



Eighth Judicial District Court

For Immediate Release

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Eighth Judicial District Court Receives Two Grants To Get Drug Court Participants On A Productive Path

Grant Funds To Be Used For Treatment Plans Aimed At Stemming The Cycle Of Drug Addiction And Crime

The Eighth Judicial District Court Drug Court program was recently awarded a \$950,000 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grant. District Court will partner with the Salvation Army and WestCare Nevada to use the funds to expand capacity for residential treatment services for our adult drug court participants. Both agencies will reserve a designated number of beds in their men's and women's facilities for drug court clients who require residential treatment.

"I am truly grateful to receive this Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Grant. The funding from this grant will go a long way to addressing the issues of drug court participants and getting them on track to a drug free, crime-free life," said Judge Linda Marie Bell who presides over the adult drug court.

The Dependency Mothers Drug Court (DMDC) will receive a portion of \$2.9 million from a RPG grant in partnership with State of Nevada Division of Child and Family Services. Dependency Mothers' Drug Court was established in 2007 by a five-year grant award from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, to assist mothers who had cases in the dependency system and were less likely to engage in treatment if they were unable to be with their children. The grant provides residential substance abuse treatment and wraparound services for mothers and their children in one facility and the progress is monitored by Family District Court Judge Jennifer Elliott and the specialty court team.

"The Dependency Mothers' Drug Court is a very important program that has a huge positive impact on families," said Judge Jennifer Elliott. "This funding serves as a lifeline to a program that has benefitted many mothers and children and ultimately our community as a whole."

The intent of the specialty courts is to reduce recidivism by working with service providers and resources to address the root-causes of criminal behavior that stem from substance abuse or mental health problems. Linking participants with resources enhances their likelihood for success and ultimately builds a safer, more productive community by helping offenders to become productive citizens, keeping them out of jail and avoiding the costs of incarceration.

The specialty courts are a great example of how the Eighth Judicial District Court is using alternative, more efficient means to ensure justice. District Court continuously works to develop innovative ideas, improve efficiencies, address issues and improve access to justice. For more information about the courts, please visit our website at clarkcountycourts.us.

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