

## Family Treatment Drug Court

### Core Components

1. **Comprehensive Case Management, Services, and Supports for Families.** A Specialized Court Social Worker is assigned to each family to provide additional support and resources.
2. **Early Identification, screening, assessment.** The process of early identification, screening, and assessment provides the greatest opportunity to fully meet the comprehensive needs of parents and families affected by substance use disorders (SUDs) that come to the attention of the child welfare system.
3. **Therapeutic Response to Behavior.** The FTDC operational team applies therapeutic responses (e.g., child safety interventions, treatment adjustments, complementary service modifications, incentives, sanctions) to improve parent, child, and family functioning; ensure children's safety, permanency, and well-being; support participant behavior change; and promote participant accountability.
4. **Frequent Court Appearances** to monitor progress and identify gaps and/or barriers to reunification so challenges can be addressed as needed.

## The Family Treatment Drug Court Team:

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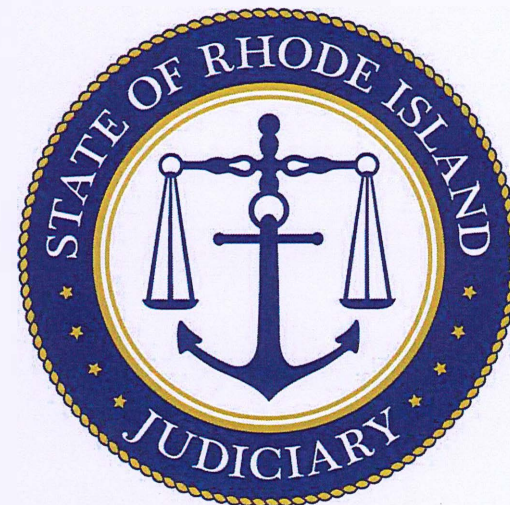
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Family Treatment Drug Court meets  
on Tuesdays from 2:00pm to 4:00pm  
and Thursdays from 10:00am. to  
4:00pm.

RHODE ISLAND



FAMILY COURT

FAMILY TREATMENT

DRUG COURT

A Court Focused  
On Recovery

Garrahy Judicial Complex  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor – Courtroom 5J  
One Dorrance Plaza  
Providence, RI 02903

## **PURPOSE:**

- The Family Treatment Drug Court (FTDC) ensures that children, parents, and family members receive comprehensive services that meet their assessed needs and promote sustained family safety, permanency, recovery, and well-being.
- DCYF workers, FTDC Social Workers, attorneys, treatment, and other service providers are encouraged to collaborate with participants to develop a case plan that supports the client's recovery goals.

Family Treatment Drug Court is a Four-

### **COURT APPEARANCES**

#### **Phase One:**

FTDC hearings are every two weeks.

#### **Phase Two:**

FTDC hearings every 2-3 weeks or as needed.

#### **Phase Three:**

FTDC hearings are monthly or as needed.

#### **Phase Four:**

FTDC hearings are every 4-6 weeks or as needed.

Phase program; however, reunification can happen at ANY phase.

## **EXPECTATIONS:**

Throughout all four phases, participants are expected to:

- Participate in the FTDC court hearings.

- Complete **consecutive** weekly, random supervised toxicology screens.
- To cooperate with all court orders and DCYF case plan goals such as substance use treatment, parenting classes, mental health treatment, etc.
- Maintain contact with the DCYF Social Worker and FTDC Social Worker and sign all necessary releases.

### **To graduate, you must have:**

- six months or more of abstinence as evidenced by clean toxicology screens.
- completion of substance use treatment and other service programs;
- stable housing for the family.
- safe reunification with an individualized safety plan; and
- any other individual requirements in the case plan or ordered by the court.

### **During the fourth and final phase:**

- An aftercare plan will be developed.
- Participants will graduate from FTDC

## **RESTRICTIONS:**

While the final decision for admission to the court rests with the judge, the following issues generally preclude participation:

- Those facing criminal child abuse or neglect charges related to their DCYF petition are not eligible except in the discretion of the court.
- Those with sex offender allegations and/or adjudicated status are not eligible.

- Parents with severe cognitive limitations or significant mental health concerns generally do not meet the criteria.

### ***WHAT PARTICIPANTS ARE SAYING ABOUT THE FAMILY TREATMENT RECOVERY COURT***

**“Everyone listened to what I had to say and respected me.”**

**“...they are helping me get my daughter home!”**

**“(They) believed in me and I was always given the benefit of the doubt.”**

**“It helped me rethink my direction (in) life.”**

**“The compassionate staff...they always tried for me even when I was down.”**

**“I only had to ask for services once and (they were) right on top of it.”**

**“(They are) very easy to talk to and always make you feel good about succeeding.”**

**“(They) stood by me and believed in me when I didn't believe in myself.”**