

West Michigan Regional Sobriety Court

Mission Statement

The mission of the West Michigan Regional Sobriety Court is to improve the public safety of the residents of Mecosta, Osceola, Newaygo, and Lake Counties by increasing participant accountability through team based intensive supervision, treatment, and frequent judicial oversight.

Program Overview

In 2011, Judge Susan H. Grant decided that after many years on the bench seeing the same individuals come before her time and time again for drunk driving arrests, that there needed to be more done to end the vicious cycle of alcohol abuse. Judge Grant had been attending the Michigan Association of Drug Court Professionals conference for several years in hopes of starting a Sobriety Court. She decided that she would put the vision she had of a Sobriety Court into action, and created the Mecosta County Sobriety Court.

A team of professionals from Mecosta and Osceola counties came together over the next 3 years to serve the community. In late 2013, the State Court Administrative Office approached Judge Grant and her staff to not only serve their communities, but to expand their program to include adjoining counties that did not have the benefit of a treatment court. In January 2014, the Mecosta County Sobriety Court became the West Michigan Regional Sobriety Court, and now serves Mecosta, Osceola, Lake, and Newaygo counties.

The program is a 16 ½ to 24 month long program which utilizes a team concept. It includes an expedited entry into the program, regular attendance at counseling, frequent interaction with the Judge, intensive supervision, frequent drug and alcohol testing, and attendance at community support group meetings. Positive reinforcement is provided for performance in the program. Sanctions are imposed and therapeutically made in response to non-compliance.

Eligibility

- Non-violent offenders who have been convicted of repeat drinking and driving offenses may be determined eligible for the program.
- Participants must live within the four county area served by the program.
- May not have any ongoing severe mental illness.

Persons interested in participation in the program should consult with his or her defense attorney.