

## WHAT IS FAMILY TREATMENT COURT?

The FTC is a court-supervised program designed to ensure the nurturing and well-being of children by providing comprehensive collaborative services for parents and families. Its goals are to: 1) increase reunification; 2) decrease length of dependency; 3) increase recovery/ stability of parent; 4) decrease recidivism. The FTC uses intense court intervention, treatment, frequent drug testing, rewards and sanctions to promote family reunification, accountability, effective parenting skills, long-term sobriety, and productive lifestyles.

## HOW IS FTC DIFFERENT?

In FTC, the Judge, an Assistant Attorney General, defense attorneys, Department of Children & Family Services (DCFS) caseworkers, CASA, and a treatment case manager are a team who work together in a non-adversarial way to help you change your life and achieve personal goals such as reunification with your children and a clean and sober lifestyle. The team meets every week to review your progress based on shared information from treatment, DCFS, CASA, schools, employers and others. During your weekly court hearing you receive rewards or sanctions based on your progress for that week.

## AM I ELIGIBLE?

### *Basic Eligibility Criteria:*

- Volunteer for FTC and abide by program rules
- Must admit to alcohol and/or drug issues and want treatment
- Must be seeking custody of child(ren)
- Dependency must be established

### *Disqualifying Criteria:*

- Sex offense – conviction or current allegation
- Severe mental health issues
- Serious violent offenses - conviction or current allegation
- Pending charges with greater than 30 days jail disposition
- More than 2 qualifying parents per family w/ maximum of 2 qualifying attorneys

The FTC team will meet weekly to review and discuss each referral. If you are eligible and wish to participate, you must sign Releases of Information and a FTC contract agreeing to abide by all rules and interventions the FTC team imposes.

## WHAT ARE THE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS?

The FTC program is tough and will demand more of you than the regular dependency process. We will help you obtain the tools to succeed in becoming a sober and productive parent with a greater possibility of reunification of your child. If you have an honest desire to rid yourself of drugs/alcohol and become an effective parent and healthy community member this program is for you. The program lasts **at least one year**.

You are required to do the following:

- Attend court regularly to report on your progress
- Attend individual/group drug/alcohol treatment
- Attend other therapeutic programs as determined by FTC
- Submit to multiple, random, supervised drug tests
- Check-in with a DCFS case manager
- Agree to a curfew and home checks
- Attend support meetings (i.e. AA, NA, CA, GA etc)
- Abide by the FTC case plan including visitation schedule
- Pay a FTC fee

# CLARK COUNTY FAMILY TREATMENT COURT

**Rewards:** When you follow the FTC rules, the judge/team will reward you. Rewards include public recognition of your achievements, reduction of requirements, applause, sobriety coins & cups, and gifts. Graduation from FTC is a public celebration where you are recognized in a special ceremony.

**Sanctions:** If you do not comply with program rules, the judge will impose immediate sanctions. Sanctions include reprimands, writing essays, court visits, increased support group meetings, community service, work crew, and **JAIL**. If terminated from FTC you will return to the normal dependency process.

## WHAT DOES IT COST?

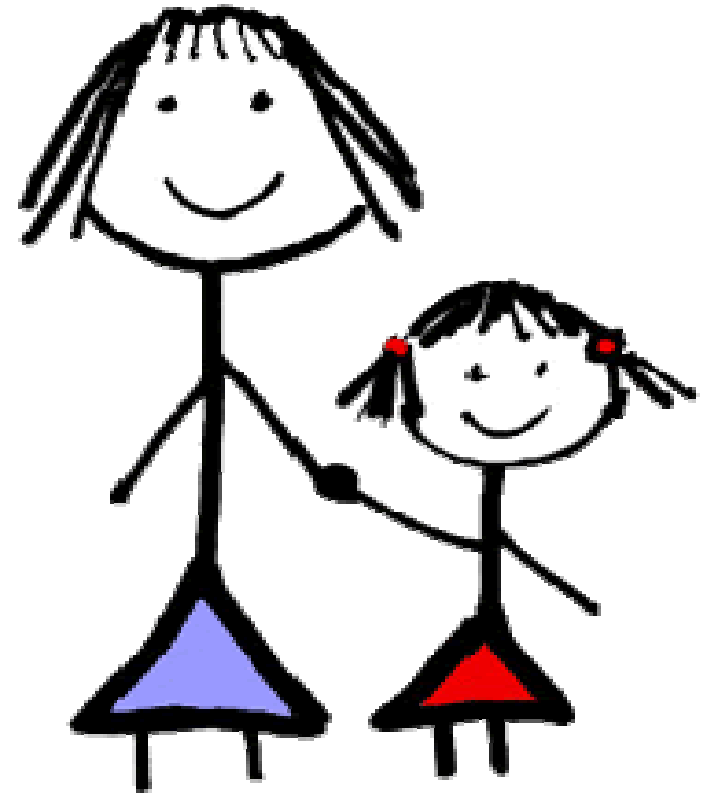
The cost of participation in FTC is \$300. No payments are required while in phase 1. Full payment is required before graduation.

## WHY PARTICIPATE IN FAMILY TREATMENT COURT?

Drugs and alcohol wreck lives. For those who want to change your life and reunify with your children, FTC may be the answer. You will receive drug and alcohol treatment as well as other interventions and treatment needed to help you become a healthy parent. You will build self-esteem, self-respect, and self-confidence. You will be able to think more clearly and feel healthier. When you graduate, not only will you have your children in your life but you will also have the skills necessary to effectively parent. You will have learned skills that will allow you to not just parent but also to avoid criminal behavior and continue a drug-free life that is fulfilling and productive. You will have the support of the court system, the FTC team and the community because you have succeeded.

You are welcome to attend the open FTC Orientation every Monday following court @ the Clark County Family Law Annex, 601 W. Evergreen, Vancouver, WA or contact Brad Finegood, FTC Coordinator at (360) 397-2304 or [brad.finegood@clark.wa.gov](mailto:brad.finegood@clark.wa.gov)

FTC -1 (Revised 1/23/08)



## INFORMATION PAMPHLET