

Mission Statement

The mission of the Montgomery County Mental Health Treatment Court is to increase public safety, facilitate participation in effective mental health and substance abuse treatment, improve the quality of life for people with mental illness charged with crimes, and make more effective use of the community's limited criminal justice and mental health resources.



Mental Health Court Services

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Montgomery County

MCMHTC

**Mental Health
Treatment Court**

Eligibility Criteria

- Crime occurred in Montgomery County (can be a misdemeanor or felony crime)
- Diagnosis of Bipolar Disorder, Major Depressive Disorder, Schizoaffective, Schizophrenia and some IDD Disorders.
- Mental Illness associated with the crime
- Competent or restored to competency
- Assaultive cases reviewed and approved on a case-by-case basis
- ***please call for exclusion criteria***

This program is a **voluntary** program. The defendant must agree to follow all conditions of the Mental Health Court and Probation.

Referral Process

Clients are referred to the Mental Health Treatment Court through a variety of sources including the following:

- Defense Attorney
- Assistant District Attorney
- Judge
- Community Supervision and Corrections Department
- Prospective Participant
- Family
- Community Treatment/Service Provider

Program Requirements

General program requirements include the following:

- Follow all Mental Health Treatment Court recommendations
- Adhere to Conditions of Community Supervision
- Abstain from drugs and alcohol
- Submit to random drug and alcohol tests
- Sign Release of Information with each treatment provider and service provider
- Actively participate in mental health treatment
- Actively participate in substance abuse treatment and support groups (if indicated)
- Demonstrate adherence to psychotropic medications
- Attend all Mental Health Treatment Court appearances
- Remain law abiding



Mental Health Court Team

Judge

The Mental Health Treatment Court Judge heads the collaborative Court Team. In this capacity, the Judge regularly reviews reports from the Community Supervision and Corrections Department and treatment updates detailing each participant's compliance with the treatment plan.

Director

The Mental Health Treatment Court Services Director is the key liaison with the Mental Health Treatment Court Judges, Team, Advisory board and stakeholders. The Director facilitates weekly staffing for each docket; develops and implements innovative community-based treatment options for Mental Health Treatment Court participants; and cultivates and strengthens collaborative relationships with community stakeholders.

Court Clinician

The Court Clinician will conduct initial and on-going assessments to determine clinical eligibility for the Mental Health Treatment Court as well as identify psychosocial needs. The Court Clinician obtains weekly clinical updates from each treatment provider and routinely delivers direct clinical interventions to Mental Health Treatment Court participants.

Assistant District Attorney

The role of the Assistant District Attorney in the Mental Health Treatment Court differs from the customary role of an Assistant District Attorney in the traditional adjudication process. The Mental Health Treatment Court Prosecutor reviews new cases concerning legal eligibility pursuant to the guidelines defined by the Mental Health Treatment Court.

Defense Attorney

The Defense Attorney represents and advises the Participant in all Mental Health Treatment Court proceedings. The Defense Attorney uses a non-adversarial approach with a focus on protecting their client's constitutional right and their success in treatment.

Community Supervision Officer

The specialized (trained in mental health) Community Supervision Officers oversee a caseload exclusively of Mental Health Treatment Court Participants. Each Officer works closely with participants and provides updates to the Team regarding compliance with Conditions of Probation.

Case Manager (2)

The Mental Health Treatment Court Case Manager assesses the nature and degree of Mental Health Treatment Court participants service needs. The Case Manager will implement and monitor the efficacy of the Court Treatment Plan. The Case Manager identifies current and emerging participant needs and links participants with appropriate rehabilitative services including mental health and substance abuse treatment, housing, food and other community resources.