Court application forms and information are also available on-line at:

<http://www.dauphincounty.org/government/Court-Departments/Court-Programs/Pages/Drug-Court.aspx>

For additional information on Drug Courts around the country:

<http://www.nadcp.org/>



## Dauphin County Drug Court Program

**Presiding Judge  
Edward M. Marsico,  
Jr.**



## PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

### Presumptive Qualifying Characteristics

- An individual is charged with any criminal offense when it appears the offense is motivated by a desire to support an alcohol/ drug habit
- The individual states to the police or Magisterial District Judge that s/he is an alcohol/drug user at the time of arrest.
- The individual's family, friends, attorney, or probation officer, etc. indicated that s/he is an alcohol/drug user.
- The individual tests positive for alcohol/drug use at the time of arrest.
- The individual tests positive for alcohol/drug use while on pre-trial release.

### Disqualifying Characteristics

Any item checked below disqualifies the individual unless the Drug Court Coordination Team determines them to be eligible outside the guidelines and lists the reasons below.

- The individual is not a resident of Dauphin County, Pennsylvania.
- The individual is precluded by Pennsylvania Sentencing Guidelines.
- The individual is charged with Delivery of a Controlled Substance within 1000 feet of a school.
- The individual is charged with 3 or more Felony counts.
- The individual is currently under the supervision of the PA State Parole Board.
- The individual has another charge pending on which he/she would be deemed ineligible.
- The amounts possessed or delivered are excessive.

## THE COURT

The Dauphin County Drug Court is designed to offer non-violent offenders with drug and/or alcohol use disorders the opportunity for treatment, combined with restrictive intermediate punishment, in lieu of jail time. Most offenders, if accepted into the program, can expect to be active program participants for a minimum of 24 months from sentencing to program completion. The Dauphin County Drug Court is a post-disposition program.

Drug Court is a high-intensity program, initially requiring weekly appearances before the Drug Court Judge; completion of the Court-ordered treatment program; an intense level of supervision by probation officers; around-the-clock monitoring for drug/alcohol use; and compliance with all other directives issued by the Court.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Dauphin County Drug Court program is to promote public safety by holding repeat offenders accountable, through required treatment and other rehabilitative activities, LONG ENOUGH to receive treatment benefits. This will assist the offender in breaking the cycle of addiction, use, or/and abuse of alcohol or/and other drugs, and result in an increase in safety and security for the residents of Dauphin County through lower rates of recidivism.

## PHASES

The Drug Court program is divided into five (5) phases followed by a Continuing Care Phase. The general goals of each are indicated below:

Phase	Goals
1	<b>Accountability: Attendance--</b> Treatment attendance, drug testing attendance, court attendance, probation attendance, community support/other meeting attendance, compliance with medication
2	<b>Accountability: Honesty &amp; General Outlook--</b> Phase 1 Goals <u>PLUS</u> Honesty with Court & Positive Attitude
3	<b>Accountability: No Drug Use, Establishing Support System, &amp; Improving Social Relationships--</b> Phase 1 & 2 Goals <u>PLUS</u> Abstinence/Negative Drug Tests, Establishing Pro-social Activity/Hobby, Maintaining Sober Support Network
4	<b>Accountability: No Drug Use &amp; Personal Responsibilities--</b> Phase 1, 2, & 3 Goals <u>PLUS</u> GED/School and/or Job Readiness/Employment, Child Support Payments, Court Fees/Fines
5	<b>All Behaviors from Phases 1-4, Maintaining Sobriety and Prepare for Life After Drug Court</b>

After the completion of the initial 5 phases, participants will commence from the intense structure of the drug court program and enter the Continuing Care Phase. This phase is intended to allow for the stabilization/maintenance of all the tools and techniques gained during the first 5 phases of drug court. The structure and requirements of drug court gradually decrease, which allows each participant to demonstrate his/her ability to maintain recovery after contact with the drug court program ceases.