



"If you can't fly, then run. If you can't run, then walk. If you can't walk, then crawl. But whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward."

-Martin Luther King Jr.



## Contact Us

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The Lynchburg Adult Drug Treatment Court Program is made possible through collaborative partnership with The City of Lynchburg, Horizon Behavioral Health, the Virginia Department of Corrections, and the Virginia Department of Health.

# Lynchburg Adult Drug Treatment Court



LYNCHBURG CIRCUIT COURT

## What is Adult Drug Treatment Court?

- Virginia drug courts were formally established in 2004 with the passing of the Drug Treatment Court Act.
- It is an alternative to sentencing for adult offenders that are diagnosed with a substance use disorder.
- The specialized court docket within Virginia's existing court system provides judicial monitoring of individuals in the voluntary program.
- The program provides comprehensive substance use treatment, intensive supervision, and supportive services.
- The 5-phase program takes participants approximately 9-18 months to complete.
- Defendants are referred by their attorney, the Commonwealth, or the Court and required to plead guilty with the opportunity to have the charge dismissed upon successful completion of the program.
- While in Drug Court, participants are required to be employed (if able) in order to pay their court costs and fines.

## What Do Drug Courts Do?

The goals of Virginia's Drug Treatment court dockets are:

1. Reduce substance abuse and drug dependency among offenders.
2. Reduce recidivism.
3. Reduce drug-related court workloads.
4. Increase personal, familial, and societal accountability among offenders.
5. Promote effective planning and use of resources among the criminal justice system and community agencies.

## How Do Drug Courts Work?

- Integration of supervision, treatment, and peer support provided.
- Collaboration between court system, treatment services and community.
- Immediate sanctions enforced for noncompliance.
- Encouraging incentives offered for rehabilitated behaviors and milestones.
- Focused supervision provided by probation.
- Judicial supervision provided by court.
- Continuing care and support given post graduation.



## Drug Court & Community Impact

- Drug Court allows participants to receive access to mental health and substance use disorder treatment that otherwise might not be available in jail.
- On average, Virginia's Drug Courts save over \$19,000 per person as opposed to traditional case processing.
- Drug Courts reduce prison costs by decreasing the inmate population, thus preventing costly overpopulation in the jail system.
- Recidivism rates of drug court participants is far lower than that of those who are sentenced regularly (probation, jail/prison).

## Do Treatment Courts Work?

- Research shows that the Drug Treatment Court model is an effective method to improve treatment adherence & promote recovery by utilizing evidence based treatment models.
- "Treatment Courts are the single most successful intervention in our nation's history for leading people living with substance abuse and mental health disorders out of the justice system and into lives of recovery and stability." - The National Association of Drug Court Professionals.
- The LADTC is supported by a Bureau of Justice Administration Federal Grant awarded in December of 2021.
- Since inception, 13 individuals have graduated from the program.
- Drug Court teams engage in ongoing training and collaboration to stay up to date with developments and trends relevant to participant success.
- Since 2017, the program has maintained an extremely low rate of recidivism.

