

## DESCHUTES COUNTY FAMILY DRUG COURT (DCFDC) FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **Who is eligible for DCFDC?**

Parents in Deschutes County who are involved in the legal system (including child welfare) whose substance abusing behaviors are compromising the safety and welfare of their children. Please see *DCFDC Eligibility and Referral* document for further detail.

### **How does a person get referred to DCFDC?**

Any community justice partner may refer an individual to DCFDC. Please see *DCFDC Eligibility and Referral* document for further information. If you are interested in participating in the program please contact your attorney, your probation officer or your DHS caseworker.

### **Will a person's charges be dropped or reduced if they choose to participate in DCFDC?**

Each criminal case referred to DCFDC is negotiated on a case by case basis between legal counsel outside of the drug court process. There are no automatic deals offered in criminal cases to participate in DCFDC.

### **What is the benefit of participating in DCFDC?**

The DCFDC program offers an array of intensive treatment and support services to parents and their children. These services include but are not limited to comprehensive drug and alcohol treatment, mental health treatment and medication management, support for obtaining clean and sober housing, assistance with job search and education, parenting support and assistance with parenting skills, dental and physical health care, assistance with transportation and advocacy for needs of children. Most services are offered at low to no cost to participants. Built in incentives are also offered to participants who comply with program expectations. Please see *What happens if a person violates the rules of DCFDC* below.

### **Can DCFDC help a parent get their child back?**

DCFDC provides intensive services to assist parents in becoming a safe resource for their child so they may be reunited as soon as possible.

### **How long is the program?**

Typically, twelve to eighteen months.

### **When is DCFDC in session?**

The DCFDC is in session every Monday afternoon in the Deschutes County Justice building at 1100 NW Bond Street in Bend Oregon. Proceedings are open to the public.

### **What is expected of a person participating in DCFDC?**

Individual treatment plans are developed for all DCFDC participants and tailored around the unique needs of parents and families. Basic expectations of all participants are:

- Frequent court appearances
- Frequent random drug testing
- Intensive drug and alcohol treatment

- Mental health treatment if appropriate
- Community based self help/recovery meetings (12-step, AA, NA, MA DDA etc.)
- Regular probation reporting
- Parent coaching
- Health, wellness and treatment of children
- Health, wellness and treatment of parents
- Communicable disease testing and referral
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Employment

Participants receive incentives for program compliance and progress on their treatment plan. Individualized treatment interventions and sanctions are given for non-compliance. As a participant progresses, the treatment plan is adjusted with less frequent drug testing, therapy sessions, probation reporting and court attendance. Please see *FDC Program Phase Expectations* document for more detailed expectations.

### **What are the sanctions and incentives for a participant in DCFDC?**

The program operates on a system of sanctions and interventions for non compliance and incentives for compliance. If a person violates rules sanctions may include but are not limited to community services work, electronic monitoring, written assignments, house arrest, jail time or termination. Interventions include but are not limited to increased treatment sessions, increased self-help groups, residential treatment, further assessment, writing assignments, increased or modified drug testing. Incentives include but are not limited to praise and recognition from the judge and the treatment team, gifts from the judge's basket, family outings, family friendly items, decrease in court appearances, decrease in reporting requirements and decrease in drug testing

### **What happens when a person successfully graduates DCFDC?**

In most cases a person's probation case is closed. Occasionally, if money is still owed in restitution the probation case will remain open. If the court has wardship over any minor children in the case, wardship is dismissed.

### **What happens if a person is terminated from DCFDC?**

In most cases the District Attorney's office files a motion to revoke probation and the case is set in the normal course.