

Minnesota Treatment Courts

DECEMBER 2019

What is a Treatment Court¹?

A specialized court calendar or docket to support individuals in the judicial system who are substance use dependent and/or suffering from mental illness

Treatment courts use evidence-based practices and qualified and trained staff to tailor appropriate services for participants

¹ Judicial Council Policy 511

Types of Treatment Courts

Adult Drug Court

DWI Courts

Veterans Treatment Courts

Mental Health Courts

Family Dependency Treatment Courts

Juvenile Drug Court

Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts

Hybrid Treatment Court

Specialty Courts/ Problem-Solving Courts

Domestic Violence Courts

Gambling Courts

Housing Courts

Truancy Courts

Prostitution Courts

Community Courts

Safe Babies Courts

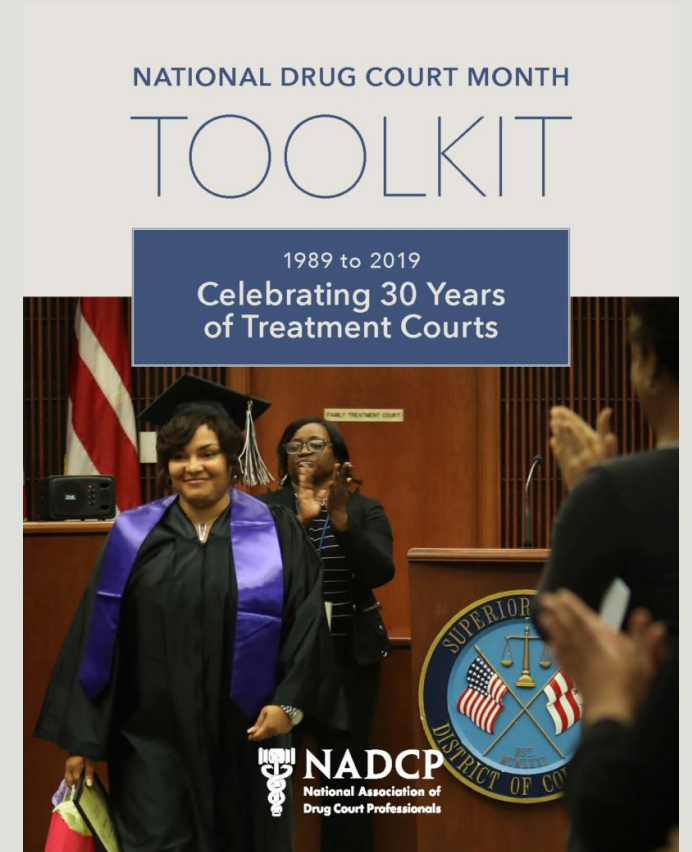
Opioid Courts

Emergence of Treatment Courts

- 1989 Dade County – Miami
- Response to the Cocaine Epidemic



3,454 Nationwide



Evolution of treatment courts in Minnesota

1996 Hennepin County, Minneapolis
◦ 1st Adult Drug Court

2005 Ramsey County, St. Paul
◦ 1st DWI Court

2001 Ramsey County, St. Paul
◦ 1st Juvenile Drug Court

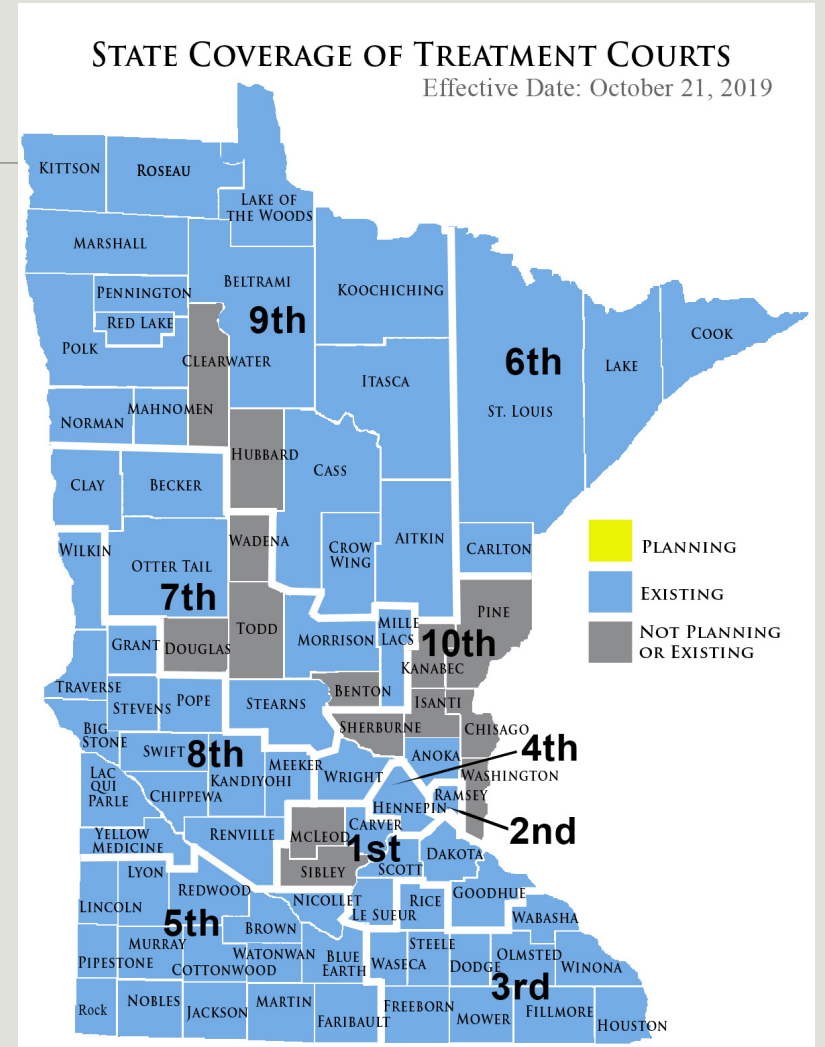
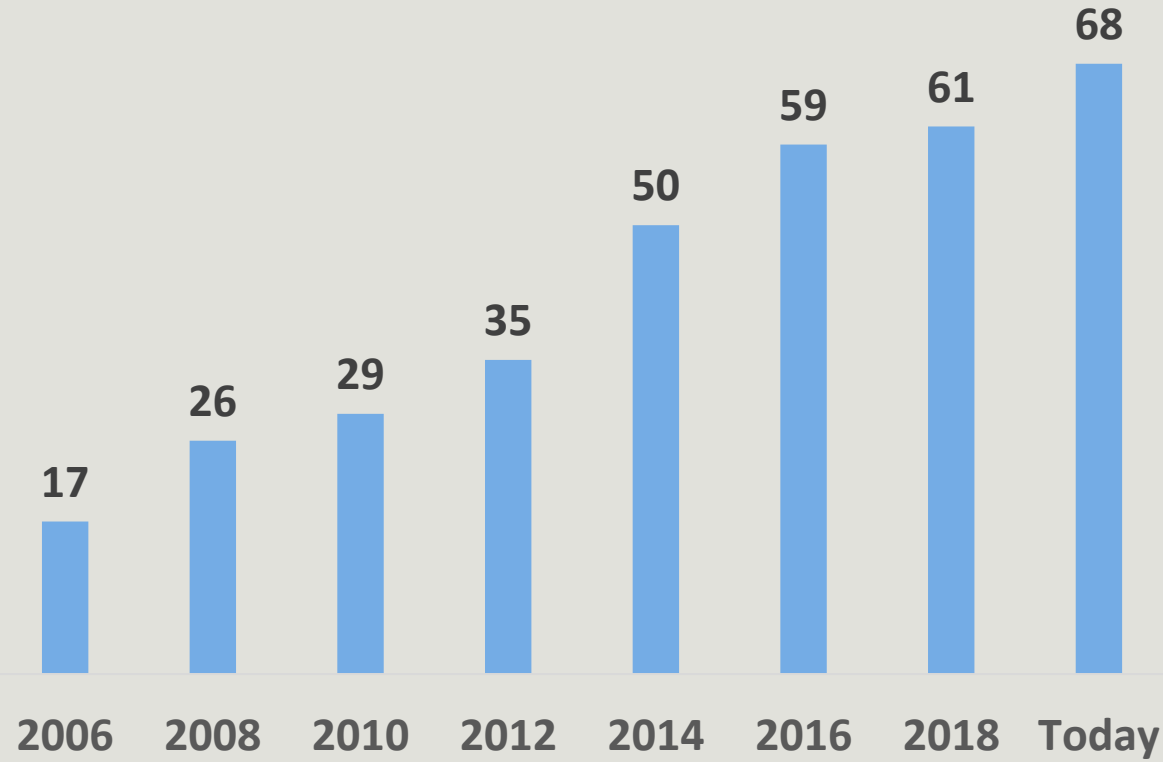
2006 Stearns County, St. Cloud
◦ 1st Family Dependency Treatment Court

2003 Hennepin County, Minneapolis
◦ 1st Mental Health Court

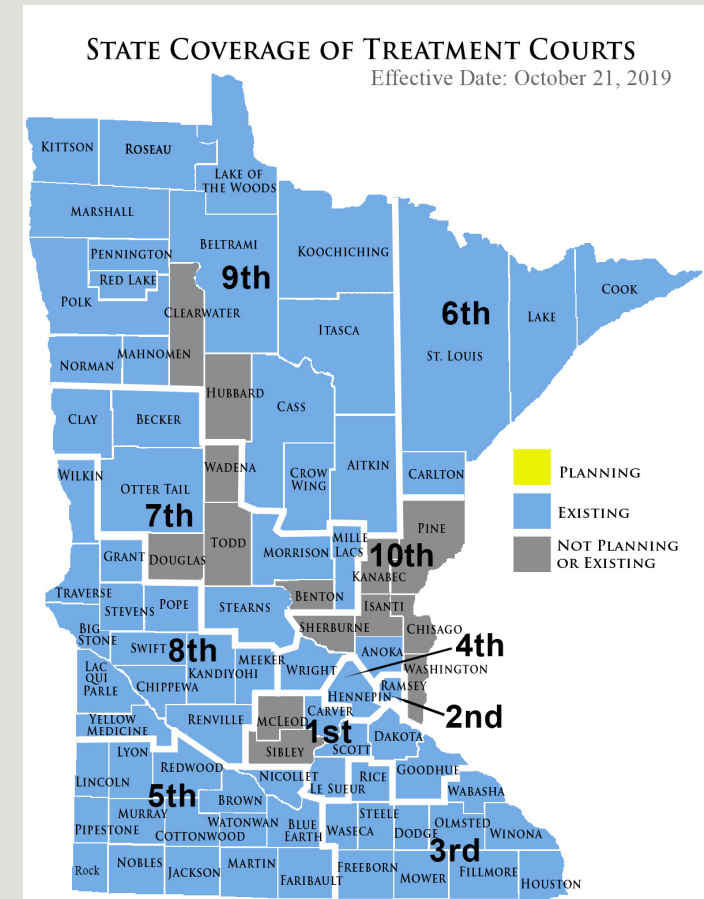
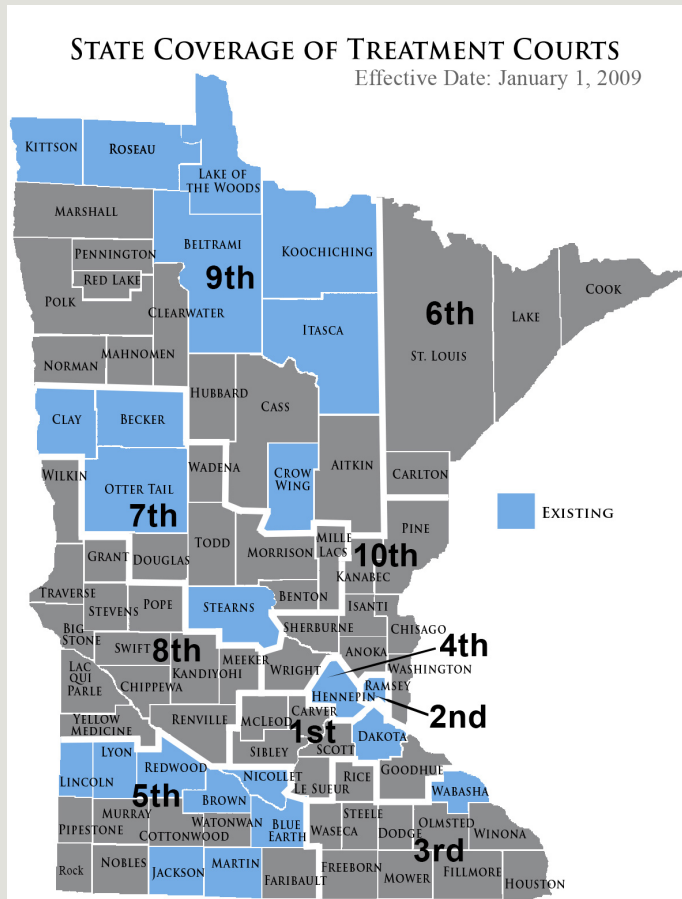
2010 Hennepin County, Minneapolis
◦ 1st Veterans treatment court

In 2007, the Judicial Branch included Treatment Courts in their Strategic Plan and formed the Treatment Court Initiative (TCI) Advisory Committee

of Operational Treatment Courts in Minnesota (by year)



Map of Treatment Court Growth



Types of Treatment Courts in Minnesota

26 Adult Drug Courts

14 DWI Courts

8 Hybrid Courts:

- (6) Drug/DWI,
- (1) Drug/DWI/FDTC,
- (1) Drug/FDTC

8 Veterans Treatment Courts

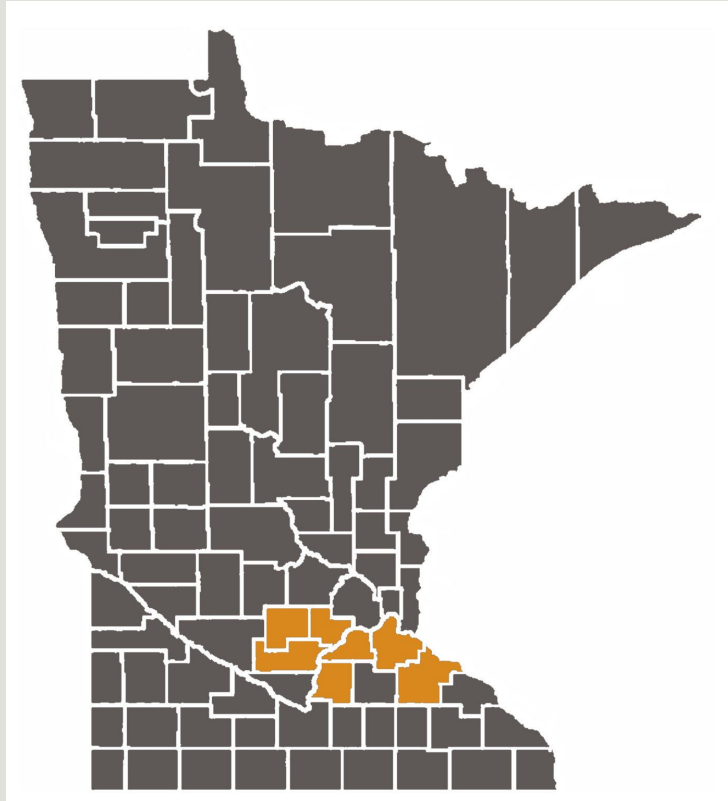
4 Mental Health Courts

2 Family Dependency
Treatment Courts

2 Tribal to Healing Wellness
Courts

1 Juvenile Drug Court

1st Judicial District – South Metro



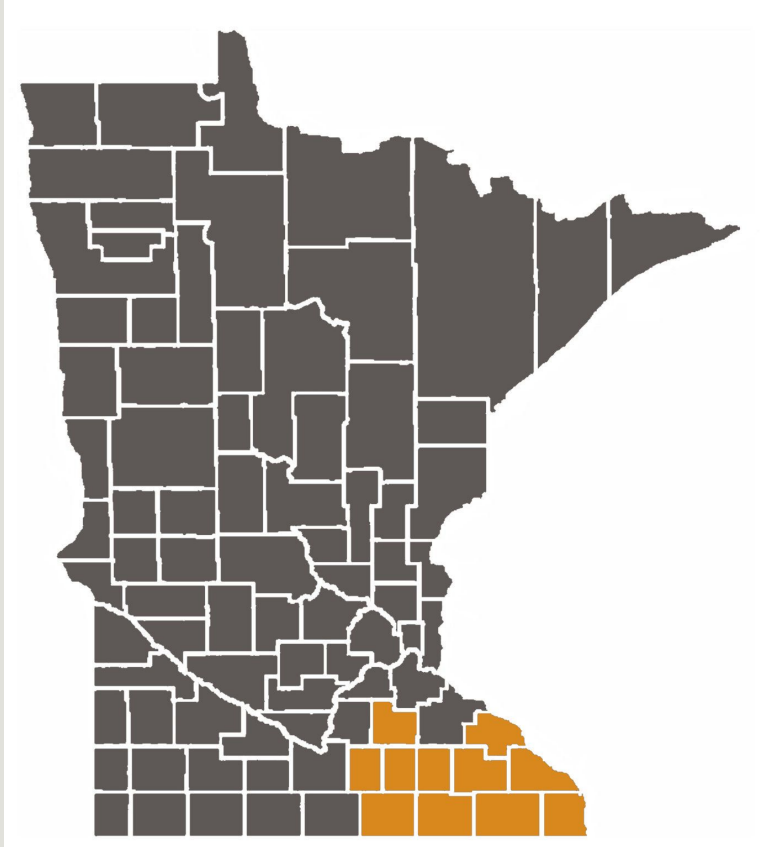
- Carver County Veterans Treatment Court
- Dakota County Adult Drug Court
- Dakota County Family Dependency Treatment Court
- Dakota County Juvenile Drug Court
- Goodhue County Drug Court
- Le Sueur County Drug Court
- Scott County Drug Court
- Carver County Drug Court
- Scott County Veterans Treatment Court

2nd Judicial District – Ramsey County



- Ramsey County Adult Substance Abuse Court
- Ramsey County Veterans Treatment Court
- Ramsey County DWI Court
- Ramsey County Mental Health Court

3rd Judicial District – South East



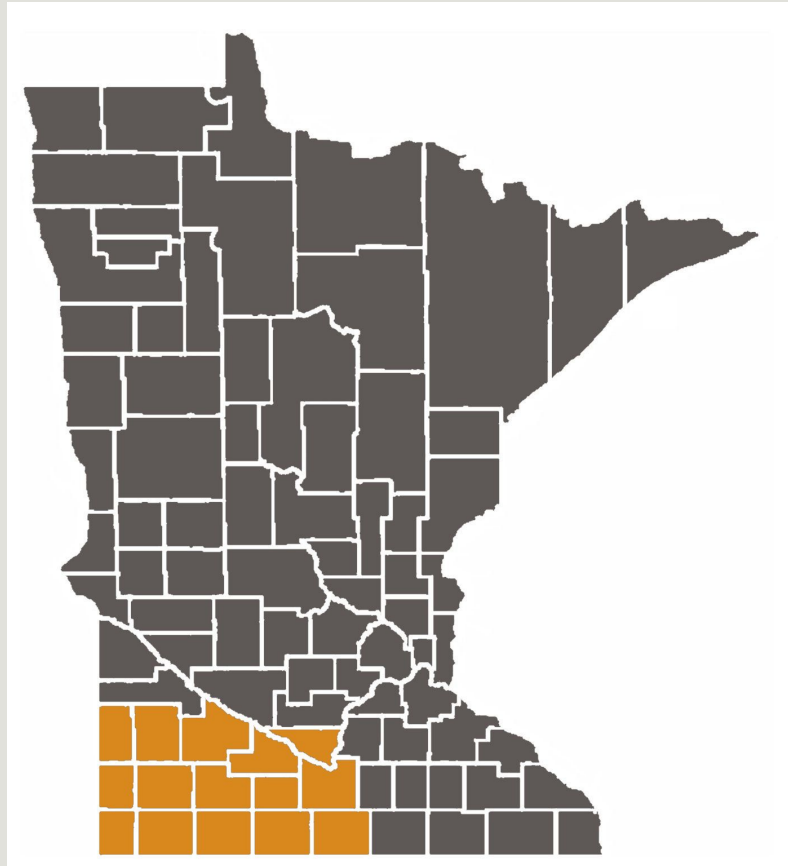
- Steele-Waseca Adult Drug Court
- Winona-Wabasha Treatment Court
- Rice County Adult Drug Court
- Dodge County Hybrid Court (Drug/DWI/FDTC)
- Olmsted County Drug Court
- Third Judicial District Veterans Treatment Court

4th Judicial District – Hennepin County



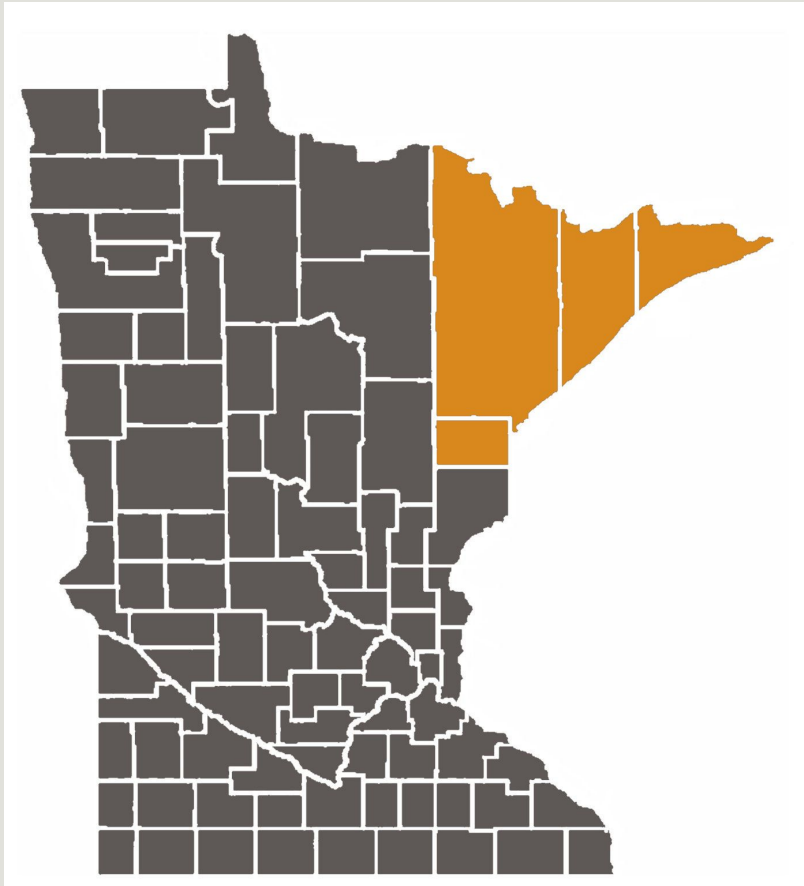
- Hennepin County Adult Drug Court
- Hennepin County Veterans Treatment Court
- Hennepin County DWI Court
- Hennepin County Mental Health Court

5th Judicial District – South West



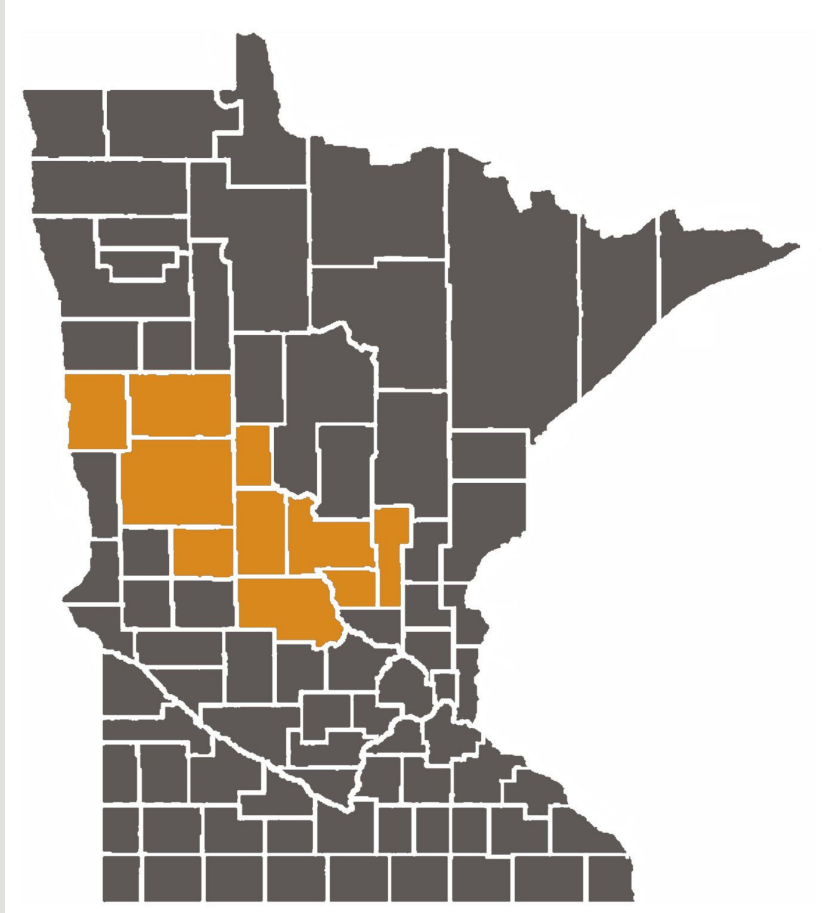
- Brown-Nicollet-Watonwan Adult Drug Court
- SW Community Drug Court: Lincoln, Lyon, Redwood & Lower Sioux Community
- Cornerstone Drug Court: Cottonwood, Rock, Nobles, Murray, and Pipestone
- Blue Earth County Adult Hybrid Court
- Faribault, Martin, Jackson Adult Substance Abuse Court
- Blue Earth County FDTC
- 5th Judicial District Veterans Treatment Court

6th Judicial District – North East



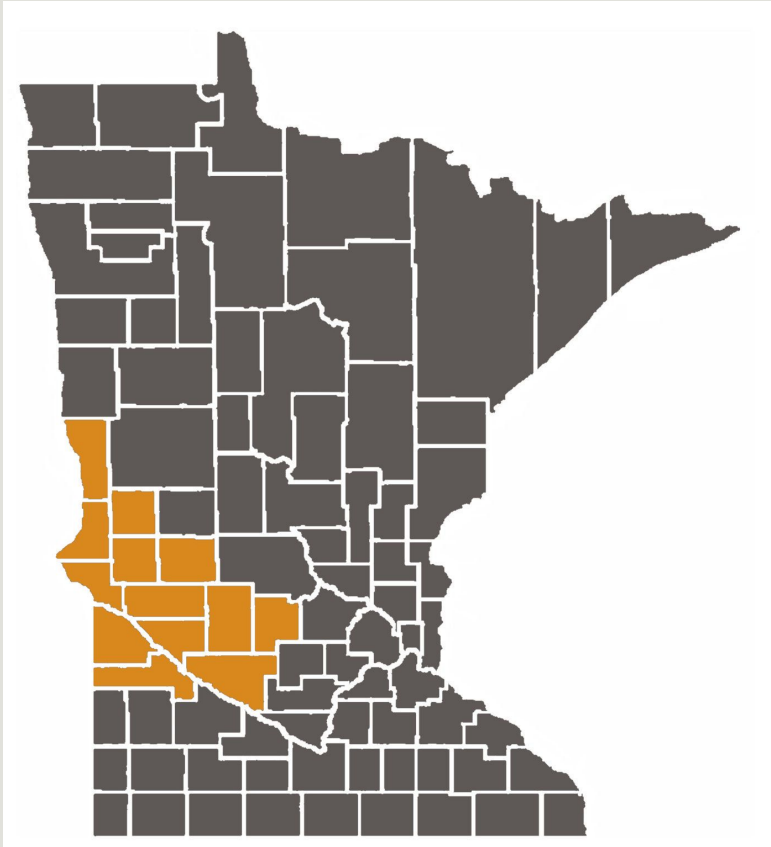
- St. Louis County South Drug Court
- St. Louis County North Drug/DWI Court
- South St. Louis County DWI Court
- Carlton County Drug Court
- St. Louis County – Duluth Mental Health Court
- South St. Louis County Veterans Treatment Court
- St. Louis County – Range Mental Health Court
- SHORE Substance Abuse Court

7th Judicial District – West Central



- Stearns County Drug Court
- Clay-Becker Treatment Court
- Ottertail County DWI Court
- White Earth-Becker DWI Court
- Morrison County Adult Drug Court
- Mille Lacs County Drug Court

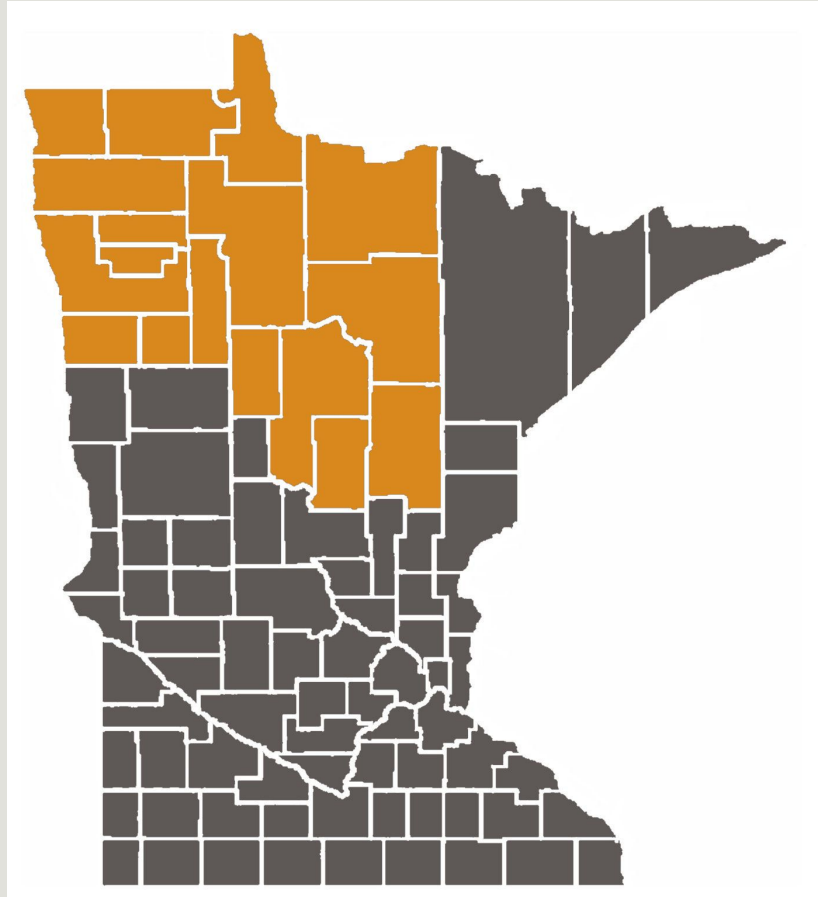
8th Judicial District – SW Central



8th Judicial District Adult Drug Court

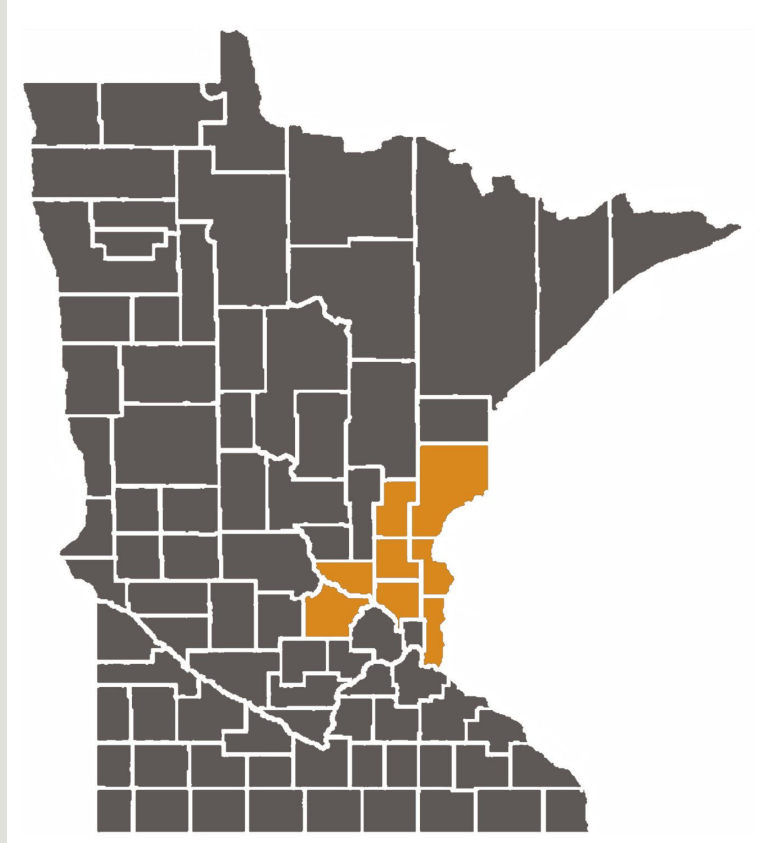
- Chippewa
- Grant
- Kandiyohi
- Meeker
- Stevens
- Traverse
- Wilkin

9th Judicial District – North West



- Aitkin County Sobriety Court
- Itasca County Wellness Court
- Cass County Wellness Court
- Crow Wing County Drug Court
- Crow Wing County DWI Court
- Beltrami County DWI Court
- Borderland Substance Abuse Court (Koochiching and Lake of the Woods Counties)
- Roseau-Kittson DWI Court
- Roseau County Drug Court
- Pennington-Marshall DWI Court
- Tri-County (Red Lake, Norman, Polk Counties) DWI Court
- White Earth-Mahnomen DWI Court
- White Earth-Mahnomen Drug Court
- Beltrami County Drug Court

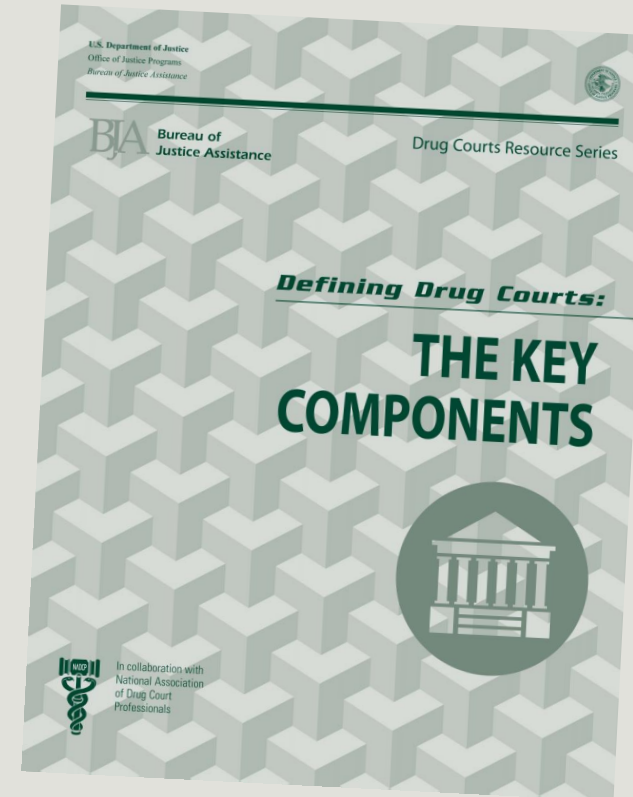
10th Judicial District – East Central



- Anoka County Drug Court
- Anoka County Veterans Treatment Court
- Wright County Drug Court

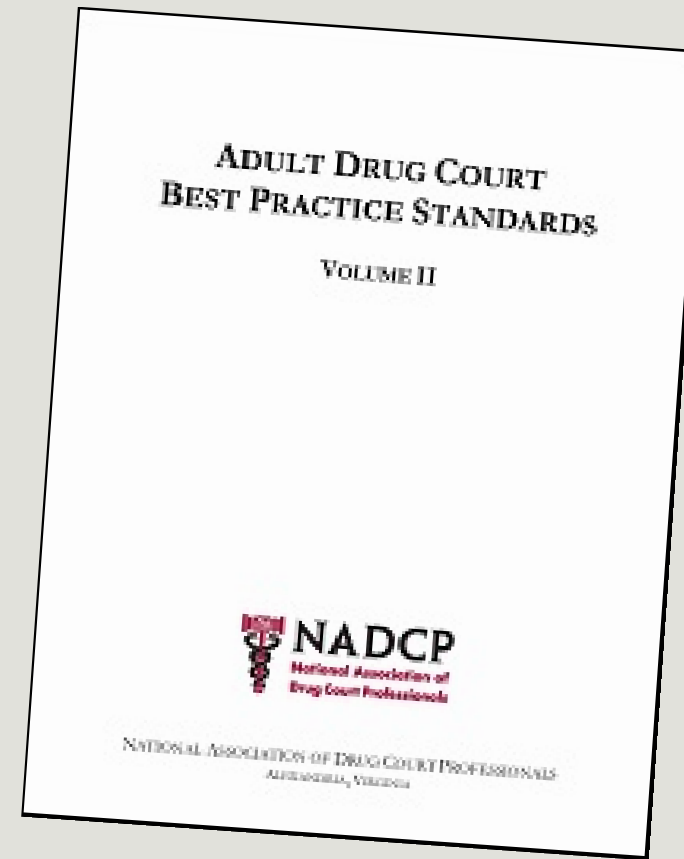
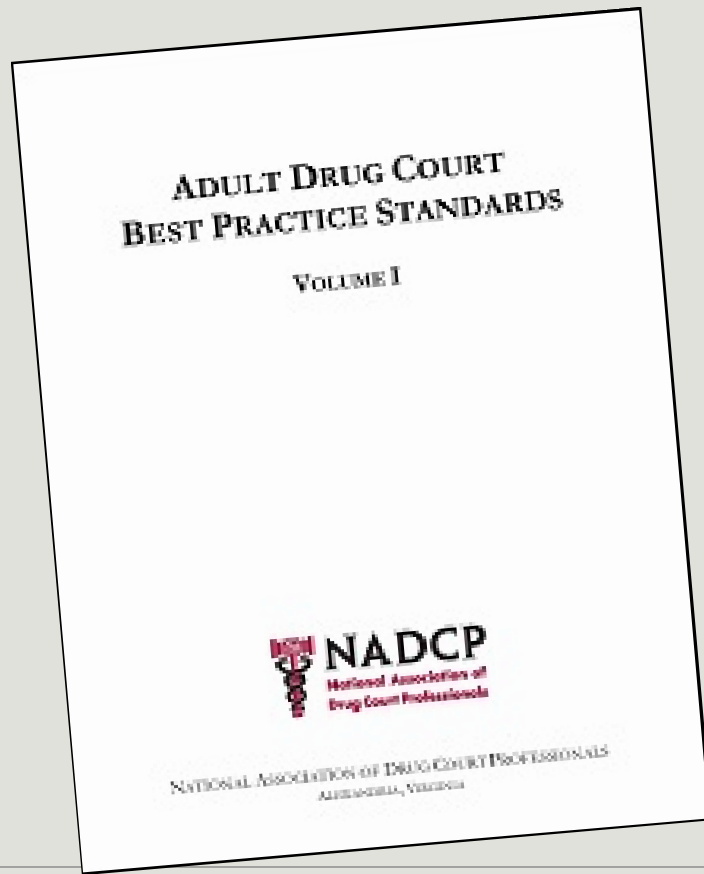
10 Key Components

- State of knowledge as of 1997
- Derived from professional experience
- Measurable performance benchmarks
- Envisioned as 10 of them
- Never intended as the final word
- What works!



10 Key Components

1. Drug Courts integrate alcohol and other 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.
3. Eligible participants are identified early and promptly placed in the drug court program.
4. Drug courts provide access to a continuum of alcohol, drug and other related treatment and rehabilitation services.
5. Abstinence is monitored by frequent alcohol and other drug testing.
6. A coordinated strategy governs drug court responses to participants 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.



Best Practice Standards

What We Have Learned?

- State of knowledge as of 2013 and 2015
- Derived from an empirical threshold of approx. 50% to 100% improvement in outcomes; research listed
- Quantitative benchmarks
- All contributing elements
- Envisioned far more than 10

Adult Best Practice Standards

1. Target Population
2. Historically Disadvantaged Groups
3. Roles and Responsibilities of the Judge
4. Incentives, Sanctions, and Therapeutic Adjustments
5. Substance Abuse Treatment
6. Complementary Treatment and Social Services
7. Drug and Alcohol Testing
8. Multidisciplinary Team
9. Census and Caseloads
10. Monitoring and Evaluation

Minnesota Treatment Court Standards

- Guide to the planning and implementation of treatment courts
- Incorporates The Ten Key Components and Adult Best Practice Standards
- Minimum requirements for approval and operation of all treatment courts in Minnesota
- Recommended practices are outlined within each standard that treatment courts are encouraged to follow
- Currently have Minnesota Treatment Court Standards for Adult Drug, DWI, Hybrid, Juvenile, veterans, and Family Dependency Treatment Courts.
- First set of standards was approved by the Judicial Council in 2007
- Finalized the revised version of the standards, which includes mental health and veterans courts – January 2019

Overview of Online Self-Assessment

- Online Self-Assessment was done in June/July 2019 for the first time
- All models, with the exception of FDTC Courts, completed the assessment
- Assess adherence to the Minnesota State Treatment Court Standards
- Online Assessment was developed by the State Treatment Court Coordinator and State Court Administrator Research & Evaluation Unit
- Results will be distributed by the end of 2019.

MJB Administrative Structure

JUDICIAL COUNCIL

TREATMENT COURT
INITIATIVE
ADVISORY
COMMITTEE

STATE COURT
ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

STATE JUDICIAL
DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATORS
AND SCAO
DIRECTORS

TREATMENT COURT
LIAISON GROUP

LOCAL TREATMENT
COURTS

Treatment Court Initiative (TCI)

The goal of the Treatment Court Initiative is to improve outcomes for substance use dependent individuals in the courts through justice system collaboration, thereby:

- **Enhancing public safety**
- **Ensuring participant accountability; and**
- **Reducing costs to society**

TCI Membership

- Judicial Council/District Court Judge Seats (2)
- District Court Judge Seats (6)
- State Court Administrator (1)
- Judicial District Administrator Seats (2)
- Court Administrator (1)
- Treatment Court Coordinator (1)
- Tribal Court Judge (1)
- Association of Community Corrections Act Counties (1)
- Association of County Probation Officers (1)
- County Attorneys Association (1)
- Public Defenders (1)
- Department of Corrections (1)
- Department of Human Services – ADAD (1)
- Department of Public Safety (1)
- Association of Minnesota Counties (1)
- Metropolitan Inter-County Association (1)
- Community Member Seats (2)

Treatment Court Initiative

- Advisory committee to judicial council
- Examines long-term and systemic challenges facing the Judicial Branch
- Treatment Court Development and Expansion Process
- Distribution of MJB Treatment Court Allocations to local treatment courts
- Examines adherence to Minnesota State Treatment Court Standards
- Treatment Court Approval Process
 - Incorporates review of policy and procedures manual, memorandums of understanding, target population and sustainability plan
 - Makes treatment courts eligible to receive Branch funding

How are Treatment Courts Funded?

Treatment Court Funding Sources

- Federal (BJA, SAMHSA), State (OJP, OTS, DHS) and Local Grants
- MJB Legislative Appropriation
As of FY20, approximately \$10 million (\$5 million/year) supporting existing treatment courts and administrative structure
- Typical Expenses
Coordinator, Supervision, Defense Counsel, Law Enforcement, Drug Testing, Program Supplies, Training, Travel

History of Treatment Court funding in Minnesota

2007 MN Legislature appropriates \$4.2 million to Treatment Courts for 2008-2009

2009 Judicial Branch includes \$3.1 million in 2010-2011 base budget for Treatment Courts

2013 Judicial Branch includes \$4.7 million in 2014-2015 base budget for Treatment Courts

2015 Judicial Branch includes \$5.6 million in 2016-2017 base budget for Treatment Courts

2017 Judicial Branch includes \$9.1 million in 2018-2019 base budget for Treatment Courts

2019 Judicial branch includes approximately \$10 million in 2020-2021 base budget for treatment courts

Treatment Court Funding

- Funding Formula was implemented in July 2018
- Currently 38 courts in the formula (drug, veterans, FDTC, Hybrid)
- Mental health courts are funded by the Department of Human Services
- DWI Courts are funded by the Office of Traffic Safety
- Federal grants fund the remainder of the operational treatment courts (BJA, BIA)

Key Successes

1. The incredible work of local treatment court teams!

2. Support of state, local, and federal partners

- \$1.6 million from Department of Public Safety
- \$850,000 from Department of Human Services
- \$4.6 million from Bureau of Justice Assistance (past two years)
- Local partners (city/county)

3. Strengthening statewide collaboration and infrastructure

- Statewide funding formula
- Revised statewide standards
- Updated policies, practices
- State and National training
- Nearing launch of Statewide Treatment Court Supervision Module



Vision for the Future

- **Statewide access to treatment courts**
 - 14 counties
 - Transfers among all counties
 - Engage local justice partners to discuss in custody issues of treatment court participants
- **District Outreach and Technical Assistance**
- **Unique collaborations**
 - Across Judicial Districts
 - Across State Lines
 - Federal Charges/Tribal Lands
- **Continue to strengthen statewide collaborations**
- **Monitor adherence to the Standards**
- **Data Collection and Evaluation**
- **Training**



Questions?

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