

THERAPEUTIC COURTS OVERVIEW

Types and locations of current therapeutic courts

Capacity and current utilization rates

State and federal partners

Community partners

Critical components necessary for therapeutic courts:

Judicial leadership

Team with shared vision

Dedicated staff trained to understand and carry out therapeutic court standards/evidence-based practices for their disciplines

Attorney understanding of target population – who they are, what they need, how to motivate them

Case management/community supervision/testing to stabilize participants and keep them engaged

Community support - Affordable sober/supportive housing and employment

Ready access to affordable treatment and other medical services

Social reintegration/peer support

Ongoing evaluation

Common difficulties experienced by therapeutic courts:

Staff turnover – missing and/or untrained new team members impact operations as they may not understand or support the mission of the therapeutic court

Limited access to critical resources (detox, residential care, mental health services, housing, transportation)

Testing issues