

Sanctions (continued):

The Drug Court sanctions are designed to be effective, developmentally appropriate, and immediate. In most cases, the participant will move through the sanctions by way of **warning, community service, home arrest, and then detention.**

Beyond these specific sanctions, when appropriate, sanctions will be individualized for the participant in question. The Drug Court Team strives for sanctions that are fair, clear, and meaningful.

Sanctions include but are not limited to:

Writing of an essay on Juvenile Drug Court related topic; Increased drug testing; Increased participation in outpatient individual and/or group counseling sessions; Increased court appearances; Community Support; Re-phase to an earlier phase of treatment; House arrest; Extended term on program; Commitment to DYS; In addition to court sanctions for drug use, the participant's treatment provider may also have a "treatment response" to the participant's behavior. This may result in additional treatment or a change in the treatment plan.

Leaving the Program: A participant may leave the program in the following ways...

Suspension:

A participant who is charged with committing a violent felony, use of a weapon or sale of dangerous drugs while participating in the drug Court program will be suspended from participation in the program. A participant found not guilty of the charges restarts the program at a level determined by the team. Participants suspended are subject to all rules of supervision.

Automatic Termination:

A Drug Court participant who is found guilty of a violent felony, use of a weapon, or sale of dangerous drugs while participating in the program will be automatically terminated.

program. The entire Drug Court team will individually review each case with the Drug Court Judge making the final determination on expulsion.

Voted Termination:

A Drug Court participant may be terminated from the program by Judge's order after conferring with the Drug Court team, but the drug Court Judge will make all decision regarding termination from the program. Reasons for termination/expulsion may include, but are not limited to: Repeated failure to abide by Drug Court rules by a participant or parent of a juvenile participant; Commits physical violence; Possesses a weapon; Verbally threatens another participant; Participants who refuse to comply with the programs criteria such as treatment attendance, court attendance, consistent dirty screens; New violent offense arrest; New adjudicated or delinquent charge; and Refusal to attend educational programs

Graduation:

The Chambers County Juvenile and Dependency Drug Court graduation is a celebration of a Participants successful completion of all Drug Court requirements.

Program Requirements:

Successful completion of all phases of the Drug Court program is required for graduation, including the required goals for all treatment plans. In order to graduate, a participant must be clean and sober during Phase III and Phase IV and have complied with all components of the program. All financial obligations, including restitution and drug fees must be paid in full.

Graduation:

The Drug Court Graduation consists of a ceremony in open court at the completion of the Drug Court program participant's individualized treatment plan. The graduation provides a specific time for the team, the participant, and the participant's family to acknowledge the work and success of the participant and to support the future endeavors. Successful completion of the program entitles the youth in Juvenile Court to have his/her charges dismissed.

Chambers County Juvenile Drug Court



Guidelines

General Information

Welcome to the Chambers County Juvenile Drug Court program. This handbook is designed to answer questions, address concerns and provide overall information about the Juvenile Drug Court program. As a participant, you will be expected to follow the instructions given to you by the Judge and Probation Officer as well as to comply with the treatment plan developed by the Drug Court Coordinator and the Drug Court Team. This handbook details what is expected of you as a Juvenile Drug Court participant. Some guidelines may vary at the discretion of the juvenile drug court team.

The Chambers County Juvenile Justice System is dedicated to making a difference in the lives of the offenders that come before the court. The Justice System has no greater chance to rehabilitate and restore an offender back to a position of a productive citizen than via the Juvenile Justice System. In Chambers County the professionals involved with the Juvenile Justice System will strive to provide meaningful and innovative programs to make the most of the opportunity presented in each young offender's case.

Calvin Milford
Juvenile Drug Court Judge

What is the Juvenile Drug Court

- The Chambers County's Juvenile Drug Court is a multi-agency post-adjudication program involving the coordinated rehabilitation efforts of the Juvenile Drug Court Judge, Juvenile probation officers; Drug Court Coordinator; Chambers County School System, Lanett City School System, East Alabama Mental Health and other local substance abuse treatment Providers, Circle of Care Center for families, Chambers County Department of Human Resources and various other local service providers.
- The Juvenile Drug Court has as its focus Chambers County youth under the age of (19) who has substance abuse issues and who has committed a non-violent crime and who has a delinquency allegation pending before the Juvenile Court or a juvenile under that age of (19) who has a CHINS petition pending (Child in Need of Supervision).
- The program will not accept sex offenders, those who are drug dealers or those who have committed other violent crimes.
- The Chambers County Juvenile Drug Court emphasizes intensive community-based treatment, court intervention, and least restrictive services.
- Drug Court participants and a parent/guardian will appear in court on a regular basis for a progress review. There will be input from the Drug Court Team as to phases of treatment, incentives and sanctions.
- In addition to the court appearance, youth and their families will participate in an individualized drug court treatment plan. Each participant's plan may include drug treatment, education, wellness workshops, support groups, and aftercare/alumni support group or other services deemed necessary by a treatment team..
- Drug Court participants are subject to regular, frequent, random, visually supervised drug testing.
- The Juvenile Drug Court Program is a 9 – 12 month voluntary Program. Participants will be monitored by the Drug Court Coordinator and Probation Officer/case manager
- Participants of the Drug Court Program are either required to be in school or working toward a GED. A school counselor will be assigned to each participant and grades and attendance will be monitored.

Mission: The Chambers County Juvenile Court in coordination with the Chambers County Children's Policy Council seeks to improve and expand services directed toward juveniles and families experiencing substance abuse issues. Our plan, through the development and implementation of a Juvenile Drug Court, is to work to alleviate the problem of substance abuse with a well coordinated array of services and is to reduce the number of commitments to the Department of Youth Services (DYS).

Primary Goal: The Chambers County Juvenile Drug Court's Mission is "to reduce crime, and substance abuse by diverting youth to a court-managed treatment program which holds them accountable and emphasizes personal responsibility".

What are the Juvenile drug Court's Goals?

- Reduce substance abuse and recidivism of juvenile offenders.
- Improve school performance and family relationships.
- Eliminate Involvement with the Juvenile Court System
- Reduce the number of commitments to DYS

With the combined efforts of the Drug Court team and the community, the participants should display significant improvement by abiding by the law, remaining drug-free, having better relationships with the family and others and by achieving academic success.

Who are the Members of the Drug Court Team

Juvenile Court Judge, Drug Court Coordinator, Probation Officer, Representative from East Alabama Mental Health, Assistant District Attorney, Attorney, Representative from Chambers County Schools, Representative from Lanett City Schools, Representative from Chambers County DHR, Representative from Circle of Care Center for Families, Law Enforcement or School Resource Officer Representative, and Public Health ?

What Does the Team Do?

The function of the team members is to assist in determining if the youth is an appropriate participant in the drug court program; to review progress of the youth involved in the drug court program, to make recommendations to the Judge as to additional actions that might be taken; to assist in the development of programs and resources that will help meet identified needs; and to review the drug court program to determine if the program is addressing the substance abuse issues in an effective manner.

What financial obligations does a participant's family have?

There is no fee for participation in the program. However, Chambers County Juvenile drug Court has limited funds for treatment. Families with adequate funds or insurance will be expected to pay for treatments provided. Families eligible for Medicaid or AllKids will be required to apply to these programs for funding. A \$15.00 fine will be levied for each positive drug screen and for each missed counseling/treatment session. Also a \$15.00 fine will be assessed for missed tutoring session and for participants that are 15 minutes tardy for a truancy session. *A termination fee of \$150.00 will be assessed for each participant that unsuccessfully completes the program.*

What are Incentives and Sanctions?

Chambers Juvenile Drug Court is an intensive court-managed treatment program. The goal of the program is to assist youth and parents involved in dependency situation to overcoming substance abuse and to reduce crime and criminal activity. We are here to help people identify existing strengths and develop competencies that motivate positive change.

To support the goals of the program and each individual, the Drug Court team has developed incentives/rewards and sanctions/consequences.

Incentives:

The purpose of an incentive is to motivate positive change. Through incentive we encourage responsible behavior.

Incentives include but or not limited to:

Gifts (CDs, etc), field trips, camping outings, food, gift certificates, movies, or event tickets; Praise and congratulations from the Judge and Team; Recognition in Court, including applause; Decreased drug testing if participant remains clean -resulting in fewer fees; Extension of Curfew; Increased visitation with children in out of home care and possibly earlier return of children to participants care; Faster progress through the program; Graduation to the next phase; Graduation from program and the final incentive.....**Dismissal of charges**

Sanctions:

The purpose of sanctions is to hold participants accountable for their behavior and to reinforce core aspects of the program. The core aspects of the program are treatment and program participation, school attendance, work schedules for those who are employed and behavior at home. There are specific graduated sanctions designed to address behavior in the different aspects of the program.