

# J.T.A.S.C.



## Juvenile Treatment and Support Court

Honorable Deborah L. McNabb  
Presiding Judge, 17<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto:lisa.holmes@kentcountymi.gov)