

J.T.A.S.C.



Juvenile Treatment and Support Court

Honorable Deborah L. McNabb
Presiding Judge, 17th Circuit Court, Family Division

JTASC is a mental health court to improve the response of youth, with a severe emotional disturbance, who because of their emotional health challenges encounter the juvenile justice system.

Alternative to Residential Placement

Access to Treatment & Support Services

Enhanced Supervision and Monitoring

Compassionate Case Management

JTASC uses a Team Based Approach. The team is led by Judge Deborah L. McNabb and consists of a Court Coordinator, Prosecutor and Defense Attorney, a Probation Officer, a Clinician, and a Network of Community Mental Health Providers.

The Team works together for the common goal of helping youth improve their emotional health, school performance & general well-being, and to eliminate future engagement with the legal system.

Participation in JTASC is Voluntary. Youth/Parents sign a Participation Agreement to demonstrate their desire to participate in JTASC. Once admitted, they will be accountable to the following requirements:

- ⚖ Weekly JTASC Court Reviews
- ⚖ Participation in treatment for the duration of the time they are in JTASC
- ⚖ Regular drug testing
- ⚖ Weekly supervision with their Probation Officer
- ⚖ Compliance with all conditions ordered by the Judge
- ⚖ Compliance with JTASC program rules

Target population. Youth must meet both legal and mental health eligibility criteria. In addition, parental commitment and involvement is required.

⚖ **Legal eligibility** is a discretionary matter and determined on a case by case basis by the Kent County Prosecutor's Office. Eligibility depends on the youth's current charges and prior history with the court. However, youth with a past or current CSC, or violent crime that resulted in death or serious bodily harm, are NOT eligible by law to participate.

⚖ **Severe Emotional Disturbance (SED)** is the result of a diagnosable mental, behavioral, or emotional health disorder that impairs and limits a youth's role or functioning in family, school, or community activities. Ongoing and intensive treatment is needed to improve the youth's ability to function.

⚖ **Parent Involvement** is critical and necessary for a youth to participate and be successful in JTASC. Youth must attend weekly court status reviews, meet weekly with their probation officer, and attend all mental health treatment appointments.

Length of program. JTASC can be completed in as few as 9 months but the pace is set by the youth and may take up to 12 months to complete.

Make a Referral

Anyone can refer a youth for JTASC (i.e. law enforcement, detention staff, probation, attorneys, judge, clinician, parent or family member).

To initiate a referral complete section I of the JTASC referral form. Section I can be obtained by contacting the JTASC Coordinator, lisa.holmes@kentcountymi.gov

Referral Process includes:

- ⚖️ A review by the Kent County Prosecutor's Office to determine if the youth meets legal eligibility requirements;
- ⚖️ A mental health screen conducted by a Clinician to determine if the youth meets mental health eligibility criteria; and
- ⚖️ A review by the full JTASC team to determine if the individual is appropriate for participation.

For More Information.

Contact Lisa Holmes, JTASC Coordinator at
616-410-6857 or lisa.holmes@kentcountymi.gov