

START Court

Success Through Accountability Restitution and Treatment

Overview

START Court adult drug court which serves high-risk/high-need individuals involved in the criminal justice system primarily because of a substance use disorder and associated mental health conditions. It is an intensive multidisciplinary supervision program. The team consists of a Judge, probation officers, correction technicians, treatment, mentors, program coordinator, defense attorney, and deputy district attorney. Using a non-adversarial approach, incentives and sanctions are used to help facilitate behavior change as participants move through the five phases of the program.

Outcomes

- 265 graduates since inception in 2010
- MCJRP participants sentenced to the START Court program have lower revocations rates (26.9% vs 45.3%)*
- Restitution is paid to victims at nearly double the rate for START participants compared to MCJRP cases sentenced to other community supervision programs (14% vs. 7.8%)*
- 42% graduation rate**

Criminal Justice Commission Requests

- Funding would provide services to 180 individuals at any given time
- New requests for funding this biennium:
 - FTE for a case manager
 - FTE for legal assistance to the Deputy DA and defense
 - Housing vouchers
 - Training and travel
 - Program evaluation and technical assistance with the National Association of Drug Court Professionals

*Evaluating the Multnomah County Justice Reinvestment Program – November 2018

<https://multco.us/file/77447/download>

**does not include cases transferred out of the program or cases that expired

