

# FRESH START PROGRAM

# DAYTON MUNICIPAL COURT

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# OBJECTIVES

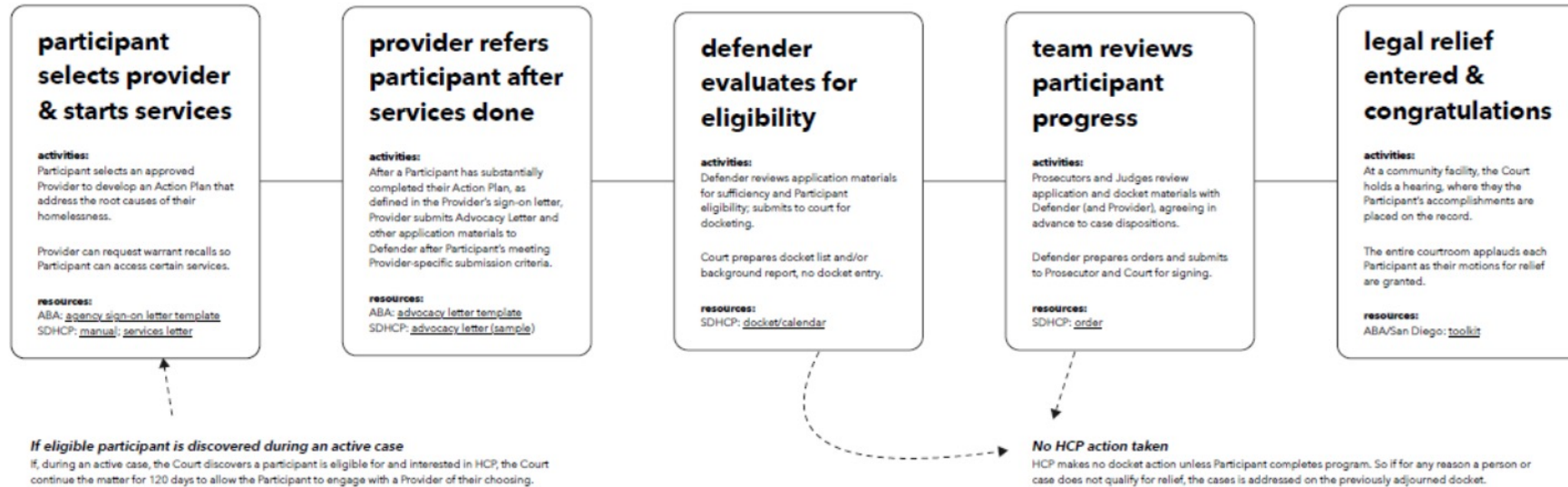
- Learn about the Homeless Court model and its benefits to clients
- Learn how to build community partnerships and buy-in for a Homeless Court
- Learn how to develop a referral process and court program that fits your community's needs

# HOMELESS COURT MODEL

- First homeless court in San Diego in 1989 at a Standdown for Homeless Veterans
- Recognition Court
- Targets individuals who are literally or at-risk of homelessness
- Typically addresses crimes related to homelessness- low level misdemeanors
- Often forgives fines/fees
- Individual courts can determine scope of issues to address
- Assurance of “no custody”
- American Bar Association provides support

## homeless court program

# how it works



# STARTING A HOMELESS COURT

- Identify key stakeholders
  - Judges, Public Defender, Prosecutor, Homeless Provider Agencies, Mental Health/Substance Abuse Treatment Providers
- Reach out to the American Bar Association for guidance
- Meet with stakeholders to discuss buy-in, goals, and community needs
- Create criteria for courts
- Create referral documents
- Communities can create court that meets their needs

# DAYTON MUNICIPAL MODEL

- First court planned for January 18, 2024
- Accepting only post-disposition cases
- Focusing on forgiving fines/fees
- Plans to expand to additional municipalities

# REFERRAL FORM

## Dayton Municipal Courts FRESH START PROGRAM

**Name:**Click or tap here to enter text.

**DOB:**Click or tap here to enter text.

**SSN:**Click or tap here to enter text.

**Phone Number:**Click or tap here to enter text.

**Address:**Click or tap here to enter text.

**Veteran:**

YES  NO

**Referring Agency:**Click or tap here to enter text.

**Name and Contact Information for Agency Representative:**Click or tap here to enter text.

Does participant have any pending cases in other jurisdictions outside of Montgomery County?

YES  NO

If yes, please explain: Click or tap here to enter text.

Participant has engaged in the following activities:

ID:  Applied  Obtained  N/A

Social Security Card:  Applied  Obtained  N/A

Birth Certificate:  Applied  Obtained  N/A

Housing Goals:

Working toward housing. Explain:Click or tap here to enter text.

Housed. Explain:Click or tap here to enter text.

Vocational/Educational:

Employed  YES  NO Where:Click or tap here to enter text.

Working toward employment Explain Click or tap here to enter text.

Applying for Benefits:

Social Security  Applied  Obtained  N/A

VA (if applicable)  Applied  Obtained  N/A

Food Stamps  Applied  Obtained  N/A

Medicaid  Applied  Obtained  N/A

Treatment Information:

Mental Health  YES  NO Where:Click or tap here to enter text.

Substance Use Treatment  YES  NO Where:Click or tap here to enter text.

Length of Sobriety, if applicable Click or tap here to enter text.

Family Information: If relevant, please explain: Click or tap here to enter text.

Participation in the court would benefit this client because:Click or tap here to enter text.

## MORE INFORMATION

- Jill Bucaro, MSW, LISW-S, LICDC, Manager of Holistic Defence Services, The Law Office of the Public Defender, Dayton OH, [BucaroJ@mcoho.org](mailto:BucaroJ@mcoho.org)
- Gina Kicos, MSW, LISW-S, Veterans Justice Programs Specialist, Dayton VA Medical Center, [gina.kicos@va.gov](mailto:gina.kicos@va.gov)
- American Bar Association Homeless Court [site](#)
- Matthew Wechter, Supervising Attorney- Special Projects Coordinator, San Diego Public Defenders Office, [matthew.wechter@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:matthew.wechter@sdcounty.ca.gov)
- Kelly Russo, Director, Commission on Homelessness & Poverty, American Bar Association, [Kelly.Russo@americanbar.org](mailto:Kelly.Russo@americanbar.org)