KNOX COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH COURT

Frequently Asked Questions

KNOX COUNTY TENNESSEE

MENTAL HEALTH COURT (KCMHC)

Administrative Office Located:
Knox County Health Department
140 Dameron Ave.
Knoxville, TN 37902

Court Dockets Located:
City County Building
400 Main Street
General Sessions, Div. I
Knoxville, TN 37902

(865) 215-5272 – Main
(865) 215-5270 – Fax

What is Mental Health Court?

Mental Health Court is a specialized court docket that uses a problem-solving approach for court procedures. Participants are closely supervised by a Judge to help encourage and support a person through recovery while processing their case in the court system. Each participant is assigned a Court Case Manager who helps develop an individualized community-based treatment plan, makes referrals to community services, and provides guidance and support through the court process.

Who can participate?

Anyone over the age of 18 who has a current charge in Knox County, and has a mental health disorder that may be a contributing factor to their current charges. Participants should have the ability to engage in treatment planning, follow through with recommended services, and attend all court appearances. Approval must be received by the KCMHC Team, which includes DA approval. Violent or sexual offense history ineligible.

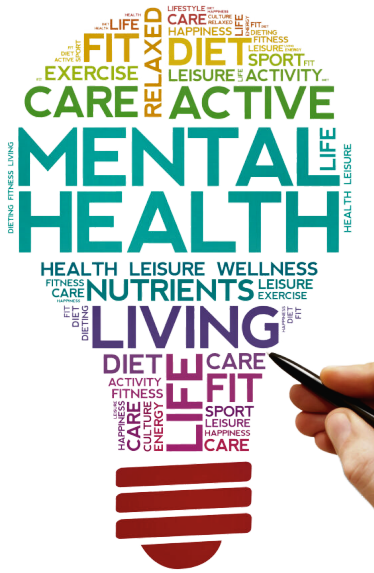
Can I Stop Participation If I Want?

Participation is voluntary, meaning a person chooses to participate and may also choose to end their participation. However, because active participation is a requirement, and ending participation involves a person's legal matters, it is **VERY** important that the decision to participate or stop participation is under the advisement of legal counsel.

How Often Do I Come to Court?

There are **5 phases** to the program:

Phase 1 - Court attendance 1x week | Check in with Case Manager 2x week
Phase 2 - Court attendance 1x week | Check in with Case Manager 2x week
Phase 3 - Court attendance 2x month | Check in with Case Manager 2x month
Phase 4 - Court attendance 1x month | Check in with Case Manager 2x month
Phase 5 - Court attendance 1x month | Check in with Case Manager 2x month



www.knoxcounty.org/courts/mhc

TN Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services

Knox County Mental Health Court is funded under a grant contract with the State of Tennessee, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

What Do I Get for Participating?

From the Judge you get individualized attention to you, your progress, and your case. The Judge will recognize your progress and achievements. The Judge and KCMHC Team will also support you when you get off track and need help. From your Court Case Manager you will receive support and individualized treatment planning. You and your Court Case Manager will decide what services you want and need to be successful. Your Court Case Manager will be walking with you through the court phases and your recovery, encouraging you when you succeed and helping you when there is a problem.

You are not alone when you participate in the KCMHC, you have a team of caring professionals to support you and help you grow!