



West Virginia

# Family Treatment Court

FY 2023

**Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia**

**Division of Probation Services**

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- The West Virginia Family Treatment Courts (FTC) are a cooperative effort of the Circuit Court, Child Protective Services, and substance abuse treatment providers, as well as anyone involved in the welfare of children in the foster care system.
- FTCs are established in accordance with §62-15B-1 and are designed and operated consistent with national standards set forth by the Center for Children and Family Futures and All Rise and operate under uniform protocol and procedures established by the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia.
- The *Vision* of the Family Treatment Courts is to strengthen West Virginia children and families through recovery, resiliency, and permanency.
- The *Mission* of Family Treatment Courts is to partner with families and communities to provide guided supports through immediate interventions that facilitate attachment, family empowerment, recovery, and reunification to ensure the safety, well-being, and permanency of West Virginia families.
- The goals are to assist parents with accessing substance abuse treatment in a more timely manner, returning children home and reunifying them at a potentially faster rate than traditional abuse and neglect court proceedings, and ensure fewer children experience subsequent maltreatment and return back to foster care.
- Referrals to FTC can be made by child welfare workers, prosecutors, defense attorneys, guardians *ad litem* (GAL), and/or Circuit Judges.
- FTC is structured in five milestones. The minimum program length is 9 months, which includes a 90-day aftercare program.
- Individuals enter Family Treatment Court at the Post-Adjudicatory Improvement Period phase of the abuse and neglect proceedings.
- Components of FTC include intensive supervision, frequent, random, and observed drug testing, meetings between the participants and their Case Coordinator, individual and group counseling, court appearances, and supervised parenting time with their children until reunification.
- Each FTC will be comprised of a local treatment team, which may include the Circuit Judge, Case Coordinator, Child Welfare Worker, GAL, CASA, Defense Attorney, Prosecutor, treatment providers, and other community stakeholders.
- WV has 13 Family Treatment Courts serving 16 counties in Boone, Calhoun, Fayette, Kanawha, Logan, Marshall, McDowell, Nicholas, Ohio, Putnam, Raleigh, Randolph, Roane, Tyler, Wetzel, and Wood.



Children and Family Futures  
Strengthening Partnerships. Improving Family Outcomes



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