

The Black Hawk County Drug Court is a court that has been specifically designed and staffed to supervise nonviolent felony drug addicted offenders who have been referred to this comprehensive and judicially monitored program of drug treatment services.

Goals

- 1. Reduce substance abuse related crimes and victims**
- 2. Reduce number of drug addicts going to prison**
- 3. Increase effectiveness of treatment and supervision**

The Black Hawk County Drug Court is funded by the U.S. Bureau of Justice Assistance, Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program for two years.

For additional information, please contact:

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Mission

Statement

The mission of the Black Hawk County Drug Court is to enhance public safety and benefit our community through a judicially supervised, collaborative effort to more efficiently work with non-violent substance offenders, thereby reducing recidivism and associated crime.

Based on an **innovative program** first developed in Miami, Florida in 1989, the Drug Court concept has received widespread attention as an **effective treatment strategy** for drug involved criminal offenders. There are over 1,000 Drug Courts throughout the nation, five others operational in Iowa.

Black Hawk County Drug Court represents a **non-traditional approach to criminal offenders who are addicted to drugs**. Rather than focusing only on the crimes and punishments, Drug Court also attempts to solve some of the offenders underlying problems.

The Drug Court is built upon a **unique partnership** between the criminal justice and drug treatment communities, one which structures treatment intervention around the authority and personal involvement of a single Drug Court Judge.

The Drug Court is dependent upon the creation of a non-adversarial courtroom atmosphere where a single Judge and dedicated correctional and treatment staff work together toward a common goal of **breaking the cycle** of drug abuse and criminal behavior. An environment with clear and certain rules is created and a participant's compliance is within their own control.

3. Eligible offenders are identified early and promptly placed in Drug Court.

4. Drug courts provide access to a continuum of alcohol, drug, and other related treatment and rehabilitation.

5. Abstinence is monitored by frequent alcohol and other drug testing.



6. A coordinated strategy governs drug court responses to offender compliance.

7. Ongoing judicial interaction with each drug court participant is essential.

8. Monitoring and evaluation measure the achievement of program goals and gauge effectiveness.

9. Continuing interdisciplinary education promotes effective drug court planning, implementation and operations.

10. Forging partnerships among drug courts, public agencies and community-based organizations generates local support and enhances drug court effectiveness.

The National Association of Drug Court Professionals developed the following 10 Key Components for Drug Courts:

1. Drug courts integrate alcohol and drug treatment services with justice system case processing.
2. Using a non-adversarial approach, prosecution and defense counsel promote public safety while protecting participants' due process rights.