



PROBLEM SOLVING COURTS

DRUG COURT & VETERANS TREATMENT COURT

Hon. Jonathan N. Cleary, Dearborn Superior Court

THE **FACTS** ON DRUGS AND CRIME IN AMERICA

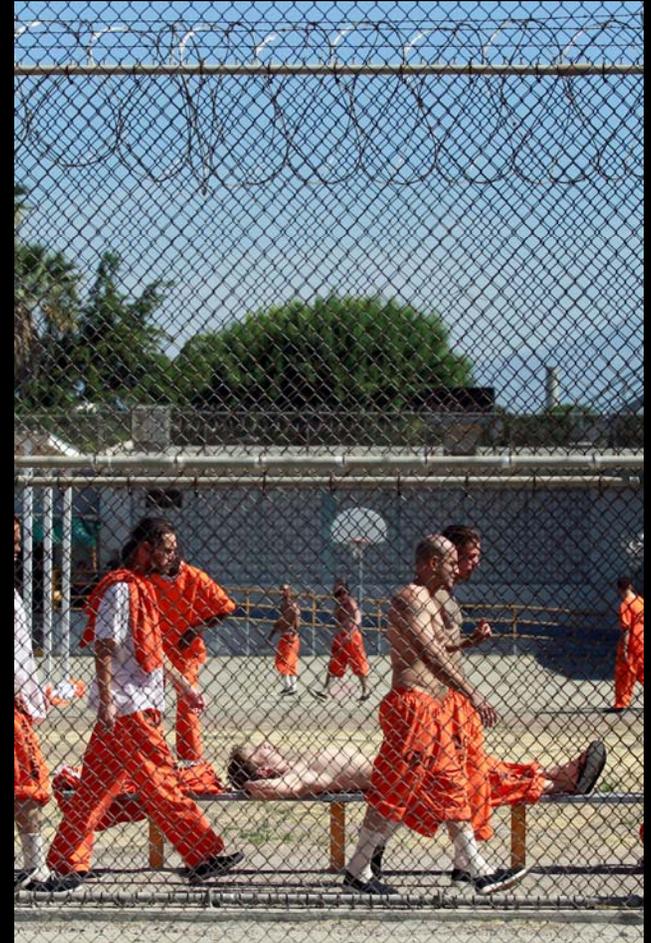
1 in 100 U.S. citizens is now confined in jail or prison

80% of offenders abuse drugs or alcohol

50% percent of jail and prison inmates are clinically addicted

60 to 80% of drug abusers commit a new crime after release

95% percent of offenders return to drug abuse after release



CRIMINAL COURT DOCKETS ARE OVERWHELMED





DRUG COURTS

Judicially supervised court dockets that strike the balance between:

Community Safety v. Improve Public Health and Well Being

Need to Hold People Accountable for Their Actions v. Need for Treatment

Good Citizenship v. Hope & Redemption

DRUG COURTS

Close supervision to keep individuals in treatment for long periods of time (6 times more likely to do so than other approaches)

Significantly reduce crime and do it cheaper than any other justice strategy. Reduced prison costs, victimization, and other trial costs of \$4,000 to \$12,000 per individual who enters drug court

For every \$1 invested in drug courts, taxpayers save as much as \$3.36 in avoided criminal justice costs

Success of drug courts has spawned new generations of problem solving courts – Veterans Courts, Re-entry Courts, Mental Health Courts, Family Courts, etc.



"HUG A THUG"



POSS. HEROIN – LEVEL 6 FELONY	Traditional Court AVG. 18 MONTHS PROBATION	Drug Court AVG. 18 MONTHS PROGRAM
<u>Incarceration</u>	Days to Months in County Jail	Minimal
<u>Probation/ Case Management Visits</u>	1/ month with probation officer - 15	50+ Case Management
<u>Drug Screens</u>	5-8 total	2-3/week 154 to 231
<u>Counseling</u>	<u>IF</u> Intensive Outpatient Treatment 30 combined groups and individual counseling in 17 weeks	78 weeks 50 + groups & 25+ individuals
<u>Court Appearances before a Judge</u>	1	36+ and must present to the team
<u>Self Help Meetings NA/AA/CBT</u>	0 or optional with the individual	Minimum 3/week 231 & proof of sponsor
<u>Home Visits</u>	0	Regular 15+
<u>Employed & Court Fees & Restitution Paid & Community Service</u>	Maybe	Employed, \$ paid, 40 hours community service
<u>Complete Abstinence from Illegal Drug Use</u>	Maybe	Must be clean final 4 months to graduate
<u>Curfew</u>	NO	YES
<u>REWARDS (INCENTIVES)</u>	0	Regular 15+
<u>Total Recovery Contacts</u>	54	653+ in 18 months (9/week) With a long term relapse prevention plan

OTHER MISCONCEPTIONS

“Net widening” – fill slots to justify funding

See poverty, unemployment, drug use patterns, other non-EBDM drug policies

“Wishful thinking” – addicts will seek and remain in treatment of their own volition if given the chance

Treatment is often the last resort hopefully 1 short of overdose or suicide

Peer review. Respect for science.

Drug Courts Work.



INDIANA PROBLEM SOLVING COURTS

42 adult drug courts

5 juvenile drug courts

7 family dependency drug courts

24 veterans treatment courts

11 adult re-entry courts

6 mental health courts

1 domestic violence courts

**TOTAL - 96 PROBLEM SOLVING COURTS
CERTIFIED OR IN THE PLANNING STAGES**



SOUTHEASTERN
INDIANA VETERANS
TREATMENT COURT
Dearborn County
Jefferson County
Ohio County
Ripley County
Switzerland County







REGIONAL COLLABORATION – PUTTING A VETERANS COURT WITHIN REACH OF EVERY INDIANA VETERAN

94 year old Jean Marie Crocker, mother of a soldier killed in action in Vietnam recently stated:

She had her son, Denton, buried in Arlington because she knew if he had been buried near her, she would have clawed the ground until she could see him again, because she missed him so much.

