

### **Mission Statement**

Problem Solving Court programs address the root causes of justice system involvement through specialized dockets, multi-disciplinary teams, and a non adversarial approach. PSC offer evidence based treatment, judicial supervision, and accountability. PSC provide individualized interventions for participants, thereby reducing recidivism and promoting confidence and satisfaction with the justice system process.

### **Program Overview**

Adult Mental Health Court embraces the idea that treatment, rather than punishment alone, is the most effective strategy to help adults with mental illness avoid future involvement in the criminal justice system. Each adult is offered tailored treatment along with court supervision.

### **My Court Information**

Case #:
Judge:
Division:
Court Specialist:
Probation Officer:
Therapist:

### For More Information:

Administrative Office of the Courts Problem Solving Courts Program

### **Adult Mental Health Court Specialist:**

Christine Mukherjee Phone: (813)272-5104 E-Mail: shieldck@fljud13.org

## Learn more about the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit at:

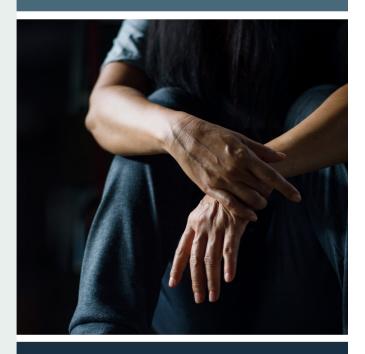
www.fljud13.org/CourtPrograms/ ProblemSolvingCourts/ AdultMentalHealthCourt.aspx

(Revised 8-22-22)



## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

# Adult Mental Health Court (MHC)



www.fljud13.org

#### **Adult Mental Health Court**

Adult Mental Health Court is a collaborative effort coordinated among local agencies, treatment providers and the legal community to provide participants with a unique approach to mental health treatment aimed at reduced recidivism, increased stability and overall success in the community.

Adult Mental Health Court holds defendants accountable while assisting them to achieve long-term stability by becoming law-abiding citizens and successful family and community members.

Striving to improve the response to people with mental illness who are involved with or at risk of involvement with law enforcement, the courts and corrections.

### **How Are Cases Referred To MHC?**

Persons who meet criteria for Pretrial Intervention and have a major mental health disorder may be eligible for MHC.

The Public Defender or Private attorney refer the case to the Court Mental Health Liaison who completes an evaluation of the participant. This evaluation determines if they qualify and what level of care they need.

# What Are the Components of MHC?

- A specialized court docket, which employs a problem solving approach to court processing in lieu of more traditional court procedures for certain participants with mental illnesses
- Judicially supervised, community based treatment plans for each participant, designed and implemented by a team of court staff and mental health professionals.
- Regular status hearings at which treatment plans and other conditions are periodically reviewed for appropriateness, incentives are offered to reward adherence to court conditions, and sanctions are imposed on participants who do not adhere to the conditions of participation

# What Kind of Services Are Offered in the Program?

- Mental health counseling
- Substance abuse counseling
- Family counseling
- Grief counseling
- Anger management
- Other therapeutic intervention that are deemed appropriate

### What is Required of Participants?

- Appear in court as directed
- No new charges
- No illegal drugs or alcohol
- Medication compliance
- Attend all recommended mental health treatment appointments

### **MHC Collaboration**

Adult Mental Health Court team members include the Judge, representatives from the Office of the State Attorney and Public Defender, private counsel, treatment providers, Probation and court program specialists.

The Adult Mental Health Court team meets every two weeks for staffing reviews of the participants before the bi-weekly docket. The status review allows for informal discussion and problem solving of these participants complex issues and needs.

