

2014 Juvenile Drug Court Program Highlights

The North Dakota Juvenile Drug Court Program is now under the leadership of Justice Lisa Fair McEvers who became Chair of the Juvenile Drug Court Advisory Committee effective January 2014. Justice McEvers was not new to the drug court model and brought substantial experience to the program having previously served as a juvenile and adult drug court prosecutor and as a former district judge who presided over adult drug court.

In 2014, the Juvenile Drug Court Advisory Committee completed an in-depth review of the North Dakota Juvenile Drug Court Program Manual and made revisions to ensure its policies, procedures, and practices remain responsive to the program's current needs and growth. Among numerous other considerations, the committee reviewed the target population and eligibility criteria and explored options to increase referrals which would provide more individuals an opportunity to participate in the program. The committee also reviewed a wide-range of additional incentives and sanctions and explored remedies to address concerns regarding limited resources for treatment of addiction and mental health issues.

The committee also adopted a new juvenile drug court mission statement: “[T]o reduce juvenile delinquency and substance abuse by referring youth who are less likely to achieve a positive result in traditional juvenile court, into treatment court which holds them accountable and emphasizes personal responsibility.”

The program's commitment to ongoing training and collaboration was highlighted as juvenile drug court team members from across the state gathered for training focused on the importance of team building, behavior modification (through incorporation of incentives and sanctions) and the 16 Strategies in Practice. The strategies were created to address the unique considerations confronting juvenile drug court practitioners by a diverse group of practitioners, researchers, and educators from across the country who were brought together by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the National Drug Court Institute, and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Six North Dakota Juvenile Drug Courts continued operation in 2014.

Juvenile Drug Court

2014 STATISTICS

Statistics by Individual Courts for 2014

Court	Current	Graduations	Terminations	Suspended	Totals	Court Sessions
Grand Forks	7	3	8	0	18	42
Fargo	5	3	14	1	23	39
Bismarck	9	5	4	0	18	40
Minot	4	2	5	0	11	44
Devils Lake	3	1	6	3	13	44
Stutsman/Barnes	6	0	5	0	11	44
Totals	34	14	42	4	94	

Race and Gender for Individual Courts

Court	Caucasian	Native American	Hispanic	African American	Other	Male	Female
Grand Forks	12	4	0	1	1	9	9
Fargo	16	0	2	5	0	17	6
Bismarck	10	5	0	0	3	12	6
Minot	8	1	0	0	2	8	3
Devils Lake	9	4	0	0	0	12	1
Stutsman/Barnes	10	1	0	0	0	7	4
Totals	65	15	2	6	6	65	29

Overall Statistics from Start Date

Started	Court	Graduations	Terminations	Deceased	Total
May - 2000	Grand Forks	73	87	0	160
May - 2000	Fargo	73	107	1	181
Oct - 2003	Bismarck	55	59	0	114
Jan - 2007	Minot	18	24	0	42
Jan - 2008	Williston	2	8	1	11
Jan - 2009	Devils Lake	11	15	0	26
Jan - 2013	Stutsman/Barnes	0	5	0	5
Totals		232	305	2	539