

10 KEY COMPONENTS

**DEFINING THE BEST PRACTICES, DESIGN AND OPERATION
OF A QUALITY DRUG COURT**

- Build and use a **non-adversarial team approach** to identify participants and review progress.
- **Integrate substance abuse treatment providers** into the team approach.
- **Screen and identify participants** using written criteria and trained substance abuse specialists.
- **Provide a continuum of treatment services** (substance abuse, educational, vocational) and **ongoing assessment** to match services with needs.
 - all sensitive to issues of race, age, culture, religion, ethnicity and sexual orientation.
- Frequent (daily or random) **drug testing** (minimum of 2/week).
- **Coordinated strategy governing team responses** to participant's compliance – consequences should be immediate, graduated, predictable, and heavily weighted to positive.
- **Ongoing judicial interaction** with each participant (monitor participant performance through regular status conferences – interaction demonstrates benefits of compliance and consequences for non-compliance).
- Collect data to **monitor and evaluate program goals** to gauge effectiveness.
- **Continued interdisciplinary education** (team knowledgeable about addiction, treatment and proven ways to interact with participants).
- **Partner with** other drug courts, public agencies, community-based organizations (community representatives regularly provide direction and support to the drug court program – ideas, monitoring, recognition, rewards).

* Summary of the 10 Key Components generated by the National Drug Court Institute