

T.A.S.C.



Treatment and Support Court

Honorable J. Joseph Rossi

TASC is a Circuit Court (felony) mental health court to improve the response of individuals with a co-occurring substance use disorder and/or severe mental illness who because of their illness and addiction encounter the criminal justice system.

Alternative to Incarceration

Access to Treatment & Support Services

Enhanced Supervision and Monitoring

Compassionate Case Management

TASC uses a Team Based Approach. The team is led by the Honorable J. Joseph Rossi and consists of a Court Coordinator, a Prosecuting and Defense Attorney, a Probation Officer, 2 Clinical Liaisons, a Network of Treatment Providers, a Recovery Coach, and Circuit Court Personnel.

The Team works together for the common goal of helping participants improve their mental health and general well-being, promote self-sufficiency, and to reduce/eliminate future engagement with the legal system.

Participation in TASC is Voluntary. Defendants sign a Participation Agreement to demonstrate their desire to participate in TASC. Once admitted they will be accountable to the following requirements:

- ⚖️ Twice a month TASC Court Reviews
- ⚖️ Participation in treatment for the duration of the time they are in TASC
- ⚖️ Weekly drug testing
- ⚖️ Twice a month supervision with MDOC
- ⚖️ Engagement with a TASC Clinical Liaison
- ⚖️ Compliance to all conditions of bond and probation.
- ⚖️ Compliance to TASC program rules

Target population. Participants must meet both legal and mental health.

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

⚖️ **Serious Mental Illness** is defined through a mental health diagnosis and is chronic, disabling, and requires ongoing treatment to improve a person's ability to function.

⚖️ **Substance Use Disorder (SUD)** is characterized by an array of mental, physical, and behavioral symptoms that cause problems related to loss of control, strain to one's interpersonal life, hazardous use, tolerance and withdrawal. Many TASC participants have a co-occurring substance use disorder along with their mental illness.

Length of program. TASC can be completed in as few as 15.5 months but the pace is set by the participant and may take up to 36 months to complete.

Make a Referral

Anyone can refer a defendant for TASC (i.e. law enforcement, jail staff, court services, attorneys, judge, clinician, or family member). In addition, an individual can self-refer.

To initiate a referral complete section I of the TASC referral form. Section I can be obtained at Court Services (180 Ottawa NW, suite 2100) or by contacting the TASC Coordinator, teri.clark@kentcountymi.gov.

Referral Process includes:

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

For More Information.

Contact Teri Clark, TASC Coordinator at 616-632-5326 or teri.clark@kentcountymi.gov