

Where Treatment and Accountability Meet Justice



Department of Judicial Services, Office of the Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia

## FY24 Specialty Dockets Best Practices and Cost-savings Practices

Program Name \_\_\_\_\_

Key Component		Best Practice and Associated Cost Savings
<b>Team Involvement</b>  <b>Standard I: Practice 1.2</b>	Who on your team is expected to attend the specialty docket staffing and dockets?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Treatment Courts that required a <u>Treatment Representative</u> at court hearing had 9 times greater savings</li><li>• Treatment Courts that expected the <u>Public Defender</u> (or defense counsel) to attend all team meeting had 8 times greater savings</li><li>• Treatment Courts that expected the <u>Prosecutor</u> to attend all team meeting had more than 2 times greater savings</li><li>• Treatment Courts that included <u>Law Enforcement</u> as a member of the team had greater cost savings</li><li>• Treatment Court that required <u>All Team Members</u> to attend staffing had twice the savings</li></ul>
Comments:		

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<b>Non-Drug Charges</b>  <b>Standard III: Practice 3.1</b>	Does your program accept participants with non-drug charges?  Does your program accept participants with prior violence?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Treatment Courts that accepted participants with <u>non-drug charges</u> had nearly twice the savings</li><li>• Treatment Courts that accepted participants with <u>prior violence</u> had no difference in graduation rates</li><li>• Treatment Courts that accepted participants with <u>prior violence</u> had no difference in cost savings</li></ul>
Comments:		
<b>Prompt Treatment</b>  <b>Standard V: Practice 5.2</b>	What is the average number of days between referral and acceptance into the program?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Treatment Court in which participants entered the program <u>within 20 days of arrest</u> had twice the savings</li></ul>
Comments:		

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<p><b>Effective Treatment</b></p> <p><b>Standard VI: Practices 6.1 &amp; 6.2</b></p>	<p>How many treatment agencies provide services for your program?</p> <p>Does your program have a relapse prevention phase?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treatment Courts that used a <u>single coordinating treatment agency</u> had 10 times greater savings</li> <li>• Treatment Courts that had a <u>phase focusing on relapse prevention</u> had over 3 times greater savings</li> </ul>
<p>Comments:</p>		
<p><b>Drug Testing</b></p> <p><b>Standard VII</b></p>	<p>During each phase, how many times per week are participants drug tested?</p> <p>On average, how long (hours, days) does it take to receive drug test results?</p> <p>How many days of abstinence are required before a participant may graduate?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treatment Courts that performed <u>drug testing 2 or more times per week</u> during phase 1 had savings</li> <li>• Treatment Courts that received drug testing <u>results within 48 hours</u> had 3 times greater savings</li> <li>• Treatment Courts that required <u>greater than 90 days of abstinence before graduation</u> had larger cost savings</li> </ul>
<p>Comments:</p>		

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<p><b>Written Sanction &amp; Incentive Guidelines</b></p> <p><b>Standard VIII: Practice 8.3</b></p>	<p>Does your program have written rules regarding team response to participant behavior?</p> <p>Do your participants face the possibility of jail as a sanction?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treatment Courts that had <u>written rules for team responses</u> had nearly 3 times the cost savings</li> <li>• Participants facing the <u>possibility of jail as a sanction</u> had lower recidivism</li> </ul>
<p>Comments:</p>		
<p><b>The Judge</b></p> <p><b>Standard IX: Practice 9.1</b></p>	<p>How often do phase one participants appear before the judge (appear on the docket)?</p> <p>How long has the judge(s) for your program been with the drug court program?</p> <p>On average, how long does the judge talk to each participant while in court?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treatment Courts that held <u>status hearings every 2 weeks during phase 1</u> had two times greater cost savings</li> <li>• The longer the judge spent on the drug court bench, the better the participant outcomes</li> <li>• Treatment Courts that have judges <u>stay longer than two years</u> had 3 times greater cost savings</li> <li>• Judges who spend at least <u>3 minutes</u> talking to each participant in court had more than twice the savings</li> </ul>

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Comments:		
<b>Monitoring &amp; Evaluation</b>  <b>Standard X: Practice 10.4</b>	Does your program use an electronic database?  Has your program used state or local evaluation feedback to make modifications to your program? If so, what modifications have been made?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treatment Courts that used paper files rather than electronic databases had <u>less</u> savings</li> <li>• Treatment Courts that used <u>evaluation feedback to make modifications</u> had 4 times greater cost savings</li> </ul>
Comments:		
<b>Training</b>  <b>Standard XI: Practices 11.1, 11.2 &amp; 11.3</b>	Has every member of your team participated in some form of formal training?  Did your team receive training prior to becoming operational? If yes, which training?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treatment Courts that provided <u>formal training for all team members</u> had 5 times greater savings</li> <li>• Treatment Courts that received <u>training prior to implementation</u> had 15 times greater cost savings</li> </ul>

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Comments:

**Community Partnership**

With what community organizations does your program have partnerships? What have been the perceived benefits?

- Treatment Courts that had formal partnerships with Community Organizations had more than twice the savings

**Standard XII:  
Practices 12.3 & 12.4**

Comments:

Project Administrator Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_