

Fiscal Year 2007

MARYLAND JUDICIARY

Administrative Office of the Courts

Office of Problem-Solving Courts



ANNUAL REPORT

Of the Problem-Solving Courts

In Maryland

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Annual Report

In 2002 the Maryland Judiciary established the Drug Treatment Court Commission (Commission) for the purpose of supporting the development of drug court programs throughout Maryland. This action was taken in response to the grim reality that more than half of all individuals arrested in Maryland are alcohol or other drug dependent. The human cost associated with such addictions is inestimable, but the cost to the State with respect to crime and the collateral health care consequences is in the billions of dollars. Since being one of the first cities to start drug courts in 1994, Baltimore City has seen 38 other drug court programs started in this state alone. We also have 2 Mental Health Courts begin and 5 Truancy Reduction Courts in operation as of June 30, 2007.

The Commission was recognized as the lead agency in the State's effort to operate and maintain drug treatment court programs for the State of Maryland. Commission members included: Circuit and District Court Judges, legislators, representatives from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Department of Juvenile Services, the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, State's Attorney's Offices, the Office of the Public Defender, the and the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention.

In December of 2006, Chief Judge Robert M. Bell of the Court of Appeals issued an administrative order to establish the Judicial Conference Committee on Problem-Solving Courts. These courts, such as drug treatment, mental health courts, and truancy reduction courts have grown as public and other branches of state government look to the courts to help solve the problem of crime through non-traditional methods.



Chief Judge Robert M. Bell and Drug Court Graduate

This Judicial Conference Committee did not disband the Drug Treatment Court Commission nor change its focus. Rather it institutionalized the work the Commission had done for nearly five years by having it report directly to the Problem-Solving Court Judicial Conference Committee.

The Office of Problem Solving Courts (OPSC) is responsible for assisting Maryland's problem-solving courts in developing and maintaining a Judiciary led collaborative therapeutic system. OPSC has overseen the creation of problem-solving programs in 20 of the 24 political subdivisions in Maryland. This office works with judges, masters, court administrators, coordinators, clerks, private/public service agencies, and

executive and legislative branch agencies to develop and establish best practices in problem-solving courts.

A New Direction

Courts have increasingly become the institution of choice by the public and other branches of state government to address complex, problematic societal issues including drug related crime, family dysfunction, and repeated nuisance crimes in both urban centers, as well as suburban and rural areas in Maryland. Throughout the United States, courts are increasingly focused on problem solving and alternative remedies not effectively accommodated by the current legal and adjudicatory process. Numerous problem-solving courts are being established to provide sustained and meaningful resolutions for thousands of difficult cases that enter our courtrooms daily.



Judge George Lipman, Senator Ulysses Currie (Prince George's County), and Drug Court Graduate

In Maryland, problem-solving courts, in particular, drug courts, have been widely evaluated, possibly far more than any other community justice program in history. (See Appendix 1: Fact Sheet)

In February of 2005, the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) published an extensive review of

drug court research, which concluded that most adult drug court programs evidenced:

- Lower re-arrest and conviction rates for drug court participants than comparison group members.
- Fewer recidivism events for drug court participants than comparison group members.
- Recidivism reductions for participants who had committed various categories of offenses.
- Recidivism reductions that were maintained for substantial intervals of time after the participants had completed the drug court program.
- Positive cost/benefits for the drug court participants.

County	Location	Type of Program	Year Est.	Current number of Participants *	# Entered Program	# Graduated	# Administratively Discharged	# Discharged w/o Violation	# Unsuccessfully Discharged
Anne Arundel	Circuit Court	Adult	Dec-05	26	19	5	1	10	0
Anne Arundel	Circuit Court	Juvenile	Mar-02	33	39	17	2	7	7
Anne Arundel	District Court	Adult	Feb-97	195	100	44	0	24	0
Anne Arundel	District Court	DUI	Jan-05	10	6	0	0	0	0
Baltimore City	Circuit Court	Adult	Oct-94	496	180	139	14	122	61
Baltimore City	Circuit Court	Family	Aug-05	86	77	28	0	49	0
Baltimore City	Circuit Court	Juvenile	Sep-98	49	36	1	10	2	7
Baltimore City	District Court	Adult	Mar-94	324	279	81	5	104	24
Baltimore County	Circuit Court	Juvenile	Mar-03	71	50	27	10	4	5
Calvert	Circuit Court	Juvenile	May-06	3	4	1	1	1	0
Caroline	Circuit Court	Juvenile	Jul-04	10	9	1	0	0	0
Carroll	Circuit Court	Adult	Apr-07	9	5	0	0	0	0
Cecil	Circuit Court	Adult	Jun-06	28	27	0	2	1	0
Charles	Circuit Court	Juvenile	May-06	15	3	1	0	0	0
Dorchester	Circuit Court	Adult	Jul-04	6	9	0	0	1	0
Dorchester	Circuit Court	Juvenile	Jul-04	10	7	0	0	1	0
Frederick	Circuit Court	Adult	May-05	30	22	2	0	6	0
Harford	Circuit Court	Adult	Jan-04	8	14	11	3	3	0
Harford	Circuit Court	Family	May-04	16	5	3	4	2	0
Harford	Circuit Court	Juvenile	Oct-01	25	18	9	6	3	0
Harford	District Court	Adult	Nov-97	29	22	8	0	6	0
Harford	District Court	DUI	Jan-05	20	9	10	0	0	2
Howard	District Court	Adult	Jul-04	10	10	7	0	5	0
Howard	District Court	DUI	Jul-04	19	17	9	1	1	0
Montgomery	Circuit Court	Adult	Nov-05	38	32	10	0	1	0
Montgomery	Circuit Court	Juvenile	Nov-05	10	13	4	4	5	0
Prince George's	Circuit Court	Adult	Aug-02	127	56	16	1	3	0
Prince George's	Circuit Court	Juvenile	Aug-02	27	14	5	12	1	0
Prince George's	District Court	Adult	Aug-02	10	13	0	1	4	0
Somerset	Circuit Court	Juvenile	Apr-06	6	4	1	0	0	0
St. Mary's	Circuit Court	Juvenile	Feb-04	23	19	14	0	4	0
Talbot	Circuit Court	Juvenile	Oct-04	12	16	8	0	1	0
Washington	Circuit Court	Adult	Jun-07	6	2	0	0	0	0
Wicomico	Circuit Court	Adult	Sep-05	29	19	2	2	3	1
Worcester	Circuit Court	Adult	Dec-05	5	8	0	1	1	0
Worcester	Circuit Court	Juvenile	Oct-05	15	17	4	0	4	0
Worcester	District Court	Adult	Dec-05	13	8	3	0	0	0
Total				1849	1188	471	80	379	107

* Number of participants as of June 30, 2007

Source: Maryland Judiciary

Table 1 Table of Entry and Exit Statistics for Drug Courts by County and Court

In Maryland, recent evaluations conducted by an outside evaluator, NPC Research has provided the following outcomes:

Harford County Juvenile Drug Court Performance Evaluation 2006

- There were **36% fewer juvenile and adult arrests** among drug court participants compared to non-participants when followed for three years. (Note: This evaluation followed the youth into adulthood.)
- Drug court participants had **59% fewer days** on juvenile and adult probation/parole than non-participants.
- The average cost of criminal justice outcomes (e.g., arrests, incarcerations, probation) for the drug court group in the year following program involvement was **60% less** than the cost for not-drug court participants.
- Drug court participants had substantially more days in residential treatment in the two years after program entry, demonstrating that the program is successful in accomplishing its key goal of getting its participants into the treatment they need.

Anne Arundel County Adult District Court Drug Court Cost-Benefit/Cost-Avoidance Analysis 2004

- Over a 48-month period, program participants were **re-arrested at a rate 12.3 percent** lower than the comparison sample.
- For every dollar spent on a program participant, **\$1.74 could be recouped** in savings resulting from the criminal justice system, victimization cost and income taxes from the participants.
- The graduation rate for the sample study was **54.7 percent; 13 percent higher** than the national average for drug treatment courts.

Baltimore City Adult District and Circuit Courts Drug Treatment Court Cost-Benefit/Cost-Avoidance Analysis 2004

- Over a 36-month period, program participants were **re-arrested 31.4 percent fewer** times than those in the comparison model.



Baltimore City Drug Court Graduates

- Over the course of the three-year study, the treatment courts incurred **24.2 percent less in criminal justice system costs** than the comparison sample. Projected on the average of 758 program participants during the study period, **more than \$2.7 million in total criminal justice system savings were determined.**
- Using the financial benefits compared to the costs for each participant, the programs represented a three-year, **136 percent ‘return’ on the amount invested.**

Judicial Conference Committee

I. Vision

The Problem-Solving Courts Committee seeks to make the citizens and communities of the State of Maryland safer through the operation of Problem-Solving Courts, which address crime and related social issues by promoting interdisciplinary approaches to improve the quality of life for court-involved individuals and their families.

II. Mission

The Problem-Solving Courts Committee promotes, oversees, and sustains a comprehensive and collaborative approach for court-involved persons through the development, implementation, and operation of Problem-Solving Courts. The Committee supports and facilitates the access and delivery of effective and appropriate treatment and other community based services to achieve positive measurable results. The Committee ensures that Problem-Solving Courts by employing best practices be providing evidenced-based training, technical assistance, research, funding, and support.

III. Definition

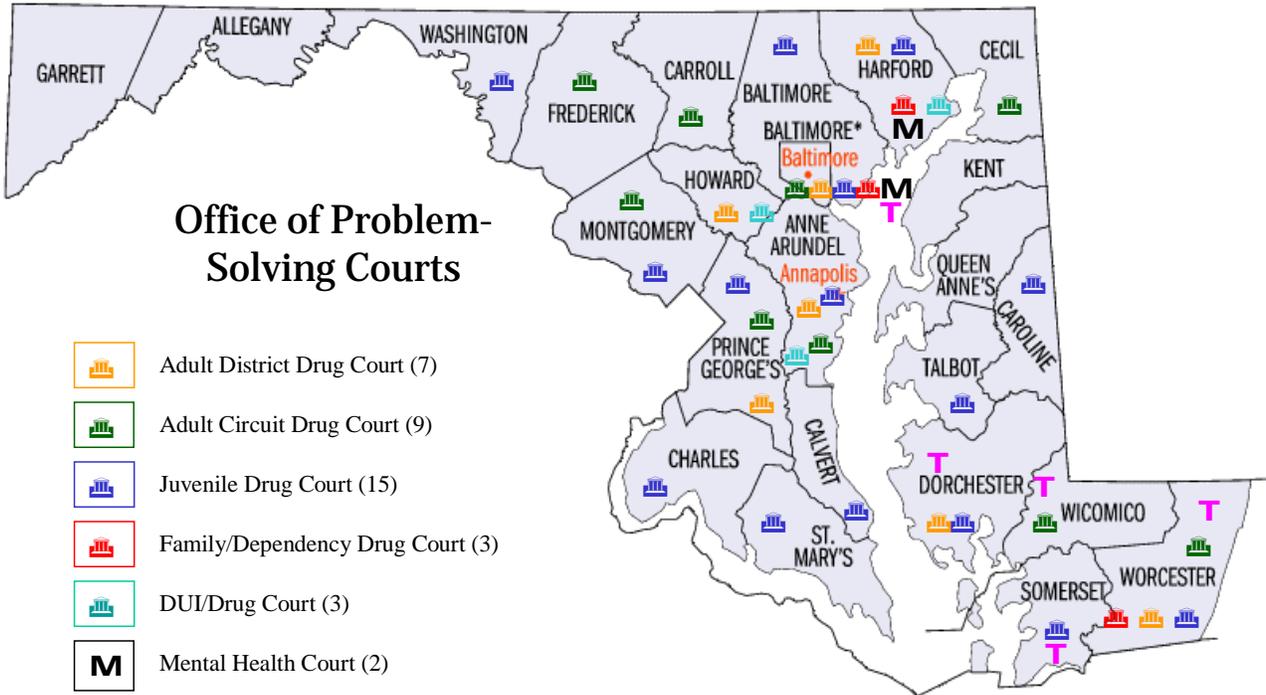
Problem-Solving Courts address matters that are under the court’s jurisdiction through a multidisciplinary and integrated approach that incorporates collaboration between courts, government, and community organizations.

IV. Components of Problem-Solving Courts

1. Team approach with court as leader.
2. Integrated services with court system processing.
3. Early identification, prompt screening, assessment, and placement of Services.
4. Provide access to a continuum of services.
5. Ongoing judicial interaction with each participant.
6. Coordinated strategy including use of incentives and sanctions to promote participant compliance.
7. Achieve desired goals using a non-adversarial process while protecting the due process rights of participants.
8. Frequent monitoring and reporting of participant behavior.
9. Partnership with public agencies and community-based organizations to facilitate delivery of services, program effectiveness, and generate local support.
10. Use of management information systems to evaluate achievement of program goals and gauge effectiveness.
11. Continuing interdisciplinary education of judges, partners, staff, and community.
12. Commitment to cultural competency and diversity issues.

Approved June 2007

Operational Problem-Solving Courts in Maryland



As of 6-30-07

Drug Courts

Drug Courts are the best known and perhaps the first institutionalized problem-solving innovation. Drug courts are a judicially led, coordinated system that demands accountability of all participants and ensures immediate, intensive and comprehensive drug treatment, supervision and support services using a cadre of incentives and sanctions to encourage offender compliance. Drug courts represent the coordinated efforts of the criminal justice agencies, mental health, social service, and treatment communities to actively and forcefully intervene and break the cycle of substance abuse, addiction, and crime. As an alternative to less effective interventions, drug courts quickly identify substance-abusing offenders and place them under strict court monitoring and community supervision, coupled with effective, long-term treatment services.

In this blending of systems, the drug court participant undergoes an intense regime of substance abuse and mental health treatment, case management, drug testing, and probation supervision while reporting to regularly scheduled status hearings before a judge with specialized expertise in the drug court model (Fox & Huddleston, 2003). Additionally, drug courts provide support services that address problems that contribute to addiction such as: housing, job training and placement, GED readiness, life skills training and family/group counseling.

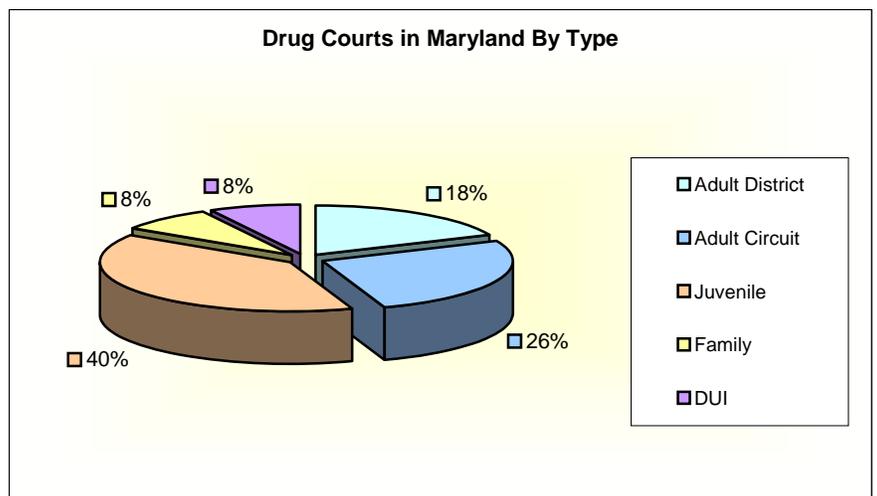


Figure 1 Drug Courts in Maryland by Type

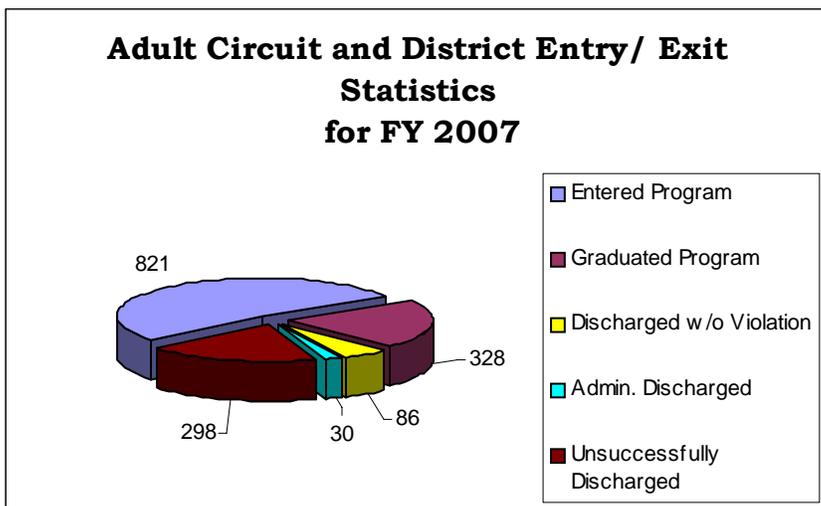


Figure 2 Adult Circuit and District Entry/ Exit Statistics for FY 2007
OFFICE OF PROBLEM-SOLVING COURTS ANNUAL REPORT

In *Painting the Current Picture: a National Report Card on Drug Courts and Other Problem Solving Court Programs in the United States* the different types Drug Courts are defined in the following ways:

Adult Drug Court: An adult drug court is a specially designed court calendar or docket, the purposes of which are to achieve a reduction in recidivism and substance abuse among nonviolent substance abusing offenders and to increase the offender's likelihood of successful habilitation through early, continuous, and intense judicially supervised treatment,

mandatory periodic drug testing, community supervision and use of appropriate sanctions and other habilitation services (BJA, 2003).

Juvenile Drug Court: A juvenile drug court is a docket within a juvenile court to which selected delinquency cases, and in some instances, status offenders, are referred for handling by a designated judge. The youth referred to this docket are identified as having problems with alcohol and/or other drugs. The juvenile drug court judge maintains close oversight of each case through regular status hearings with the parties involved. The judge both leads and works as a member of a team that comprises representatives from treatment, juvenile justice, social and mental health services, school and vocational training programs, law enforcement, probation, the prosecution, and the defense. Over the course of a year or more, the team meets frequently (often weekly), determining how best to address the substance abuse and related problems of the youth and his or her family that have brought the youth into contact with the justice system (BJA, 2003).

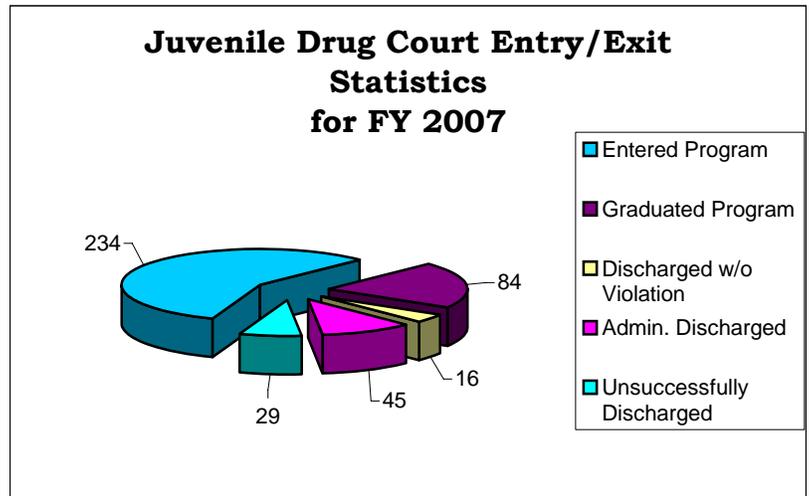


Figure 3 Juvenile Drug Court Entry/Exit Statistics for FY 2007

Family Dependency Treatment Court: A family court docket of which selected abuse, neglect, and dependency cases are identified where parental substance abuse is a primary factor. Judges, attorneys, child protection services, and treatment personnel unite with the goal of providing safe, nurturing, and permanent homes for children while simultaneously providing parents the necessary support and services to become drug and alcohol abstinent. Family dependency treatment courts aid parents in regaining control of their lives and promote long term stabilized recovery to enhance the possibility of family reunification within mandatory legal timeframes (Wheeler & Siegerist, 2003).

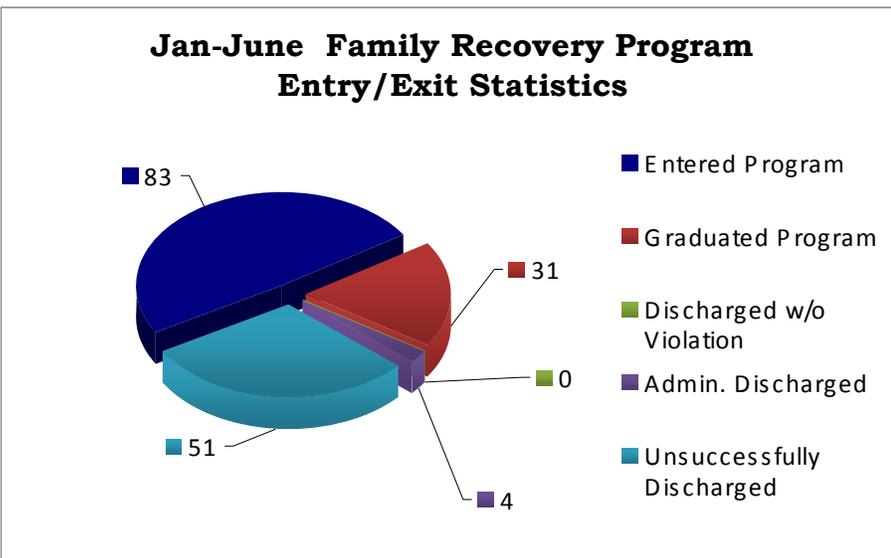


Figure 4 Entry and Exit Statistics for Baltimore City, Harford, and Worcester Family Recovery Courts from January to June 2007

DWI/Drug Court: A DWI/Drug court is a distinct court system dedicated to changing the behavior of the alcohol/drug dependant offender arrested for driving while impaired (DWI). The goal of the DWI/Drug court is to protect public safety by attacking the root cause of DWI: alcohol and other substance abuse. The DWI/Drug Court utilizes all criminal justice stakeholders (prosecutors, defense attorneys, probation, law enforcement, and others) along with alcohol/drug treatment professionals. This group of professionals comprises a “DWI/Drug Court Team.” This DWI/Drug Court team uses a team-oriented approach to systematically change participant behavior. This approach includes identification and referral of participants early in the legal process to a full continuum of drug/alcohol treatment and other rehabilitative services. Compliance with treatment and other court-mandated requirements is verified by frequent alcohol/drug testing, close community supervision, and interaction with the judge in non-adversarial court review hearings. During these review hearings the judge employs a science-based response to participant compliance (or non-compliance) in an effort to further the team’s goal to encourage pro-social, sober behaviors that will prevent DWI recidivism (Loeffler & Huddleston, 2003).

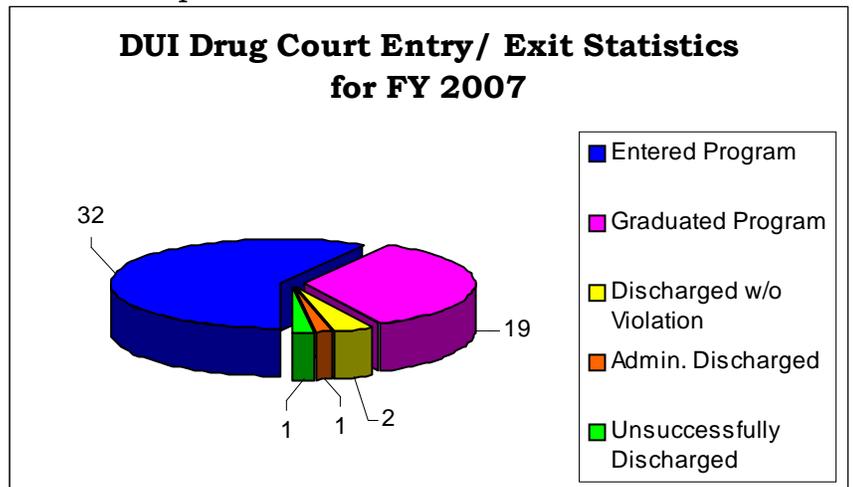


Figure 5 DUI/DWI Drug Courts Entry /Exit Statistics for FY 2007

Effectiveness of Drug Courts

National evaluations demonstrate the effectiveness of drug courts in reducing recidivism, protecting public safety, providing effective treatment and providing substantial cost savings. This was markedly verified in a comprehensive Cost-Benefit/Avoidance Evaluation of the Baltimore City Adult District and Circuit Courts Drug Treatment Courts in 2003. The Baltimore Drug Courts are one of the first in the nation and have been categorized by the evaluators as having the “most difficult” drug court population in the country due to its highly addicted population who have extensive criminal records. A summary of information collected from evaluation reports and other authoritative sources concerning adult and juvenile drug courts in the United States is in Appendix 2. This data, collected from 8 states,¹ involves the experience of 40,108 individuals (36,751 adults and 3,357 juveniles) who were admitted to drug court programs. 33.4% of the adult drug court participants completed the programs. Among juveniles, 33.6% completed drug court programs.

In the October 2006 evaluation of the Harford County Juvenile Drug Court it was reported that the program’s 2001-2004 average annual graduation rate was 47%. Compared to national graduation rates, the Harford County four-year average is impressive. As was reported by the evaluators in the 2006 report, the program has in recent years accepted increasing numbers of young people with more severe juvenile justice system and substance abuse histories than was the case in the early years of the program’s operation. As a result, the graduation rates have decreased, but remain comparable to national levels.

¹ Arizona, Maine, Michigan, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma and Tennessee.

The Baltimore City Circuit Court Adult Drug Court has realized a graduation rate among its program participants that is substantially higher than the national experience indicated above. For the period 2000 through year-to-date 2007, the program has experienced a graduation rate of 40.8% (799 graduates compared to 1,957 program entrants). The Baltimore City District Court Adult Drug Court has experienced somewhat less success as reflected in the graduation rate among its participants. For the period 2002 to 2007 the program realized a graduation rate of 24.2% (637 graduates compared to 2,637 program entrants). Consideration of the Baltimore City Adult Drug Treatment Court graduation rate should be considered in light of the extreme challenges presented by a drug court population that, according to the program's evaluators, includes one of the nation's most severe substance abuse and criminal history profiles among drug court programs. Considered in these terms, the drug court is performing admirably.

Beyond the fact that graduation rates of the Baltimore City and Harford County programs should be viewed in a favorable light as compared to national experience, it is the position of the Maryland Judiciary that drug court graduation performance in Maryland

<p>Drug Treatment Court Oversight Committee</p> <p><u>Vision</u></p> <p>It is the vision of the Drug Treatment Court Oversight Committee that the State of Maryland is made safer through the operation of Drug Treatment Courts by reducing addiction-driven behavior, crime, and substance abuse, and by promoting the positive integration of these individuals with their families and communities.</p> <p><u>Mission:</u></p> <p>The mission of the Drug Treatment Court Oversight Committee is to promote and sustain a comprehensive, collaborative, integrated and coordinated systems- approach for court participants with addictions through the development, implementation and operation of Drug Treatment Courts across the State of Maryland. This includes developing, supporting, evaluating, and facilitating the access and delivery of effective and appropriate treatment and other community-based services, as well as advocating and educating many constituents (the public). The Oversight Committee ensures that Drug Treatment Courts operate at the highest levels, providing evidence-based training, technical assistance, research, funding, and support.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Approved June 2007</p>	<p>should be viewed from a broader perspective than that of individual programs. Drug courts are a statewide initiative of the Judiciary. As a result, statewide drug court program graduation rates should be of most interest to executive, legislative, and judicial policy makers. The Judiciary is in the third year of a statewide evaluation by one of the top drug court research organizations in the country. As graduation rates from multiple adult and juvenile drug courts are compiled and analyzed, the Judiciary will be able to offer to the legislature a more complete picture of drug court program retention and graduation rates. This information will be among a substantial array of indicators of drug court policy performance that will be available for legislative review.</p>
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training programs, drug courts have provided an effective model upon which other Problem Solving initiatives will be based.

Through the promulgation of *key components, best practices and*

The Drug Court Oversight Committee is comprised of leaders from the Judiciary, State's Attorney Office, Office of the Public Defender, Defense Counsel of Maryland, Governor's Office, Faith Community, Alcohol and Drug Administration, University of Maryland-Institute of Governmental Studies and Research, Department of Juvenile Service, Division of Public Safety, and members of the General Assembly.

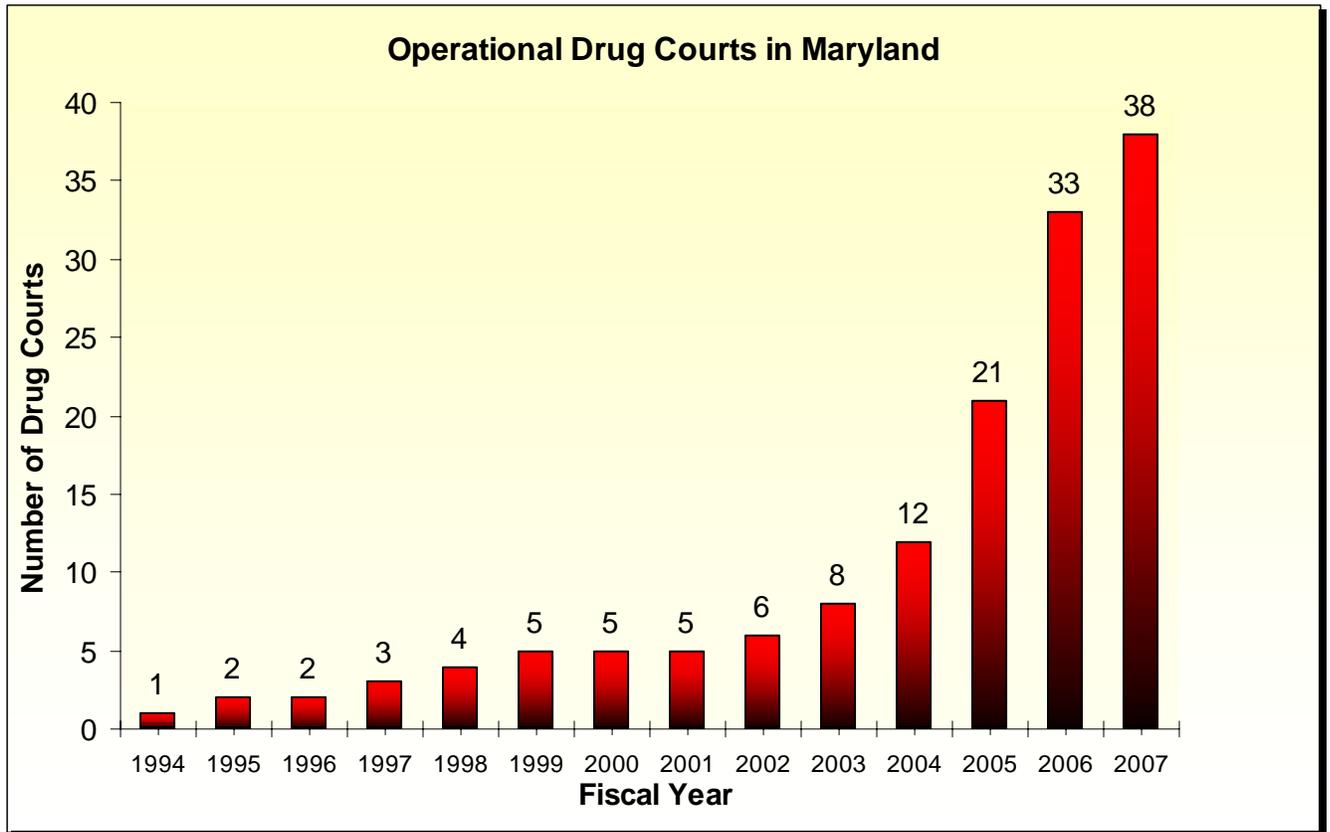


Figure 6 Number of Operational Drug Courts in Maryland since FY 1994

Key Components of Drug Court

1. The early drug courts were planned to meet the specific needs of local law enforcement, courts and communities. However, many other jurisdictions used those as models and established similar goals in starting their own courts. The National Association of Drug Court Professionals' (NADCP) Standards Committee developed a manual on drug courts which sets forth ten key elements of successful drug courts:
2. Integrate alcohol and other drug treatment services with justice system case processing. A team approach must be taken to stop drug abuse and related criminal activity. Courts can motivate offenders to enter treatment, but must work with treatment providers to ensure participants' success. For instance, treatment providers report offenders' treatment progress to courts in order to ensure collaborative use of sanctions and rewards.
3. Use a non-adversarial approach in which prosecution and defense counsel promote public safety while protecting participants' due process rights. Prosecution and defense attorneys must work together as a team and focus on offenders' recovery rather than the merits of the case. Prosecutors are responsible for identifying drug court candidates, and defense attorneys are obligated to protect offenders' rights and inform them about the drug court process.
4. Identify eligible participants early for immediate referral to the program. Substance abuse problems may be easier to identify after offenders are arrested. When experiencing the crisis of arrest, offenders may be more open to pursuing treatment because the consequences of drug use are so obvious at that time.
5. Provide access to a continuum of treatment and rehabilitation services. Only part of offenders' treatment takes place in the courtroom or in formal treatment settings. Creating a therapeutic team ensures that secondary issues, such as health care, housing and unemployment are addressed. If these problems are ignored, successful substance abuse treatment will be compromised. Offenders need access to a full range of services, as one size does not fit all.
6. Monitor abstinence by frequent drug testing. Drug testing is the most reliable, objective way to detect recent drug use. A drug testing system ensures individual accountability and helps gauge participant's progress and compliance.
7. Coordinate court and treatment program responses to participants' compliance or lack of compliance, including contingency contracts that involve participants in their own sanctions and incentives. Rewards and sanctions should promote ending drug use. Graduated sanctions are used in response to non-compliance with treatment. Rewards are given for negative drug tests and attending all drug court meetings and treatment sessions.
8. Require ongoing judicial interaction with drug court participants. Judges lead the drug court team and link participants with treatment providers. Judicial supervision shows participants that someone in authority cares and increases the chances that participants will remain in the program.
9. Monitor and evaluate achievement of program goals and program effectiveness. The goals and objectives of drug court programs should be measurable. Objective outcome data provide accountability to funding agencies and policy makers; positive outcomes increase the likelihood of continued funding and community support for programs.
10. Promote effective drug court planning through interdisciplinary education of planning teams. Key drug court personnel, as well as those indirectly involved in the program, should continue to receive training and education. Continued education ensures that the drug court's goals and policies are understood and provides opportunities for ongoing interaction between personnel from different agencies.
11. Forge partnerships among drug courts, public agencies and community-based organizations. Drug courts create partnerships among organizations dedicated to rehabilitating substance-abusing offenders. Multiple partnerships increase services available to participants during and after the program.

Drug Court Oversight Committee

The OPSC and the Drug Court Oversight Committee oversee the five subcommittees that are tasks with constructing our statewide plan for drug courts.

The subcommittees include:

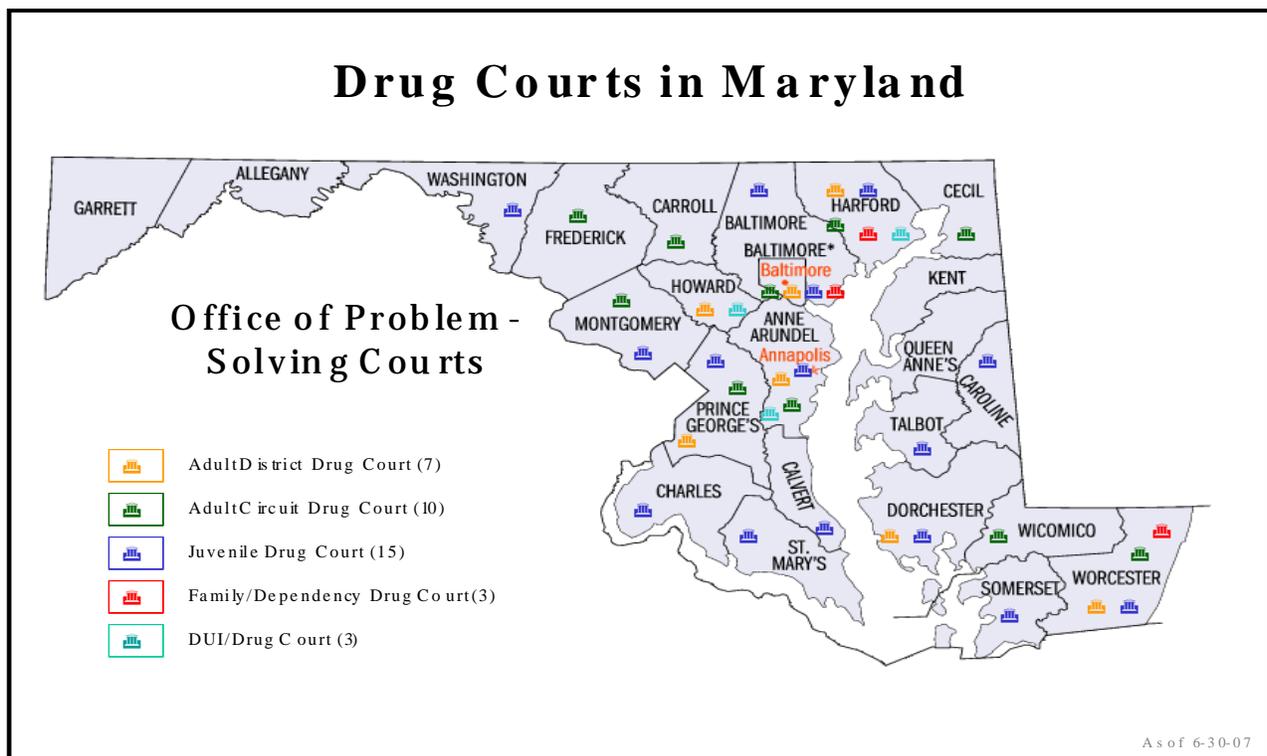
Monitoring and Evaluation is tasked with the development of the Drug Court Certification Process to be completed during 2008.

Partnerships and Collaborations will be planning and instituting strategies to meet the needs our drug court population which include but are not limited to housing, employment barriers, healthcare, family services, and life skills.

Sustainability is tasked with considering the approaches and strategies for increasing the number of participants that can be served by drug courts; to encourage public information about drug courts, and to act as oversight for the consistent application of the OPSC grant process.

Management Information System has completed the reconstruction of the SMART system to include specific categories of data collection for drug court such as case management, education, employment, drug testing, and judicial notes.

Training is the longest standing subcommittee and is producing annual and quarterly training events, technical assistance, and certification training development. This year the committee will develop a *train the trainer* series, prepare a speakers bureau, and add a judicial training to the Judicial Institute.



Mental Health Courts

Increasingly, large numbers of mentally ill people are entering the criminal justice system each year. The criminalization of people with mental illness is a growing social problem, which is a burden to both the criminal justice system and the public mental health system. It is estimated that 16% of the incarcerated population suffer from a serious mental illness, and at least 75% of those have a co-occurring substance abuse problem. The traditional approach to processing criminal cases often creates a barrier that prevents the court from identifying and responding to the unique needs of the mentally ill offender. These offenders frequently spend unnecessary time in jail, and lacking access to mental health treatment services on release, tend to be re-arrested and cycle through the system over and over again. The needs of the community are not addressed, the costs to the taxpayer escalate, and the defendant continues to have the same problems and associated risks as before.

In *Painting the Current Picture: a National Report Card on Drug Courts and Other Problem Solving Court Programs in the United States* a mental health court is defined as follows:

Mental Health Court: Modeled after drug courts, a mental health court is a special court docket that focuses on people who have been charged with a crime AND have a psychiatric disability. The purpose of the court is to deal with the crime in a way that addresses the person's mental health needs. The mental disability is the focus rather than criminal behavior. Treatment, medical care and medical supervision, case management, and service referral are primary ingredients of the mental health court (Goldkamp & Irons-Guynn, 2000).

COMPONENTS OF MENTAL HEALTH COURTS

- 1) Mental Health Courts integrate mental health, alcohol, and drug treatment services with justice system case processing.
- 2) A non-adversarial approach is taken by prosecution and defense counsel to promote public safety while protecting participants' due process rights.
- 3) Eligible participants are identified early and promptly placed in the MHC program.
- 4) MHC programs provide access to a continuum of services, including mental health, alcohol, drug, and other related treatment and rehabilitative services.
- 5) MHC's provide a therapeutic environment supported by a dedicated team with the judge as leader.
- 6) Ongoing judicial interaction with each MHC participant is essential.
- 7) MHC's employ frequent monitoring and reporting of participant behavior.
- 8) A coordinated strategy including the use of incentives and sanctions is used to promote compliance.
- 9) Monitoring and evaluation measure the achievement of program goals and gauge program effectiveness.
- 10) Continuing interdisciplinary education of judges, staff, partners, and community promotes effective MHC program planning, implementation, and operations.
- 11) Forging partnerships among mental health courts, drug courts, public and private agencies, community organizations and advocates facilitates service delivery, generates support, and enhances program effectiveness.

Approved June 2007

In cities like Baltimore, the mentally ill offender population is quite large and the problems are extreme. All of the agencies touched by this group recognized the need to take action to change the course, and every agency, without exception, commit time, energy, and services to develop a plan that would address the particular needs of their jurisdiction. In 2002, the Baltimore City Mental Health Court began by consolidating on one docket, all cases in which a competency evaluation was ordered. There are approximately 250 of these cases each year. Previously, the cases were scattered among 9 different criminal courts and multiple judges, prosecutors and defense attorney. This consolidation allows for case processing by a dedicated team of individuals trained in mental health law who follow the cases throughout the process. The Office of the Public Defender and the State's Attorney's Office agreed to provide resources to the court. This partnership laid the groundwork for an expanding mental health court docket.

Harford County District Court also began its Mental Health Court in 2003 and Prince George's County plans on beginning their program in FY 2008.

Objectives of the Program

The Mental Health Court Program represents an effort to develop a collaborative relationship between two systems that have not worked closely together in the past, the criminal justice system and the public mental health system. With these two systems working in concert, the project hopes to achieve the following outcomes:

- Initiate early identification
- Expedite case processing
- Improve access to public mental health treatment services
- Reduce recidivism
- Improve public safety
- Divert from incarceration when appropriate

General Criteria for Admission Into A Mental Health Court Program

- Resides in the Jurisdiction
- At least 18 years old
- Diagnosed with Axis I serious mental illness and/or trauma related disorder
- Eligible for public mental health services
- Agrees to comply with program requirements
- Charged with a misdemeanor or felony within the jurisdiction of the District Court, with the exception of a domestic violence related offense.
- Has never been convicted of a crime of violence.

Evaluations

The Office of Problem-Solving Courts is working with the Administrative Office of the Court's Department of Court Research and Development in conducting research and performing evaluations of Mental Health Court programs supported by the Judiciary. The Court Research and Development staff is assessing national research on these problem-solving court programs, and will develop protocols for, and conduct evaluations of Maryland's existing programs.

Mental Health Court Oversight Committee

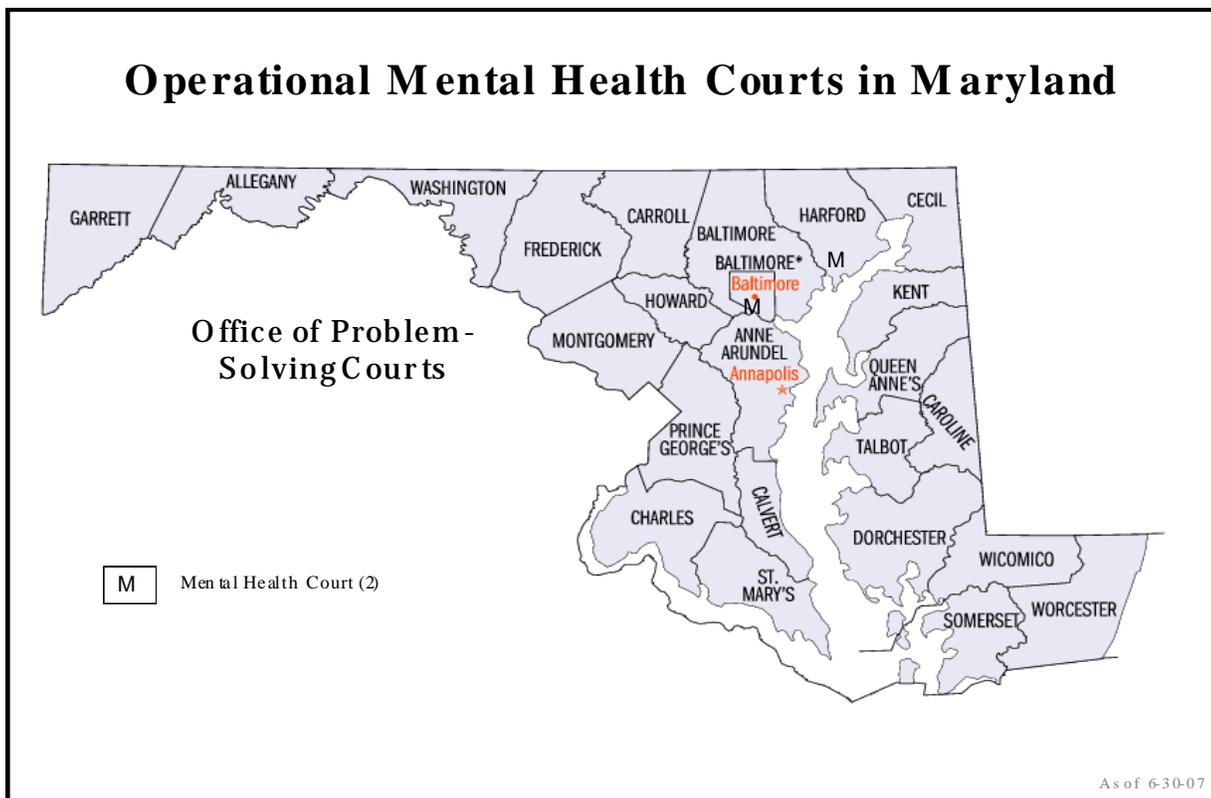
The OPSC and the Mental Court Oversight Committee oversee the three subcommittees that are tasks with constructing our statewide plan for mental health courts.

The subcommittees include:

Best Practices/Guidelines is tasked develop working guidelines to assist other Maryland jurisdictions establish Mental Health Courts based on best practices and experience.

Ethical Considerations Workgroup is tasked to identify an ethical consideration for all parties involved in operational Mental Health Courts.

Mental Health Court Monitoring & Evaluation Subcommittee is tasked to formalize the Mental Health Court data elements, establish general outcomes for mental health courts in Maryland, explore possibility and feasibility of a central mental health court data collection system, and establish a statewide mental health court evaluation plan.



Truancy Courts

Truancy has long been identified as linked to many behavioral problems, school dropout and juvenile delinquency. Truancy reduction programs take a broad based collaborative approach to identifying barriers to attendance, and developing a supportive context for the family and child to improve. There are a number of models including school based, court based and those that operate through community service agencies. They all share the same goal of improving school attendance, raising grades and encouraging graduation.

Chronic truancy leads to high school dropouts who are over-represented among prison and jail inmates. Studies further show that re-incarceration rates for those completing educational programs while incarcerated are significantly lower. One study estimated that increasing the high school graduation rate by one percent would yield \$1.8 billion dollars in social benefits, largely as a result of preventing an estimated 94,000 crimes yearly. (Lochner, L.& E. Moretti (2004) "The Effect of Education on Crime: Evidence from Prison Inmates," American Economic Review 94(1):155-189). While too soon to conduct extensive outcome evaluations of the Maryland models, preliminary data is encouraging.

Truancy—A student is truant if he/she meets all of the following criteria: The student was age 5 through 20 during the school year in question; the student was in membership of the school system for 91 or more days; and the student was unlawfully absent for 20% or more of the days in membership.² According to the Department of Education, the 2005-2006 percentages of habitual truants are as follows:

<u>Highest Percentage in State</u>	
Baltimore City	10.59%
<u>Lowest Percentage in State</u>	
Garrett County	00.11%
<u>Participants Percentages</u>	
Dorchester County	01.16%
Harford County	00.78%*
Prince George's County	04.39%*
Somerset County	02.36%
Wicomico County	02.00%
Worcester County	00.65%

*Projected Truancy Court Program

² (MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, Habitual Truants, Maryland Public Schools, 2005-2006.)

Background

In 2004, the General Assembly created the Truancy Reduction Pilot Program. The First Judicial Circuit's Truancy Court program is codified at 3-8C-01 through 3-8C-10 of the Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article.

The legislation was supported by the Judiciary and the Boards of Education ("Boards") of the lower four counties of the Eastern Shore. The Boards noted that traditional school interventions were unsuccessful with certain students. Although the Boards have various programs designed to re-engage families and truant students in the educational process, parents/guardians and students often choose not to cooperate with the services. The only mechanism the Board had, prior to the truancy court to deal with a recalcitrant parent or child was through the Child in Need of Supervision (CINS) process. Although Section 3-8A-01(e) of the Court and Judicial Proceedings Article defines a child in need of supervision as being "habitually truant", and although the Boards were making referrals to the Department of Juvenile Services, the Department lacked the necessary resources to pursue the CINS process.

Description of the First Circuit Truancy Court

The truancy court is a non-adversarial program in the First Circuit designed to promote school attendance while preventing the "criminalization" of truancy. Cases heard in the truancy court are scheduled on a separate docket when no other cases are heard. The courtroom is closed to all but those involved in the case, and the confidentiality of participants is protected.

All of the schools participating in the truancy court have intervention programs located inside the school system to identify and deal with truancy problems as they occur. Generally, when a student misses a specific number of days, letters are forwarded to the parents. From that point, if the situation is not resolved, conferences with the parents and students and home visits may be scheduled. These are designed to connect the families with services individualized to each family and/or student.

Only when the families have proven themselves incapable of working within the educational system is court involvement contemplated. The local boards of education have repeatedly voiced frustration with uncooperative parents and/or children and are in support of court intervention.

At such time as the student has been identified as needing court intervention, the board either files criminal charges against the parent or guardian (if the child is under 12) or files a truancy petition with the Juvenile Court. If the child is under 12, the charges against the parent must be dismissed (or placed on the inactive docket after October 1, 2007) in order for a truancy petition to be filed.

Once a truancy petition is filed, the case is scheduled for an adjudicatory hearing. A student may be represented by counsel. After the court ascertains that the petition was served and the student and his/her parents are ready to proceed, the student is given an opportunity to admit or deny the allegations of truancy in the petition. If the student is

adjudicated truant, then all parties are heard as to what issues exist in the family that may contribute to the student's truant behavior. Ordinarily, the parties are ordered to undergo a family assessment conducted by a private provider and, in some instances, a substance abuse screening. The court orders the student to attend school and cooperate with any court ordered services. A hearing is then scheduled to review the findings of the family assessment. This hearing is usually held within two weeks.

Based upon evidence provided in the family assessment or any other services ordered by the court, and information collected from the students and their families, the court determines what services, if any, are appropriate. The services vary depending upon the students' needs and educational levels. Perhaps the most important services are therapeutic. It is not unusual for the assessments to indicate that the students, and sometimes parents/guardians, have untreated mental health and addictions problems. The students will generally be ordered to engage in therapy as recommended in the family or addictions assessments. The court will often refer a student to wrap around services in an attempt to manage the participant's complicated needs.

After the first review hearing, the cases are normally reviewed by the court at a truancy program docket every two weeks. Thereafter, review hearings are usually held every two weeks to monitor whether the student's school attendance improves and whether services are in place. After the student demonstrates progress and a willingness to comply with the court's requirements, the reviews are usually scheduled once per month. The court uses a mixture of positive reinforcements and negative consequences to gain compliance. Most students in the program have a history of failure to attend school and noncompliance with board services.

In order to complete the program and "graduate," the courts have established mechanisms to monitor student progress. One method is to determine if the student has established a 90-day period without an unexcused absence. In order to complete the program, the student must also have recommendations from service providers. The courts utilize flexibility to respond to the individual needs of participants. If a student fails to continue to attend school after completing the program, the Board can file a new truancy petition.

Truancy Court Program for Baltimore City Schools

The University of Baltimore School of Law's Center for Families, Children and the Courts (CFCC), in partnership with the Baltimore City School System, The Office of the Mayor of Baltimore City, and the Circuit Court and District Court for Baltimore City, has established a truancy court program in five Baltimore City Schools.

Though not defined as a "problem-solving court" by the definition set by the Problem-Solving Court Judicial Conference Committee, it does capitalize on the stature and authority of a judge. The program consists of weekly in-school sessions with a volunteer judge, a team of school representatives, the child, and his/her family. It is based on an early intervention model and targets students who are "soft" truants—students who have from three to twenty unexcused absences—in the belief that this group still has academic, social, and emotional connections to the school.

Each Baltimore City truancy program runs for approximately eight to ten weeks and is strictly voluntary on the part of the student and their family. Every week, a judge or a master who volunteers their time, appears at the school. The judge, who presides throughout the school’s truancy court program, reviews each child’s file, calls that child’s parent or guardian to the “bench,” engages them in conversation (either to reinforce and support progress, or to elicit reasons why that child is failing to make progress), reviews the attendance record and discusses it with the child, and asks questions about any possible difficulties encountered during the week. Each child is rewarded with a small gift, as well as being invited to special field days and “graduation” from the program.

The truancy court remains a work in progress. Its strengths are documented by the services provided and the number of students who have successfully re-engaged in school. There have been challenges in implementing the program, but the First Judicial Circuit and Baltimore City have endeavored to be flexible in meeting those challenges. With continued effort, these already successful programs can be even more successful.

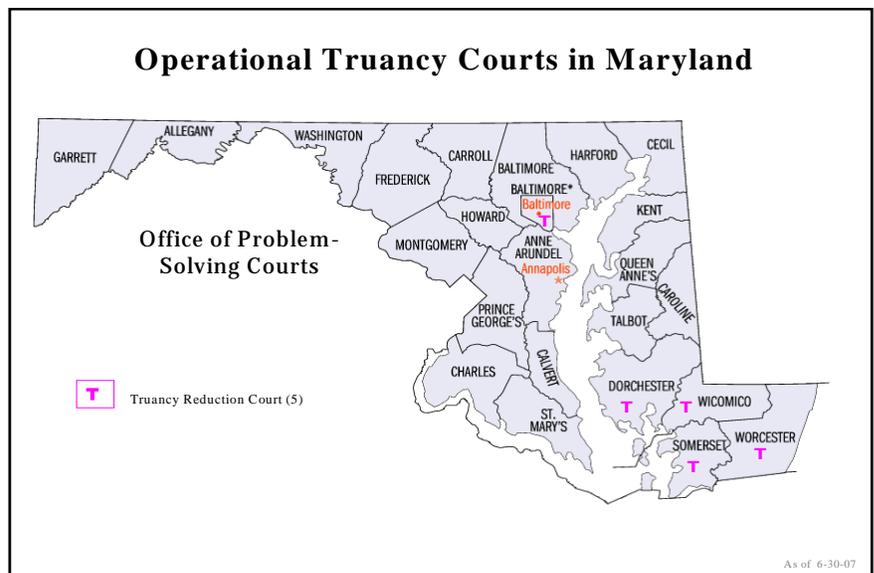
Evaluations

The Office of Problem-Solving Courts is working with the Administrative Office of the Court’s Department of Court Research and Development in conducting research and performing evaluations of Truancy Reduction programs supported by the Judiciary. The Court Research and Development staff is assessing national research on these problem-solving court programs, and will develop protocols for, and conduct evaluations of Maryland’s existing programs.

Truancy Reduction Court Workgroup

The Office of Problem-Solving Courts, the Family Administration and the Truancy Court Workgroup were brought together at the request of Chief Judge Robert M. Bell. This workgroup has been tasked with reviewing truancy programs/courts in Maryland and specifically:

- To consider additional pilot sites,
- To acquire longitudinal data and comprehensive programmatic evaluations,
- To examine alternative models, and
- To assess the practice of sanctions to enforce court orders.



Drug Court Funding

In problem-solving courts, the whole is truly the sum of its parts. While this success in large measure is attributable to the active engagement of courts at the epicenter of this treatment modality, the problem-solving approach is very much a collaborative effort that is heavily resource driven and support service dependent. If one of its core components of treatment, supervision, drug/alcohol testing, ancillary services, and legal representation fails to receive sufficient resources, overall program success is marginalized.

The Office of Problem-Solving Court for drug courts has seen an increase as a result of the goals that have been met by this office and the drug court oversight committee. The OPSC, formally known as the Drug Treatment Court Commission, received its first drug court budget in FY 2005 of \$345,256. This first year of funding was used to fill the statewide staffing need for drug court coordinators. This role was vital to assure the programs were constructed in accordance with drug court guidelines as established by the Commission. In FY 2006, the program received state funding in the amount of \$745,000. The funding was to assist over a dozen jurisdictions with drug court coordinators, evaluations, staffing needs, ancillary services, training and drug testing.

In Fiscal Year 2007, the Maryland Judiciary requested a significant increase in the drug court funding from the General Assembly that resulted in \$4.9 million dollars. Through drug court discretionary grants, the OPSC continued to fund the core areas including staffing, drug testing, evaluation, ancillary services and training to drug courts. The additional funding allowed for funding at a level that would increase the scale of drug court programs statewide. The increase in funds continues to provide services in the same core areas and allows access to funding for additional drug court programs across the state. (See Appendix 3: Grant Allotments)

The state's commitment to drug courts has had a very positive impact on drug court programs themselves and their plans to provide "quality of life" services that go beyond standard supervision and treatment. Those additional resources add value and purpose to the treatment and supervision provided by our executive partners.

Drug Court Discretionary Grants

The OPSC constructed a drug court grant process to assure the consistent and effective use of the funding resources provided by the state. The discretionary funding awarded to the drug courts is based on the OPSC belief that adequately funding core and ancillary services ensures the Judiciary's ability to support these proven programs.

Training and Technical Assistance

Training, education, and professional development remain a priority to OPSC to sustain the programs and continue the professional and technical education of our drug court teams and ancillary partners. The OPSC and the training subcommittee has constructed and fiscally supports the following set of activities to continue this initiative:

- Annual Winter Symposium – OPSC sponsors an annual Winter Symposium serving over 300 Maryland drug court team members and ancillary service partners. The event is two days supporting one day of adult matters and one day of juvenile matters. The training is provided with both local and national experts.
- Quarterly Trainings – Provided at least four times per year, the OPSC hosts subject specific trainings in three-hour sessions to accommodate court schedules and the mass number of people that register. The trainings cover clinical, supervision, case management, due process, ancillary services and other technical subjects.
- Technical Assistance – OPSC offers technical assistance to planning and operational drug court programs. The sessions are created from the federal training model and are consistently provided to a planning court program to assure continuity and consistency of the delivery and creation of each program. As unique as each program may be, each program completes similar planning processes.

After each training or technical assistance the teams or attendees have an opportunity to complete evaluations and apply for Continuing Education Unit's. The OPSC works to approve all trainings with respective certification or licensure agency's to assist with staff training requirements.

Treatment

Drug Court Funding from OPSC also provides greater access to treatment for drug court participants through the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration (ADAA). This funding supports additional drug court participant treatment requests that exceed the ADAA designated drug court funding. The therapeutic need is assessed each year and the resources will be assessed beginning in 2008 to assure the teams are at optimal service and funding use each year. Further ADAA and OPSC have established a staffing process to manage concerns, questions, training, and procedures in a timely manner.

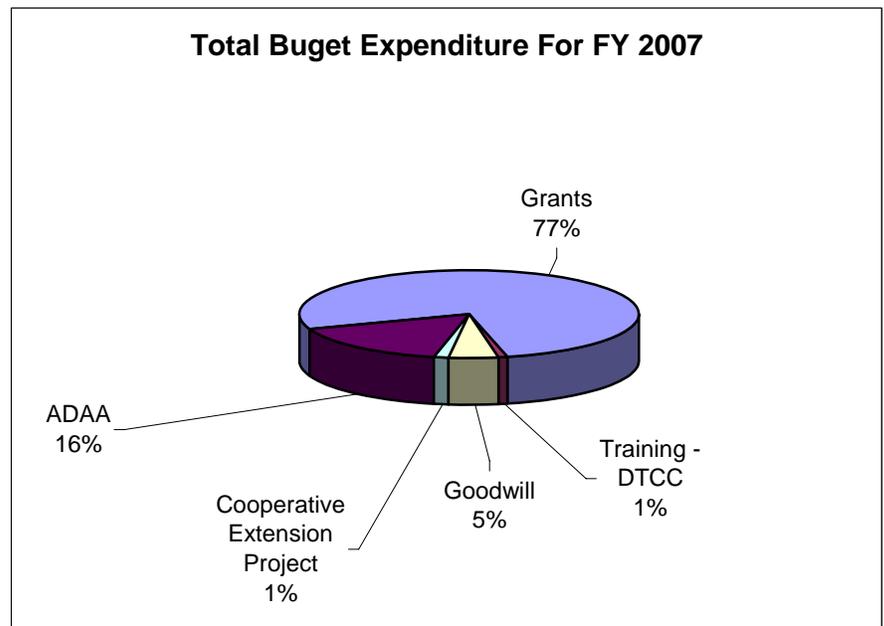


Figure 7 Total Budget Expenditures for FY 2007

- Goodwill of the Chesapeake - The OPSC has established a partnership with Goodwill of the Chesapeake. The funding for this project is supporting a statewide case management coordinator. This position with Goodwill is currently a one-year assignment and their duties include:

- Co-Author and co-facilitate a case management curriculum.
 - Assess case management processes, assist in the instruction and inclusion of statewide policies.
 - Co-Author and facilitate the use of a drug court workforce business planning tool for each DC team inclusive of resources and operating budget.
 - Assist with onsite supervision of Goodwill staff at various locations and,
 - Use of John Hopkins Students to intern with this position.
- Cooperative Extension Service - The OPSC has established a partnership with the University of Maryland, Cooperative Extension Service. Through a funding agreement with the Maryland 4-H Foundation each program has access to the local Cooperative Extension Service and the various programs and services provided by this Land Grant Program and Internationally recognized program. The Cooperative Extension and Drug Courts will be working together to develop services that may include but are not limited to:
 - Family Consumer Science Agents – Provide family services and training such as family planning, young fathers’ program, fiscal and life planning, nutrition and health classes.
 - Agricultural Resources – County camps, outdoor projects, animal leases, farm work, environmental projects, access to state parks and waterways of the Chesapeake.
 - Community Planning – Beautifying the local areas, parks, waterways, highways, assisting elder community, parades, fundraiser participation, and inclusion in community activities and government processes, and,
 - Youth and Family Enrichment Projects – 4-H offices offer hundreds of learning opportunities in areas such as managing money, preparing for a job, electricity, law care, domestic care, health and hygiene, domestic pet care, citizenship and leadership programs, public speaking and giving a successful demonstration, personal confidence and a friendly and social environment involving kids, their families and a club environment.
 - Outside Grants - The Maryland Judiciary was successful in obtaining outside funding to permit the development of key innovations that have had real benefits to drug court programs.

The Administrative Office of the Courts was awarded approximately \$200,000 from the Office of Justice Program’s Bureau of Justice Assistance to develop/enhance a statewide management information system for Maryland’s drug courts. The grant also allowed for development and the implementation of a training component to ensure that all partners on the drug court team will be able to effectively use the data to monitor and improve client

and program outcomes. The management information system known as SMART (Statewide Maryland Automated Record Tracking system) is to facilitate the collection and standardization of data regarding drug court outcomes. This grant is scheduled to end in FY 2008.

The Administrative Office of the Court was also awarded in collaboration with the Maryland Department of Juvenile Services, approximately \$132,000 by the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention also to enhance the SMART program but primarily in the juvenile arena. This grant ended in FY 2007. Screens specific to juvenile drug courts, like education and community services, as well as a link between the Department of Juvenile Services ASIST data collection system to SMART allowed consent driven information to automatically fill data fields.

In FY 2005 and FY 2006, the Maryland State Highway Administration's Highway Safety Office awarded the Administrative Office of the Courts approximately \$351,000 to pilot and evaluate DUI/Drug Courts in Anne Arundel County, Harford County, and Howard County District Courts. These funds were used for start-up and programming costs and eventually were requested individually by the individual jurisdictions with the assistance of the OPSC.

The OPSC will alert teams when such external funding is available to support projects that are outside the funding criteria with OPSC. All programs receiving or wishing to receive funding also complete a budget for the next fiscal year in order to actively participate in the preparation of the drug court budget plan. In order to accurately predict our need for funding from year to year we are constantly surveying the needs, prospective resources and using our subcommittee work to build our future resources and funding plan.

The drug courts are in need of increased funding to complete various programmatic goals and the present budget does not provide 100% of what is requested but it has certainly provided significant fiscal and programmatic opportunities that have allowed each county and the City of Baltimore to consider options for court related services that have not been options prior to the in state funding provided by the general assembly.

Problem-Solving Court Initiatives: Looking forward to FY 2008

A number of key initiatives will be launched during the next fiscal year.

Drug Court Certification Process

The Drug Treatment Court Oversight Committee will institute a drug court program certification process in 2008. This process is intended to ensure that all programs operating a drug court in the State of Maryland are operating under prescribed guidelines and that minimum appropriate standards are met. Also, programs will not be eligible to receive drug court funding from the Office of Problem-Solving Courts and possibly other state agencies, if this proposed certificate process has not been completed. Examples of certification requirements may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Application
- Drug Court Mission, Goals, and Objectives
- Organizational Plan
- Drug Court Team Members
- List Advisory Body Members
- Treatment Provider Information
- Implementation Plan and or Policy and Procedure Manual
- Usage of Statewide Drug Court Management Information System
- Budget
- Agreement to participate in Office of Problem Solving Courts Commission evaluation process
- Drug Treatment Courts are encouraged to look to the nationally accepted guidelines from the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP), *Defining Drug Courts: The Key Components*, which elaborate on drug courts' purpose and performance measurements.

Increasing Capacity

One of the most widely used arguments against problem-solving courts is the idea that they serve only a fraction of the criminal justice population. To address this, courts have been provided resources to expand the drug court programs to realize their full potential; drug courts need to reach as many potentially eligible clients as possible. With thirty-eight operational drug courts and over six others being planned, the goal of expanding drug courts throughout Maryland is nearing completion. Only with the assistance of statewide entities such as the Judiciary, Alcohol Drug Abuse Administration, the Division of Parole and Probation, and the Department of Juvenile Services can drug court programs expand their target population to include all drug offenders in the criminal justice system.

Guidelines

Written drug court guidelines have already been established to provide uniformity for the basic foundation of all drug courts in Maryland. Jurisdictions planning a drug court can use the guidelines as an essential part of the formation of a drug court team and

program, helping them understand and develop the duties, goals and overall objectives of the drug court. Though drug court operations vary by locality, some characteristics can be found among all drug court programs. These outlines are unique to each drug court type, Adult, Juvenile, Family Recovery, and DUI. All drug court guidelines can be viewed on the Office of Problem-Solving Courts website.

Other problem-solving court programs such as mental health courts and truancy reduction courts, will have guidelines established similar to those completed for the drug treatment courts. These will incorporate an outline on how to identify each program's unique vision, mission, goals, and program rules while still working within the Judiciary's minimum standards.

Training/Technical Assistance

The OPSC has spent the past five years constructing various training activities and continues to plan regular training opportunities to keep drug court teams in optimum condition to provide services, improve therapeutic responses and participant outcomes. Through cross training, annual symposiums, technical assistance, site visits, in service events, collaborating with and among executive branch partners we accomplish a degree of training that is frequent, consistent and emphasizes our commitment to sustainability through continued education and technical support.



Training with Douglas Marlow, J.D., Ph. D.

The Training Subcommittee is preparing training and technical assistance schedule for 2008 to include Train the Trainer opportunities, a speakers bureau, Judges training for Judicial Institute, Annual Symposium, and a case management curriculum. The OPSC is also a primary location for federal and statewide partners to hold national trainings.

The Office of Problem-Solving Courts provides training and technical assistance to the general drug court community. In 2007 the OPSC hosted an annual Winter Symposium, various day and half-day trainings; provided on site team technical assistance to enhance the level of service, increase the program admittance and cross train team members. The OPSC was able to work with Federal Partners to host the National Drug Court Institute Roles Trainings for drug court team members on a national level. The OPSC hosted the State Highway Administration hosted DUI workgroup meetings and technical assistance. University of Maryland conducted team trainings for SMART at the onsite computer lab.

The Training Subcommittee is to provide a comprehensive schedule of topics generated by drug court teams and participants. The subcommittee meets on a regular

basis and works to construct a yearly schedule to continue the educational credits for drug court practitioners and our local and statewide partners.

The OPSC has a general set of training objectives and will continue to provide training and technical assistance in the following categories.

Educate—Educate the Judiciary, the bar, governmental stakeholders and the public on drug court programs and their effectiveness in resolving drug and alcohol related offenses.

Judicial Institute—Through the Judicial Institute, provide drug court training curricula for District and Circuit Court Judges and Masters.

Informational Material—Develop and distribute a videotape/DVD about Maryland’s drug court programs.

Mentor Court—Develop a Statewide Mentor Drug Court Network based on the premise that local drug treatment courts are the most logical place to training and educate.

Speakers Bureau—Design a Drug Court Speakers Bureau to educate citizens about the critical role drug courts play in the judiciary.

Professional Development—Conduct a minimum of six professional development-training sessions for drug courts per year.

Training Conference—Conduct one Drug Court Training Conference annually.

Technical Assistance—Continue to provide technical assistance services to planning and operational drug court programs.

Management Information Systems

A statewide management information system facilitating the collection and standardization of data regarding drug court outcomes has been developed in collaboration with the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration and the Department of Juvenile Services. As early as the summer of 2002, the Administrative Office of the Courts identified the development of a computerized system for collecting drug court statistics as a key priority for Maryland, which is an essential component in the collaborative nature of problem-solving courts.

The OPSC began the Statewide Maryland Automated Record Tracking system (SMART) implementation and training with every operational drug court program in FY 2007. The OPSC established multiple goals to maintain the highest level of integrity in data collection.

The screenshot displays the SMART program interface within a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser. The user is Kathleen Snavelly, located at the Administrative Agency (MD-100100), BGR IT, for client Boop, Betty (F102346987680) in Case #: 1. The main window shows 'Drug Test Results for Boop, Betty' with an 'Export' option. It includes a search filter for dates from 10/1/2006 to 10/31/2006. A table lists test results for specimens 159, 158, and 157, with columns for Client Action, ALC, Coc, Mar, Barb, Sed, Amph, Hall, Inh, Benzo, Pcp, Opi, Creat, Meth, and Action. Summary statistics show 3 total tests and 1 total positive test. Below the table is an 'Add Drug Test Result' form with fields for Specimen #, Date, Client Action, Type of Test, Staff, and Unit. A 'Substances' dropdown menu is open, showing options like Alcohol, Amphetamines, Barbiturates, Benzodiazepine, and Cocaine. The 'Outcomes' dropdown is set to 'Positive - confirmed'. The 'Results' field is currently empty.

Operating screen from SMART program.

MIS—Institutionalize and complete implementation of SMART in all operational programs during FY 2008.

Data Collection—Encourage and enforce uniformity in data collection among all problem-solving courts.

Case Capability—Expanded case capability of electronic information among courts and other drug court agencies by enhancing SMART.

SMART User Group—Developed Drug Court/SMART Users Group for technical assistance with the application and usage of SMART.

Though SMART has been developed to address the data collection needs of Adult, DUI, and Juvenile drug courts, the OPSC is exploring the expansion to address Family Dependency, Mental Health, and Truancy Reduction Court programs.

Short and Long-Term Evaluations

The Office of Problem-Solving Courts is committed to the ongoing and consistent evaluation of its programs. Evaluations serve a dual purpose: results from an evaluation can bolster support for the drug court model, while evaluation findings can also be used to improve program operations.

Enhancing SMART as the statewide management information system is a good first step towards obtaining high-quality research about drug courts as it can ensure that consistent information about outcomes is being collected across the state.

Drug Court Evaluation—The Office of Problem-Solving Courts supports the continuation of the plan to provide process evaluations, outcome evaluations, and cost/benefit studies for each certified drug court program. All evaluations can be seen on the Office of Problem-Solving Courts website.

The Office of Problem-Solving has established a primary evaluator who is conducting an evaluation on every operational drug court in Maryland. NPC Research has research and evaluation projects in over 45 drug treatment courts located in Oregon, California, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, New York, Nevada and Guam. These projects include process, outcome/impact, and cost-benefit work in adult, juvenile and family treatment drug courts.

Drug treatment courts typically involve a variety of jurisdictions and agencies and service delivery domains. The resource commitments and outcomes of drug courts span many components of community criminal justice and treatment systems.

- Evaluating the effectiveness of all forms of drug court programs
 - Process evaluations are descriptive surveys of program and participant characteristics. The primary purpose of this type of evaluation is to give a “snapshot” of the drug court program and the participants enrolled in the program. Generally, simple statistical measures such as percentages, averages (mean, medium, and mode), and cross tabulation analysis are used in process evaluations.

- Outcome evaluations examine the effect of the program on the participants and the involved systems (court, treatment agencies, and community supervision). Outcome evaluations question whether drug court programs are more effective in reducing recidivism and lessening drug use than are traditional court and criminal justice dispositions for drug offenders.
- Cost-benefit analyses compare the cost of drug court treatment and the costs of alternative handling of drug offenders. Cost benefit analyses may also compare the costs of treating addiction with societal costs of neglecting addiction treatment

Appendix of Tables and Graphs

Appendix 1: Fact Sheet

Name of Court	Address	Contact Info.	Coordinator	Presiding Judge	Presiding Master	Start Date	Structure of Program	Program Capacity	Avg. Program Length
AA Co. Circuit Adult Drug Court	Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County Adult Drug Treatment Court 7 Church Circle Annapolis, MD 21404	Ph: (410) 222-1901 x7 Fax: (410) 222-1945 cttole00@aacounty.org	Cristin Tolen	Judge Michael Loney	N/A	December 2005	VOP	25	
AA Co. Circuit Juvenile Drug Court	Circuit Court for Anne Arundel County Juvenile Drug Treatment Court 7 Church Circle Annapolis, MD 21404	Ph: (410) 222-1901 x7 Fax: (410) 222-1945 cttole00@aacounty.org	Cristin Tolen	Judge Pamala North	N/A	March 2002	PA/D & PD/P	40	
AA Co. District Adult Drug Court	251 Rowe Boulevard, Suite 216 Annapolis, MD 21401	Ph: (410) 260-3744 Fax: (410) 260-1875 molly.nussear@mdcourts.gov	Molly Nussear	Judge James Dryden	N/A	February 1997	PA/D	150	12 mo.
AA Co. District DUI Drug Court	251 Rowe Boulevard, Suite 216 Annapolis, MD 21401	Ph: (410) 260-3744 Fax: (410) 260-1875 molly.nussear@mdcourts.gov	Molly Mussear	Judge Michael Wachs	N/A	January 2005	PC/A & VOP	15	
Baltimore City Circuit Adult Drug Court	100 N. Calvert Street, Room 148 Baltimore, MD 21202	Ph: (410) 361-9467 Fax: (410) 361-9468 Ryan.smith@mdcourts.gov	Ryan Smith	Judge Allen Schwait	N/A	October 1994	PC/AP	500	3 yr.

Name of Court	Address	Contact Info.	Coordinator	Presiding Judge	Presiding Master	Start Date	Structure of Program	Program Capacity	Avg. Program Length
Baltimore City Circuit Family Dependency Drug Court	The Family League of Baltimore City, Inc. 2700 N. Charles Street, Suite 200 Baltimore, MD 21218	Ph: (443) 263-8746 Or (443) 939-1511 Fax: (410) 662-5517 David.Sifford@mdcourts.gov	David Sifford	Judge Edward Hargadon	N/A	August 12, 2005	Other	100	12 mo.
Baltimore City Circuit Juvenile Drug Court	Juvenile Justice Center 300 N. Gay Street Suite B3800 Baltimore, MD 21202	Ph: (443) 263-2734 Fax: (443) 263-2736 sheila.peksenak@courts.state.md.us	Sheila Pensanak	Judge David W. Young	N/A	August 1998	PA/D	125	12 mo.
Baltimore City District Adult Drug Court	Baltimore City District Court 500 North Calvert St. Baltimore MD 21202	Ph: 410.767.3593 Fax: Latesha.parks@mdcourts.gov	Latesha Parks	Judge John Hargrove	N/A	March 1994	PC/AP & PD/P	360	18 mo.
Baltimore Co. Circuit Juvenile Drug Court	Circuit Court for Baltimore County Juvenile Drug Court 401 Bosley Avenue, Room G-11 Towson, MD 21204	Ph: (410) 887-2199 Fax: (410) 887-2747 ashroyer@baltimorecountymd.gov	Angela Shroyer	Judge Kathleen Cox	N/A	April 24, 2003	Post-Ajudication	80-100	6-12 mo.
Calvert Co. Circuit Juvenile Drug Court	Circuit Court for Calvert County Courthouse 175 Main Street Prince Frederick, MD 20678	Ph: (410) 535-1600 x2659 Fax: (410) 414-9360 davisbk@co.cal.md.us	Brian Davis	Judge Warren Krug	Master Tracey A. McKirgan	May 8, 2006	Post-Dispositional	25	9-12 mo.
Caroline Co. Circuit Juvenile Drug Court	109 Market Street, Room 200 Denton, MD 21629	Ph: (410) 479-4134 Fax: (410) 479-4063 samantha.wiley@mdcourts.gov	Samantha Wiley	Judge Karen Jensen	N/A	July 2004	Pre/ Post Dispositional	25	12 – 18 mo.

Name of Court	Address	Contact Info.	Coordinator	Presiding Judge	Presiding Master	Start Date	Structure of Program	Program Capacity	Avg. Program Length
Carroll Co. Circuit Adult Drug Court	The Carroll County Circuit Court 55 North Court Street Westminster, Maryland 21157	Ph: (410) 386-2851 Fax: (410) 386-2596 djackson@ccg.arr.org	Diane Jackson	Judge Michael Galloway	N/A	April 2007	VOP	50	13-18 mo.
Cecil Co. Circuit Adult Drug Court	Cecil County Circuit Court 129 E. Main Street, Room 202A Elkton, MD 21921	Ph: (410) 996-5423 Fax: (410) 996-5624 Sheri.lazarus@mdcourts.gov	Sheri Lazarus	Judge Dexter Thompson	N/A	June 2006	Post- Plea	60	12 – 18 mo.
Charles Co. Circuit Juvenile Drug Court	Circuit Court for Charles County Juvenile Drug Court, Room #147 P.O. Box 3060 LaPlata, MD 20646	Ph: (301) 932-3333 Fax: (301) 932-3361 Michael.wyant@mdcourts.gov	Michael Wyant	Judge Robert Nalley	N/A	May 2006	Post Adjudication	25	6-18 mo.
Dorchester Co. Circuit Juvenile Drug Court	206 High Street, 2 nd Floor Cambridge, MD 21613	Ph: (410) 222-1285 Fax: (410) 222-1945	Emily Moody	Judge Brett Wilson	Master Maurice Nelson	July 2004	PA/ D & VOP	25	6-12 mo.
Dorchester Co. District Adult Drug Court	206 High Street, 2 nd Floor Cambridge, MD 21613	Ph: (410) 222-1285 Fax: (410) 222-1945	Emily Moody	Judge John Norton, III	Master Maurice Nelson	July 2004	PA/D & PD/P & VOP	25	9-12 mo.
Frederick Co. Circuit Adult Drug Court	100 West Patrick Street 2nd Floor - Courthouse Frederick, MD 21701	Ph: (301) 696-2978 Fax: (301) 846-2226 dwolford@fredco-md.net	Paul Wolford	Judge Julie Solt	N/A	May 2005	PA/D & VOP & Other	50	18 mo.
Harford Co. Circuit Adult Drug Court	The Harford County Adult Drug Court 2106 Trimble Road Edgewood, MD 21040	Ph: (410) 612-1641 Fax: (410) 671-9813 hchddrugcourt@erols.com	Beth Jones	Judge Emory Plitt	N/A	January 2004	PA/D	20	12-18 mo.

Name of Court	Address	Contact Info.	Coordinator	Presiding Judge	Presiding Master	Start Date	Structure of Program	Program Capacity	Avg. Program Length
Harford Co. Circuit Family Dependency Drug Court	2 South Bond Street Bel Air, MD 21014	Ph: (410) 836-4989 Fax: (410) 836-4930 kdow@dhr.state.md.us	Kathy Dow	N/A	Master Theodore Hart	May 2004	PA/D & VOP	25	9 mo.
Harford Co. Circuit Juvenile Drug Court	5 N. Main Street Bel Air, MD 21014	Ph: (410) 420-3222 Fax: (410) 838-1031 dmitchell@dhmh.state.md.us	David Mitchell	Judge William Carr	N/A	October 2000	PA/D	40	9-12 mo.
Harford Co. District Adult Drug Court	Department of Community Services 319 S. Main Street Bel Air, Maryland 21014	Ph: (410) 638-3333 Fax: (410) 638-3329 cahamilton@harfordcountymd.gov	Charlie Hamilton	Judge: Angela Eaves	N/A	November 1997	PA/D	35	12-18 mo.
Harford Co. District DUI Drug Court	The Harford County Adult Drug Court 2106 Trimble Road Edgewood, MD 21040	Ph: (410) 612-1641 Fax: (410) 671-9813 hchddrugcourt@erols.com	Beth Jones	Judge John Dunnigan	N/A	October 2004	PC/A	30	9- 12 mo.
Howard Co. District Adult Drug Court	3451 Courthouse Drive Ellicott City, MD 21043	Ph: (410) 480-7730 Fax: (410) 480-7731 bobbie.fine@mdcourts.gov	Bobbie Fine	Judge Neil Axel	N/A	July 2004	PA/D		
Howard Co. District DUI Drug Court	3451 Courthouse Drive Ellicott City, MD 21043	Ph: (410) 480-7730 Fax: (410) 480-7731 bobbie.fine@mdcourts.gov	Bobbie Fine	Judge Neil Axel	N/A	July 2004	PA/D		

Name of Court	Address	Contact Info.	Coordinator	Presiding Judge	Presiding Master	Start Date	Structure of Program	Program Capacity	Avg. Program Length
Montgomery Co. Circuit Adult Drug Court	Montgomery County Circuit Court 50 Maryland Avenue, Room 307 Rockville, MD 20815	Ph: (240) 777-9141 Fax: (240) 777-9117 slyons@mcccourt.com	Samantha Lyons	Judge Nelson W. Rupp, Jr.	N/A	November 2005	VOP	60	12 –18 mo.
Montgomery Co. Circuit Juvenile Drug Court	Montgomery County Circuit Court 50 Maryland Avenue, Room 307 Rockville, MD 20815	Ph: (240) 777-9141 Fax: (240) 777-9117 slyons@mcccourt.com	Samantha Lyons	Judge Catherine D. Savage	N/A	November 2005	VOP	15	12 –18 mo.
PG Co. Circuit Adult Drug Court	14701 Gov. Oden Bowie Dr. Upper Marlboro, MD 20772	Phone: 301-952-3606 Fax: 301-952-4450 SlDamato@co.pg.md.us JRobinson@co.pg.md.us	Stephanie D' Amato Julisa Robinson	Judge Maureen Lamasney	N/A	August 2002	PC/A	150	12 –18 mo.
PG Co. Circuit Juvenile Drug Court	14701 Gov. Oden Bowie Dr. Upper Marlboro, MD 20772	Ph: (301) 952-2336 Fax: (301) 601-0158 cabatson@co.pg.md.us JRobinson@co.pg.md.us	Charese Baston Julisa Robinson	Judge Melanie Shaw-Geter	N/A	August 2002	PD/P		
PG Co. District Adult Drug Court	14735 Main Street Room 345 B Upper Marlboro, MD 20772	Phone: 301-952-3533 Fax: 301-952-5561	Latasha Nichols	Judge Beverly Woodard	N/A	April 2006	PC/AP	25	18 mo.
Somerset Co. Circuit Juvenile Drug Court	11774 Somerset Ave. Princess Ann, MD 21853	Phone: 410-621-0312 Fax: 410-651-0227 Jack.paul@courts.state.md.us	John "Jack" Paul	TBA	Master Robert Laird	Mar. 8, 2006	Post Adjudication	10	9-12 mo.

Name of Court	Address	Contact Info.	Coordinator	Presiding Judge	Presiding Master	Start Date	Structure of Program	Program Capacity	Avg. Program Length
St. Mary's Co. Circuit Juvenile Drug Court	41605 Courthouse Drive, PO Box 859 Leonardtown, MD, 20650	Phone: 301-475-7844 x 4162 Fax: 301-475-4113 Pete.cucinotta@co.saint-marys.md.us	Pete Cucinotta	Judge Beverly Woodard	N/A	Jan. 2004	Pre-Adjudication, Pre-Dispositional,	30	8 – 12 mo.
Talbot Co. Circuit Family Dependency Drug Court	11 North Washington Street Easton, MD 21601	Phone: 410-770-6812 Fax: 410-770-6802 Glen.plutschak@mdcourts.gov	Glen Plutschak	N/A	Master Patrick Palmer	Aug. 23, 2007	Pre-Adjudication, Pre-Dispositional, Post Dispositional, and Family Law	15	9 mo.
Talbot Co. Circuit Juvenile Drug Court	11 North Washington Street Easton, MD 21601	Phone: 410-770-6812 Fax: 410-770-6802 Glen.plutschak@mdcourts.gov	Glen Plutschak	Judge Michael Stamm	Master Patrick Palmer	Oct. 1, 2004	Pre/Post Dispositional	25	
Washington Co. Circuit Juvenile Drug Court	95 West Washington St. Courthouse Annex, Rm 110B Hagerstown, MD 21740	Phone: 240-313-2595 Fax: 301-791-0507 Jennifer.bricker@mdcourts.gov	Jennifer Bricker	Judge Sidney Campen	N/A	June 12, 2007	Post Disposition / Probation, VOP	20	12-18 mo.
Wicomico Co. Circuit Adult Drug Court	Courts St., Courts Building, Salisbury, MD 2103 Mail: PO Box 806 Salisbury, MD, 21803	Phone: 410-713-3500 Fax: 410-713-3501 Cherie.meienshein@mdcourts.gov	Cherie Meienschein	Judge Sidney Campen	N/A	Sept. 23, 2005	VOP, Re-Entry, Original Cases	80	18-24 mo.
Wicomico Co. District Adult Drug Court	201 Baptist St. Salisbury, MD 21801	Phone: 410-334-3194 Fax: 410-334-3194 Cherie.meienshein@mdcourts.gov	Cherie Meienschein	Judge Frederick Wright & Judge Kenneth Long	N/A	Not Yet Established	Not Yet Established	Not Yet Established	Not Yet Established

Name of Court	Address	Contact Info.	Coordinator	Presiding Judge	Presiding Master	Start Date	Structure of Program	Program Capacity	Avg. Program Length
Worcester Co. Circuit Family Dependency Drug Court	One Market St., Courthouse Rm.230 Snow Hill, MD 21863	Phone: 410-632-3130 Fax: 410-632-1729 Tracy.hansford@mdcourts.gov	Tracy Simpson-Hansford	Judge Kathleen Beckstead	Master Mary M. Kent	June 2007	Post Adjudication (CINA)	12	12-18 mo.
Worcester Co. Circuit Juvenile Drug Court	One Market St., Courthouse Rm.230 Snow Hill, MD 21863	Phone: 410-632-3130 Fax: 410-632-1729 Tracy.hansford@mdcourts.gov	Tracy Simpson-Hansford	Judge Bruce Wade	Master Mary M. Kent	Dec. 2005	Post Disposition, VOP	20	7- 12 mo.
Worcester Co. District Adult Drug Court	One Market St., Courthouse Rm.230 Snow Hill, MD 21863	Phone: 410-632-3130 Fax: 410-632-1729 Tracy.hansford@mdcourts.gov	Tracy Simpson-Hansford	Judge Thomas C. Grotten III	N/A	Dec. 2005	Post Conviction, VOP	25	12-18 mo.

Appendix 2: National Drug Court Evaluation Rates

Adult Drug Courts

State	Period	N	Grad	Rate	Source
OK	2002-2004	2,307	723	31.3%	The Oklahoma Criminal Justice Resource Center (2005). <u>Analysis of Oklahoma Drug Courts: Fiscal Years 2002 - 2004</u> . Oklahoma City, OK: The Oklahoma Criminal Justice Resource Center.
TN	2005-2006	820	294	35.9%	Office of Criminal Justice Programs, Department of Finance and Administration (2006). <u>2005/2006 Tennessee Drug Court Annual Report</u> . Nashville, TN: Office of Criminal Justice Programs, Department of Finance and Administration
ME	2003	260	73	28.1%	Anspach, D.F., Ferguson, A.S. and Phillips, L.L. (2004) <u>Evaluation of Maine's Statewide Adult Drug Treatment Court Program, Interim Report</u> . Portland, ME: University of Southern Maine.
MI (Kalamazoo Co)	1997-2005	1,241	432	34.8%	Marchand, G., Waller, M. and Carey, S.M. (2006). <u>Kalamazoo County Adult Drug Treatment Court Outcome and Cost Evaluation, Final Report</u> . Portland, OR: NPC Research.
MI (Barry Co)	2001	139	61	43.9%	Marchand, G., Waller, M. and Carey, S.M. (2006). <u>Barry County Adult Drug Court Outcome and Cost Evaluation, Final Report</u> . Portland, OR: NPC Research.
NM	1995-2005	6,159	2,444	39.7%	Bochert, P. (2006). <u>State Drug Court Participation Activity</u> . Santa Fe, NM: New Mexico Administrative Office of the Courts.
NY	1995-2002	16,136	5,684	35.2%	Rempel, M., Fox-Kralstein, D., Cissner, A., Cohen, R., Labriola, M., Farole, D., Boder, A. and Magnoni, M. (2003). <u>The New York State Drug Court Evaluation: Policies, Participants and Impacts</u> . New York City: Center for Court Innovation.
OH	2001	556	221	39.7%	Latessa, E., Shaffer, D.K. and Lowenkamp, C. (2002). <u>Outcome Evaluation of Ohio's Drug Court Efforts</u> . Cincinnati, OH: Center for Criminal Justice Research, Division of Criminal Justice, University of Cincinnati.
AZ	1995-2005	9,133	2,334	25.6%	Rodriguez, J., Jr. (2005). <u>Arizona Drug/DUI Court Program Stats</u> . Phoenix, AZ: Arizona Supreme Court, Administrative Office of the Courts, Adult Probation Services Division.
Totals		36,751	12,266	33.4%	
			Median	35.2%	

Juvenile Drug Courts

NM	1998-2005	1,520	570	37.5%	Bochert, P. (2006). <u>State Drug Court Participation Activity</u> . Santa Fe, NM: New Mexico Administrative Office of the Courts.
AZ	1998-2005	1,480	451	30.5%	Rodriguez, J., Jr. (2005). <u>Arizona Drug/DUI Court Program Stats</u> . Phoenix, AZ: Arizona Supreme Court, Administrative Office of the Courts, Adult Probation Services Division.
ME	1999-2004	315	96	30.5%	Anspach, D. and Ferguson, A. (2005). <u>Part II: Outcome Evaluation of Maine's Statewide Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Program</u> . Portland, ME: University of Southern Maine.
OH	2001	42	12	28.6%	Shaffer, D.K., Latessa, E., Pealer, J. and Taylor, C.Y. (2002). <u>Cuyahoga County Juvenile Drug Court Process Evaluation</u> . Center for Criminal Justice Research, University of Cincinnati.
Totals		3,357	1,129	33.6%	

Appendix 3: Table of Grant Allotments for FY 2007 by County

Drug Court Program	Drug Court Grant Award	Drug Court Training Award	ADAA Treatment Award	OPSC Treatment Award	Total by County
Allegany County Circuit Court	\$0	\$5,000			\$5,000
Anne Arundel County Adult Circuit	\$196,338	\$16,347	\$128,400		\$809,913
Anne Arundel County Juvenile Circuit	\$96,348				
Anne Arundel County Adult District	\$294,487	\$1,138			
Anne Arundel County DUI District	\$76,855				
Baltimore City Adult Circuit	\$72,650	\$22,500		\$493,047	\$864,714
Baltimore City Adult District	\$61,360				
Baltimore City Juvenile Circuit	\$68,931				
Baltimore City Family Circuit	\$146,226				
Baltimore County Juvenile Circuit	\$237,260	\$0			\$237,260
Calvert County Juvenile Circuit	\$118,344	\$0			\$118,344
Caroline County Juvenile Circuit	\$61,377	\$2,200	\$62,763		\$126,340
Carroll County Adult Circuit	\$131,127	\$3,255			\$134,382
Cecil County Adult Circuit	\$113,513	\$0	\$66,581		\$180,094
Charles County Juvenile Circuit	\$83,617	\$0	\$81,688		\$165,305
Dorchester County Adult District	\$26,407	\$0	\$201,341		\$311,271
Dorchester County Juvenile Circuit	\$83,523	\$0			
Frederick County Adult Circuit	\$116,551	\$0	\$68,111		\$184,662
Harford County Adult District	\$20,000	\$5,310		\$162,450	\$358,816
Harford County DUI District	\$147,056				
Harford County Juvenile Circuit	\$12,000				
Harford County Adult Circuit	\$12,000				
Howard County Adult District	\$134,501	\$1,358	\$57,352		\$220,036
Howard County DUI District	\$26,825				
Montgomery County Adult Circuit	\$11,700	\$0			\$11,700
Prince George's County Adult Circuit	\$100,400	\$8,970	\$78,645		\$267,260
Prince George's County Adult District	\$60,045				
Prince George's County Juvenile Circuit	\$19,200				
Queen Anne's County Juvenile Circuit	\$67,330	\$0			\$67,330
Somerset County Juvenile Circuit	\$41,410	\$0			\$41,410
St. Mary's County Juvenile Circuit	\$72,368	\$2,190	\$24,461		\$99,019
Talbot County Family Circuit	\$20,781	\$4,420	\$46,437		\$154,930
Talbot County Juvenile Circuit	\$83,292				
Washington County Juvenile Circuit	\$65,001	\$5,386			\$70,387
Wicomico County Adult Circuit	\$232,373	\$0	\$42,789		\$275,162
Worcester County Adult District	\$59,100	\$1,140	\$73,313		\$274,226
Worcester County Adult Circuit	\$21,607				
Worcester County Juvenile Circuit	\$119,066				
Other:					
DPSCS		\$12,786			\$12,786
GOCCP		\$500			\$500
Goodwill		\$2,500			\$2,500
BSAS		\$1,000			\$1,000
TOTALS	\$3,310,969	\$96,000	\$931,881	\$655,497	\$4,994,347