

Success Through Accountability Restitution and Treatment

START Court

Multnomah Circuit Court

Mission

To improve the overall quality of life in our community by providing a court-supervised program for high risk and high need individuals that will enhance public safety, reduce crime, provide accountability, substance abuse treatment, and integrated mental health care; reduce costs to our community, and ultimately transform these individuals into positive, contributing members of our community.

Program Details

START Court is a specialty court program founded in 2010 for individuals diagnosed with substance use disorder(s) and associated mental health conditions who are primarily justice involved due to diagnosis. Individuals in the program received a sentence to probation and conditions to participate in the program where they will receive services to address their risks and needs, rather than their presumptive prison sentences. The program's operations and policies are driven by evidence-based research, best practices for specialty courts, and the Criminal Justice Commission's Specialty Court Standards.

Services and Supports Provided

START Court is a collaborative program in partnership with the Multnomah County Circuit Court, District Attorney's Office, Department of Community Justice, Metropolitan Public Defender, Multnomah Defenders, Inc., Holistic Healing Behavioral Healthcare and Volunteers of America Oregon. Individuals in START receive intensive supervision and collaborative case planning among team members. Individuals have access to Judicial support, culturally responsive alcohol, drug and mental health treatment, housing, certified recovery peer mentors, probation officers, and provide random and frequent urinalysis testing.

Statistics

- Since inception in 2010, over 1,000 individuals have been sentenced into the START program
- Since 2014, eligibility criteria required a downward departure probation from prison
- Program exits since January 2020:
 - 60% graduation
- Demographics of all individuals since 2020:
 - 75% (238) White: 25% individuals of color
 - 83% (265) Male 17% (54) Female

Team Budget

2021-2023 CJC Grant funded: \$1,591,076

OJD: 1 FTE Coordinator

MCDA: .25 FTE Deputy District Attorney

DCJ: 1 FTE Probation Officer

MPD: .5 FTE Defense Attorney, .5 FTE Legal Assistant

MDI: .13 FTE Defense Attorney

Treatment Providers: 9,932 non-billable hours

Funded by Partner Budgets

OJD: .85 FTE Judge, 0.45 FTE Judicial Assistant, 0.45

Judicial Clerk, 0.10 FTE Supervisor

DCJ: 3 FTE Probation Officer, 1.5 FTE Corrections Tech

MCDA: .25 FTE Deputy District Attorney

Multnomah Public Defenders: .3 FTE Defense Attorney