



Supreme Court of Appeals State of West Virginia

News

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Putnam County Adult Drug Court to hold graduation

For immediate release

WIFIELD, W.Va. – The Putnam County Adult Drug Court will hold its second graduation ceremony at 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 15, in the courtroom of Judge Joseph Reeder in the Putnam County Judicial Building, 12093 Winfield Road, Winfield.

Three people will graduate, which brings to eight the total number of people who have successfully completed the program.

Rigorous evaluation and research has demonstrated that, where adult drug courts are implemented consistent with models and procedures developed based on objective studies, they significantly reduce recidivism and substance abuse among high-risk substance abusing offenders.

Properly implemented adult drug courts increase the likelihood of successful rehabilitation while simultaneously reducing the cost to the public below the historic costs of addressing these problems in the criminal justice system.

There currently are twenty-four adult drug court programs serving thirty-seven counties and sixteen juvenile drug court programs serving twenty counties.

The goal of juvenile drug courts is to intervene early in the life of a young person and to use the drug court model to prevent future involvement of that young person in the court system.

In 2009 and 2011 respectively, the West Virginia Legislature enacted legislation which codified adult and juvenile drug courts in West Virginia under the administration, control and responsibility of the Supreme Court. As part of the Justice Reinvestment Act passed in 2014, adult drug courts should be established in all of West Virginia's counties by July 1, 2016.

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