

CHESTERFIELD COUNTY DRUG COURT PROGRAM

LOCATION: Chesterfield County Drug Court
107 Main Street, Chesterfield, SC 29709

IMPORTANT numbers to know:

- *For TREATMENT:*
(843) 623-7062 – Yvonne Harrington
The Alpha Center
- *For DRUG COURT:*
(843) 623-5460 – Jessica McLean
Fourth Circuit Solicitor's Office

INTRODUCTION

Chesterfield County Drug Court provides a cost-effective alternative to traditional prosecution and incarceration of nonviolent offenders with substance abuse problems. Crime will be reduced and offenders rehabilitated through court supervision and substance abuse treatment. The program is designed to promote self-sufficiency and personal responsibility. Participation in this program requires your personal commitment. Members of the Drug Court Team are present to guide and assist you, but the final responsibility is yours. You must be motivated to make this change and commit to a more responsible way of life.

The program involves working with the Drug Court Staff, all dedicated to your recovery for a minimum of **12** months. Your charges will be dismissed upon your successful graduation.

It is important that you understand the long-term commitment involved in this program. You will be involved with AA and NA, attend office visits as scheduled by Drug Court Staff, keep **ALL** scheduled court appearances, submit to random drug testing and attend **ALL** scheduled treatment sessions. The Drug Court Staff is here to assist you with your efforts to successfully complete the program, but the choice and effort to change your way of life comes from you.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Chesterfield County Drug Court Program is a court-supervised treatment program. The Drug Court Judge will review your progress every week.

An attorney will be provided to assist every client with any Drug Court related legal matters.

PROGRESS REPORT

As a Chesterfield County Drug Court Participant, you will be required to appear in Court on a regular basis (usually Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m.) At each appearance, the Judge will be given a progress report regarding drug test results, attendance, and participation in treatment and support groups. The Judge may ask you and/or your treatment provider questions about your progress and discuss specific problems you have been experiencing, your financial situation and relative information on your progress in the program.

COURTROOM ENVIRONMENT

Once Court is called to Order, conversations with other participants will **NOT** be allowed. You must remain in court for the entire Court session. There are absolutely **NO** distractions during Court. **NO** shorts, tank tops, flip flops, t-shirts with obscene language, chewing gum, hats, or jewelry on male participants are allowed in Court. All cellular phones and pagers must be turned off. Family and friends accompanying you to Court are expected to adhere to the same rules and guidelines.

PROGRAM RULES

As a Drug Court participant, you will be required to abide by the following rules:

- **ATTEND ALL ORDERED TREATMENT SESSIONS.**
There are **three** required group sessions per week. **ONE** self-help meeting and Church attendance on Sunday are also required. The Judge may also order additional sessions, education, employment, anger management and additional AA/NA meetings. **IF** you are not able to attend Treatment, medical documentation is **REQUIRED**. In addition, before using **ANY** prescription drugs, please clear it with your Treatment Supervisor.
- **BE ON TIME.** If you are late, you may **NOT** be allowed to attend and will be considered non-compliant which could result in sanctions. Doors will be locked at 5:05 p.m. Contact your Treatment Supervisor or Coordinator **IF** there is a possibility you may be late. You **MUST** have a good reason!

Lack of transportation is NOT a good reason for being late OR missing treatment or court. Prior to entering the program you were assessed and indicated the ability to attend ALL parts of this program.

- **NO THREATS!** Do not make threats towards other participants or Drug Court staff or behave in a violent manner or engage in inappropriate behavior including any type of intimate relationships with other Drug Court participants. NO violent or inappropriate behavior will be tolerated and will be immediately reported to the Court. This may result in termination from the Drug Court Program.
- **NO WEAPONS!** You must NOT have any type of weapons in your possession while participating in the program.
- **YOU MUST ATTEND all Drug Court Sessions.** Failure to appear for Court Sessions will result in an immediate Bench Warrant. Court is located in the Court Room , Chesterfield County Court House on Tuesday each week at 5:00 p.m.
- **You MUST NOTIFY the Court of any CHANGE in your HOME ADDRESS, HOME PHONE, CELL NUMBER, JOB (Address/Phone),** pager numbers and any information important to staying in contact with the Drug Court Team.

PROGRAM FEES

As a participant, you agree and are responsible for paying ALL program fees. A non-refundable application fee of \$100 is due at application. You cannot enter the program unless a counselor at The Alpha Center has assessed you. Once in the program, \$30 is to be paid on a weekly basis to The Alpha Center by money order. NO checks are allowed. There may be other costs once you enter the program. Payment records will be reported to the Judge as part of your regular progress report. Drug Court fees must be paid IN FULL before you will be considered for graduation. You will be asked to provide Drug Court with a check stub on a weekly or bi-weekly schedule to ensure employment and number of hours worked.

RESTITUTION

If you owe restitution on your case, you will be required to pay it back before you can graduate. Payment of restitution may ONLY be

made with cash or money order. The Court will develop a payment plan and schedule for you. ALL restitution must be paid to the Court and prior to moving into the final phase.

TREATMENT PROCEDURES

Upon your guilty plea in the 4th Circuit General Sessions Court to your charges, your sentence is deferred and your time in Drug Court begins IMMEDIATELY. **Treatment is scheduled from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday at The Alpha Center, located at 1218 East Boulevard, Chesterfield, SC (beside Suburban Propane). The Treatment number is (843)623-7062 (Yvonne Harrington).** Court is held EVERY Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. in the Courtroom at Chesterfield County Courthouse, 200 West Main Street, Chesterfield, SC.

DRUG TESTING

You will be tested throughout the entire treatment process. The Drug Court Judge will have access to ALL drug test results including any failures to test and may order a drug test at ANY time. Any results that indicate that the test was altered will be considered criminal behavior. It is strongly suggested that any relapse/drug use be REPORTED prior to a drug test being administered.

TWELVE-STEP MEETINGS

Attendance will be required at 12-Step meetings such as Narcotics Anonymous (NA) and/or Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). A minimum of one NA/AA meeting per week with attendance at the church of your choice on Sunday morning is required. You will be required to submit signed attendance sheets from NA/AA and signed church bulletin on Sunday attendance to your Treatment Counselor. Frequent attendance is particularly important to your recovery process to help familiarize you with the 12-step philosophy and help you develop a level of trust to learn and create social bonds with other recovering addicts. Treatment group sessions will enable you to create bonds with other recovering addicts. Your Treatment Supervisor will provide you with information regarding the locations and times of 12-step meetings.

TREATMENT PHASES

The Chesterfield County Drug Court Program is a **four-phase**, highly structured, outpatient treatment program lasting minimum of (12) months. The length of your treatment may vary depending upon your individual progress. Each **phase** consists of specified treatment objectives, therapeutic and rehabilitative activities, and specific requirements for advancement into the next phase. You **MUST** make an effort to maintain a **“drug free”** lifestyle. This includes alcohol.

SANCTIONS

If you fail to comply with the Treatment Program during any phase, the following sanctions are available to the Court. The Drug Court Judge may, at his/her discretion, order one or more of the following:

- Verbal reprimand
- Written homework (in the form of an essay)
- Increased drug screens
- Increased Court appearances
- Community service work
- Jail
- Termination
- Or any other sanction the Judge deems appropriate.

INCENTIVES

The Court applies appropriate incentives to **MATCH YOUR TREATMENT PROGRESS**. Compliance with program rules will result in praise from the Judge, the Drug Court Team, and other court participants. Incentives are applied when moving to another phase, i.e., phase certificates, decreased treatment sessions, early dismissal from Court, decreased urinalysis testing, and graduation.

EDUCATION, VOCATION AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS

Recovery from substance addiction means developing self-sufficiency and becoming a productive and responsible member of the community. Every participant should be employed. (Unusual circumstances should be addressed with the Treatment Counselor.) Upon entering the Drug Court Program, you will be signed up with **SC Vocational Rehabilitation Department and ONESTOP through the Employment Security**

Commission. Representatives from each agency will be part of the Drug Court Team.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Upon your entry into Drug Court, your Coordinator and/or Treatment Counselor will assess your general living needs and when appropriate, refer you to a local, state and/or county agency for assistance.

TERMINATION FROM THE PROGRAM

Warrants and/or new arrests could result in your being terminated from the Chesterfield County Drug Court Program and you will **IMMEDIATELY** begin serving your prison sentence. Other violations that could result in termination include, but are not limited to, consistently missing drug tests, demonstrating a lack of Program response by failing to cooperate with the Treatment Provider, and violence or threats of violence directed at Drug Court staff or other participants. The Drug Court Team will make **ALL** decisions regarding termination from the Program.

GRADUATION

Successful completion and “graduation” from the Program will result in your charges being dismissed.