



**Michigan Association of
Treatment Court Professionals**



The first drug court in Michigan was started in Kalamazoo County Circuit Court. Michigan now has 199 problem-solving courts: 134 drug/sobriety; 27 veterans; and, 37 mental health.

The Michigan Association of Treatment Court Professionals (MATCP) was founded in 1996 and held its 1st annual conference for treatment court personnel in 1999.

MATCP is a 501c4 nonprofit, founded by the first drug and sobriety court members.

In 2021, MATCP's 21st Annual Conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan attracted over 750 treatment court professionals from across the state, in person and virtually.

MATCP

- provides educational training to individual teams one-on-one and at its conference;
- serves as a voice for treatment courts in the state and federal legislature; and,
- works with the private sector and general public on educating and advancing treatment courts.

MISSION

The mission of MATCP is to provide leadership to treatment courts in the State of Michigan

GOALS

To advance the cost savings and life savings philosophies of treatment courts; this new model of justice succeeds where traditional probation and jail sentences have not.

OFFICERS

President: Alma Valenzuela, Director of Probation/Community Corrections, Ottawa County

Vice President : Hon. Jocelyn Fabry, Sault St. Marie Chippewa Tribal Court

Secretary: David Wallace, Asst. Prosecuting Attorney, Huron County

Treasurer: Hon. Carrie Fuca, 41B Veterans Treatment Court Presiding Judge

Past President: Barbara Hankey, Oakland County Community Corrections Manager

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

John Andrews, Michigan Association of Substance Abuse Coordinating Agencies (retired)

Nancy Becker Bennett, Division Director, Grants & Community Services Division, Michigan State Police

Alexandra Black, Court Administrator, 52-1 District Court, Oakland County

Hon. Patrick Bowler*, SCAO Judicial Liaison; Kent County District Court Judge (retired)

Robert Cooney, Prosecuting Attorney, Grand Traverse County

Hon. Linda Davis (ret.), Executive Director, F.A.N.

Hon. Susan Dobrich*, Cass County Probate Court

Linda Edwards-Brown, Washtenaw County Juvenile Court Administrator (retired)

Jack Holmes, Oakland County Sobriety Court Defense Attorney

Hon. Susan Jonas, 58th District Sobriety Court Presiding Judge, Ottawa County (retired)

MATCP Board of Directors

Hon. Karen Khalil, 17th District Veterans Court Presiding Judge, Wayne County

Andrea Krause, Montcalm County Prosecuting Attorney

Hon. Mark E. Luoma, 93rd District Sobriety Court Presiding Judge, Alger County

Hon. Laura Mack, 29th District Mental Health Court Presiding Judge, Wayne County (retired)

Hon. Phyllis McMillen*, 6th Circuit Drug Court Presiding Judge, Oakland County

Hon. Geno Salomone*, 23rd District Sobriety Court Presiding Judge, Wayne County

Hon. Ronald Schafer, 8th Circuit Drug Court Presiding Judge, Ionia County

Hon. Patrick Shannon, Chief Judge, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribal Court

Carol Smith, Clinical Services Director, Catholic Human Services (retired)

Patrick Stropes, Public Relations, Court/Public Safety Liaison, Growth Works

Mark Witte, Executive Director, Allegan County Community Mental Health Services

**TREATMENT
COURTS
SAVE LIVES,
REDUCE
CRIME,
AND
SAVE MONEY**



SAVE LIVES

The average success rate for treatment courts addressing drug & alcohol abuse is 65%.

Drug/Sobriety Court graduates achieved an average of 338 consecutive days of sobriety at the time of their discharge.

On average, 13% of drug court participants were able to improve their education level while in a drug court.

REDUCE CRIME

78% of Drug Court graduates in Michigan remain arrest-free at least 3 years after leaving the program.


SAVE MONEY

Drug Courts save as much as \$27 for every \$1 invested.

What are Treatment Courts?

Referred to as Problem-Solving Courts by the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO)

*from State Court
Administrative Office
FY2020
Problem-Solving Courts
Annual Report*



Problem-solving courts (PSCs), or treatment courts, combine intense supervision and monitoring with treatment for substance use disorders (SUD) and/or mental illness. Models for the various types of treatment courts have undergone much scrutiny through research to determine which components result in positive change among offenders graduating from a treatment court. **They were developed to address the underlying reasons why offenders continually return to crime.** For example, offenders suffering with drug or alcohol addiction might not benefit from jail or a standard probationary term when they are not required to engage in treatment for their SUD. Similarly, offenders with untreated mental illness do not benefit from jail or other punitive measures when their mental illness goes unaddressed or even unrecognized. **Ignoring the reasons people commit crime often results in a return to crime.**

Prior to the creation of PSCs, criminal justice and behavioral health treatment had operated separately, with little interaction or compatibility between them. The fields traditionally had little communication, and when they did, they were speaking different languages. There were not enough reasons for having interdisciplinary education between the two, which resulted in courts not understanding addiction and mental illness or the therapies required to treat these illnesses, and therapists not understanding traditional criminal justice processes such as how

jail sanctioning is determined. Enter PSCs and a different way of doing business!

Treatment courts specialize in making these two parallel fields interdependent by requiring treatment services as part of probation orders to address and treat the behaviors that are leading to crime. **Thus, court personnel and therapists work together as a team,** bridging the gaps in understanding and learning about the fields of the other and communicating regularly to ensure participants are compliant and progressing in their treatment. Participants in a treatment court must attend therapy, many review hearings in court, and frequent and random drug testing to determine abstinence or medication compliance. **Participants are also held accountable for their actions and are subjected to a higher level of monitoring and supervision than the standard probationer.** Home and employment checks by law enforcement, probation officers, or case managers are conducted, as well as frequent probation and/or case manager appointments. Rewards are given for positive behaviors, such as breakthroughs in treatment, helping in the community or fellow participants, finding employment, or simply making it through a day without the use of drugs or alcohol. Program sanctions are immediately imposed when a PSC participant is not engaging, is not compliant, or is not meeting achievable goals. All of these components, and how they are provided on an individual basis, are guided by **evidence-based practices.**

Certification of Problem-Solving Courts

In 2013 and 2015, the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) published the “Adult Drug Court Best Practices Standards Volumes I and II,” which have been a blueprint for how treatment courts should operate to improve outcomes for offenders with SUD or mental illness.

Drawing heavily from these manuals and their resources, SCAO collaborated with the Michigan Association of Treatment Court Professionals in 2016 to determine which best practices for Michigan’s drug courts were required in order to achieve the level of certification, and subsequently published the “Michigan Adult Drug Court Standards, Best Practices, and Promising Practices” in March 2017.

In 2018, SCAO developed and published the required best practices and standards for veterans treatment courts and mental health courts.

To certify a court, SCAO’s team of PSC analysts conduct a process evaluation of programs to ensure operations adhere to all required best practices and standards. Prior to the pandemic, analysts conducted on-site evaluations of each court, spending one to two days with the team, but evaluations are now conducted via Zoom. PSC analysts observe courtroom procedures and staffing meetings, conduct interviews with all team members, review policy and procedures manuals and other materials, and evaluate program data.

An official report containing SCAO’s findings and operations that do not meet best practices or standards is sent to the court. Teams are given time to revise any necessary program operations, and once in compliance, they are officially awarded certification for four years. Courts that are awaiting their official site visit are granted provisional certification until their programs are officially reviewed. As of September 30, 2020, 55 drug courts had received certification. In addition, 7 veterans treatment courts and 7 mental health courts became certified. To view the standards and best practices manuals for each type of PSC, please visit courts.mi.gov/PSCresources. *

** From SCAO FY 2020 Problem-Solving Courts Annual Report
<https://courts.michigan.gov/Administration/SCAO/Resources/Documents/Publications/Reports/PSCAnnualReport.pdf>*



Certification of Problem-Solving Courts

BEST PRACTICE

Drug courts enjoy significantly greater reductions in recidivism and significantly higher cost savings when all of the above-mentioned team members regularly participate in staffing meetings and hearings.

(Carey, Mackin & Finigan et al., 2013)

STANDARD

The drug treatment court shall cooperate with, and act in a collaborative manner with, the prosecutor, defense counsel, treatment providers, the local substance abuse coordinating agency for that circuit or district, probation departments, and, to the extent possible, local law enforcement, the department of corrections, and community corrections agencies.

MCL 600.1070(3)



The Team

CRIMINAL	FAMILY
Judge	Judge
Prosecutor & Defense attorney	Prosecutor & Parents' attorneys
Treatment providers	Treatment providers
Coordinator	Coordinator
Case Managers	Case Managers
Probation & DOC	Probation & DOC
Community Corrections	Community Corrections
Law Enforcement	Law Enforcement
Evaluator	Evaluator
Community Members	Community Members
Peer supports	Peer supports
	DHHS
	LGAL
	CASA



The Team – Participating Judges

Judicial Participation	Recidivism reduction*
The judge spends an average of 3 minutes or more per participant during status review hearings	>153% (& cost savings of >36%)
The judge's term is indefinite	>35% (& cost savings of >17%)
The judge was assigned to treatment court on a voluntary basis	>84% (& cost savings of >4%)

*Recidivism reduction & cost savings compared to courts that do not follow these practices

NPC Research Key Components Study 2008



The Services

Integrate alcohol and other drug treatment services with justice system case processing. Examples of rehabilitative services include:

- Drug testing
- Outpatient treatment
- Medication-assisted treatment
- Case service planning
- AA/NA/Smart Recovery/12 Step Programs
- Peer Recovery Coaches
- Therapy
- Trauma-based care
- Child Assessment & Treatment
- Parenting classes
- Sober interactions & activities
- Education assistance
- Job training/assistance
- Housing assistance
- Physical/dental/health care

TREATMENT COURT STATUTES

REVISED JUDICATURE ACT OF 1961 (EXCERPT)

Act 236 of 1961

CHAPTER 10A. DRUG TREATMENT COURTS

(600.1060...600.1088)

CHAPTER 10B. MENTAL HEALTH COURT

(600.1090...600.1099a)

CHAPTER 10C JUVENILE MENTAL HEALTH

COURTS (600.1099b...600.1099m)

CHAPTER 12 VETERANS TREATMENT COURTS

(600.1200...600.1297)



ADVOCACY

We engage in a variety of advocacy efforts – at both the state & federal levels, ranging from:

- Testifying at committee hearings;
- Assisting in the drafting of legislation;
- Working in partnership with SCAO Problem-Solving Courts division on certification, best practices, funding issues;
- Meeting with legislators who introduce bills that affect treatment courts;
- Collaborate and communicate with others on broader criminal justice and health initiatives;
- And more!

Examples of our past advocacy efforts include:

- Opposing Proposal 1 for the legalization of marijuana;
- Writing letters and submitting comments to LARA and DHHS on policy changes that would impact licensing for SUD providers and the provider enrollment fitness criteria (e.g., peer recovery coaches);
- Working with the Governor's Office and MSHDA on a housing pilot for participants in treatment courts – the 1st site opened in Jackson in 2021!
- Advocating for the preservation of treatment funding under the ACA and Medicaid programs.

Public Partners

Office of Governor Gretchen Whitmer
Michigan Department of Attorney General
Michigan Department of State
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Michigan Department of Corrections
Michigan State Police
Office of Highway Safety Planning
Michigan State Housing Development Authority

Michigan Supreme Court
State Court Administrative Office
Michigan Judicial Institute

Community Mental Health Association of Michigan
Criminal Defense Attorneys of Michigan
Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan
Michigan Sheriffs' Association
Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police
Michigan State Medical Society
National Association of Drug Court Professionals



Regional Cross Training

CONNECTING TREATMENT COURTS AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS



Current State Legislative Bills We are Tracking

State House & Senate

HB 4089, sponsored by Rep. Sue Allor, would include Etizolam as a Schedule 1 Drug. **MATCP SUPPORTS**

HB 4254, sponsored by Rep. Sarah Lightner, would prescribe a uniform mental health prescreening tool for jail intake. **MATCP SUPPORTS**

SB 191, sponsored by Sen. Curtis VanderWall, would expand the definition of mental health professionals to include physician assistants, certified nurse practitioners, and clinical nurse specialists-certified. **MATCP SUPPORTS**



Current State Legislative Bills We are Working On

Mental Health Court Violent Offenders – would amend MCL 600.1093(1) to allow violent offenders into MHC by discretion of Judge and Prosecutor after consultation with victim. SCAO & PAAM are supportive.

All other Treatment Court Violent Offenders – would amend MCL 600.1066(d); same approach as above. SCAO & PAAM are supportive.

New Felonies Bill – would amend MCL 600.1074 (2), which provides mandatory termination when participants is convicted of felony after admission into treatment court. New language would allow for judicial discretion to continue the participant in the program. SCAO & PAAM are supportive.

Mental Health Court/Veterans Court Interlock Program – would amend MCL 1084 & 257.304. Adds to the existing Ignition Interlock/Restricted License Program. SCAO, PAAM, and MDOS (Sec. of State) are supportive.



Treatment Court Housing Pilot for Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)/Substance Abuse Disorder (SUD) Participants

The idea for the Housing Pilot arose from the 2016 MATCP Public Partner Summit. Governor Rick Snyder and his staff were supportive of moving this pilot forward.

In 2017, MSHDA created a new class of Permanent Supportive Housing to meet the needs of persons in recovery from OUDs/SUDs. Recovery Housing is a marriage between the Treatment Courts and Permanent Supportive Housing. The target population for Recovery Housing are persons in Treatment Courts with a SUD, with a focus on persons with an OUD. The Treatment Courts refer potential residents to the Recovery Housing community. They continue to make use of their existing treatment service providers and funding, while maintaining oversight and control of the residents through Treatment Court methodology. A key factor of this program is that residents can stay in Recovery Housing for as long as they like. Short term stays in jails, residential facilities or short-term housing do not provide the long term safety and stability needed to achieve recovery from opioid issues.

MSHDA sought to develop three Recovery Housing projects as the initial pilot for the program. Andy's Place, a fifty-unit development in Jackson County, invited its first residents in 2021. The second development, which is located in Farmington Hills will have eighty units. It has secured the land, has support from the local government and has submitted its formal application for Low Income Tax Credits. Discussions are ongoing for the third Recovery Housing project to be located in West Michigan (Kent, Ottawa, Allegan and Muskegon counties), Southwest Michigan (Kalamazoo) or Mid-Michigan (Midland, Saginaw, Bay counties). Efforts are currently underway to seek support from local community leaders, to begin looking for land and to secure support from local strategic partners.



*Andy's Place
Jackson, MI*

EDUCATION



21st Annual Conference



**Change for a
Lifetime**

**Tuesday & Wednesday,
March 2-3, 2021**

Amway Grand Plaza | Grand Rapids, MI

In addition to our Annual Conference, MATCP travels annually to the U.P. to present to treatment court professionals from the U.P. and upper-lower peninsula.

We have also done trainings at the request of courts in Mt. Pleasant, Saginaw, and more...

We are available for informal meetings, community presentations, or a more structured training.

SAVE THE DATE

**MATCP Public Partner Summit &
Legislative Reception (4-6pm)
Wednesday, October 27, 2021
Lansing Center**

**MATCP 22nd Annual Conference
March 31-April 1, 2022
Lansing Center
*Legislative Reception evening
of March 31***

**All info on our website, matcp.org, under
Events**

contact
us

MATCP

824 North Capitol Avenue
Lansing, MI 48906

517.253.0896 (o)

517.913.6024 (f)

info@matcp.org

matcp.org

matcp.org

**Kate Hude,
Executive Director
kate@matcp.org**

**Hon. Harvey J. Hoffman
(ret.), Legislative Director
judgehoffman@gmail.com**



@matcp.org



@matcp_



@matcp02



@MATCP2002