

TRSC Mission

The mission of the Thumb Regional Sobriety Court is to serve the communities within Huron, Sanilac, and Tuscola Counties through improving public safety by focusing on drivers operating vehicles while under the influence of legal and illegal substances. The participants will be involved in intensive court supervision combined with treatment to provide a proactive response to the problem of driving while under the influence. This will aid in reducing recidivism while minimizing incarceration time, therefore reducing jail expenses to the communities. As a result, this will provide an opportunity to positively impact lives of offenders and families, by encouraging personal responsibility towards being a law abiding, productive, and substance free citizen.

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Thumb Regional Sobriety Court



Thumb Regional Sobriety Court
440 N. State Street, Caro, MI 48723

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Thumb Regional Sobriety Court

Trust Accountability
Honesty Success

Numbers to Know

Huron County

Treatment Providers

List Psychological Services (989) 453-3051

Probation

Department of Corrections Probation (989) 269-9975

District Court Probation (989) 269-9530

Drug Testing

A Chance to Change (989) 269-8362

Tuscola County

Treatment Providers

List Psychological (989) 673-5700

Probation

Department of Corrections Probation (989) 672-3760

District Court Probation (989) 672-3810

Drug Testing

A Chance to Change (989) 286-3700

Tuscola County Jail (989) 673-8161

Sanilac County

Treatment Providers

Sanilac County Health Department (810) 648-4172

Probation

Department of Corrections Probation (810) 648-4546

District Court Probation (810) 648-3910

Drug Testing

A Chance to Change (810) 648-9144

TRSC Fees and Costs

Program fee: \$850 Total - Must be paid prior to graduation

SCRAM: Chance to Change: \$100 Installation Fee & \$11/day
MDOC: \$13/day – No Installation Fee
* Low-Income Options Available through MDOC

Ignition Interlock: \$125 Monthly fee *Payable to American Interlock*
-OR- \$130 Monthly fee *Payable to SMART START*
*Low-Income Options Available

Drug/Alcohol Testing: This price varies based on what type of testing is used and how often you are required to test. TRSC will pay for up to 4 tests per month at A Chance to Change locations per participant to offset your financial responsibility while in the program. Participants will be required to submit to a urine drug/alcohol screen a MINIMUM of 8 times per month. (Majority of tests cost \$10 each)

Treatment Provider: Costs are based on insurance and income level. Please contact your treatment provider's billing department to get more information. All costs associated with treatment are paid through your treatment provider.

All fees and costs are subject to change. Remember to be financially responsible when considering costs and payment schedules. Your case manager will be available to review any questions or concerns about financial requirements.

DESIGNED FOR YOUR SUCCESS

The Thumb Regional Sobriety Court (TRSC) is a treatment oriented court with many community members encouraging your sobriety and success in the program. Your treatment team includes Judge Amy Grace Gierhart, who will oversee your case while you are in TRSC. The team also includes case managers, a program coordinator, assistant prosecutors, probation/parole officers, jail administrators, treatment providers, a defense attorney, and a drug testing representative.

Treatment courts are geared towards successful sobriety through intensive treatment options, supervision, and accountability. Treatment courts have been extremely successful in reducing recidivism and encouraging participants to be productive members of the community. This program attempts to do this without the common 'criminal stigma' typically associated with involvement in the criminal justice system. If you have struggled or failed with traditional approaches to rehabilitation, our program is designed to give the needed support to encourage successful sobriety.

We are here to help you. Our diverse team can offer insight and suggestions that may not have been available to you during traditional court experiences. We want you to know we are invested in your sobriety and successful completion of this program. We understand that change does not occur immediately and without intense work on your part and we want you to know that we are supportive of your choice to be a part of Thumb Regional Sobriety Court.

This handbook is designed to help you understand what is expected of you during your time in the program. All treatment is individualized based on specific needs and the input of the treatment team, and ultimately the Judge overseeing your case. It is up to you to ask questions and clarify any confusion you may have in regards to what is required of you.

PROGRAM AND PHASES

The Thumb Regional Sobriety Court program is designed to last between 15 to 24 months. There are four phases which you must complete before being eligible for graduation. Although there are four phases, each individual will complete the program at the length that is necessary for optimal success based on their needs. All timeframes and requirements are guidelines and may be adjusted based on the treatment team's input and Judge's decision. Please refer to your signed Program Agreement to review program rules. If you are ever confused over what is required of you, please contact your case manager or member of the treatment team.

It may feel overwhelming at first glance, but remember there are other participants that have done these phases successfully! Successful sobriety can be achieved, but you need to be invested in the program and most importantly invested in YOURSELF!

Points to Remember

- **Honesty and open communication** are key components of TRSC. Therefore, it is best to be honest with yourself as well as the TRSC team when issues arise. TRSC decisions are made on an individual basis. Therefore, since each participant is different, do not compare your progress and success to other participants.
- Please dress appropriately for court. Hats, sunglasses, shorts, tank tops, or inappropriate attire will not be allowed. Appropriate sanctions may be imposed for missing court.
- The use of alcohol, marijuana (including medical marijuana), illegal or non-prescribed substances, synthetic drugs, CBD, Kratom, etc. is strictly prohibited.

Orientation

Orientation starts after you have been through the referral process, accepted into the program, and sentenced to TRSC.

- Substance Use Disorder/Mental Health Treatment Referral
- SCRAM Enrollment (90 day minimum)/Urine Drug Testing
- Attend Medical Physical – Medical Disclosure Agreement (if applicable)

SANCTIONS

During your participation in the program you are expected to comply with your terms of probation, requirements of the court, and suggestions from your treatment provider and Case Manager. If you fail to comply with any terms during your involvement in TRSC, there will be sanctions based on that behavior/non-compliance. Sanctions range based on the severity of the situation/offense. We recommend that if you are unsure whether a behavior/circumstance/situation/etc. is acceptable, double check with your Case Manager and/or TRSC team. If in doubt, don't do it.

INCENTIVES

There is more to this program than getting your life back, and that's a pretty big incentive in itself. We want you to know we recognize those changes you've undertaken and reward your positive behavior. Incentives also range based on the milestone but include phase promotions, 90 meetings in 90 days, and graduation.

TERMINATION FROM TRSC

If the TRSC Judge feels that you are no longer a fit for the program based on negative performance, you may be terminated from the program. Termination will include a probation violation petition and formal violation hearing which could result in significant incarceration.

Examples of behaviors that will result in termination from TRSC:

- Crime of Violence
- New Felony Conviction
- Public Safety Issue
- Driving while under the influence
- Sabotaging another individual's sobriety
- Multiple program non-compliance sanctions

Phase 4 (3 month minimum)

Phase 4 is a transition phase which will help prepare you for life after the program.

At minimum in this phase you will be required to:

- Case management meetings every 4-6 weeks
- Attend court once every 4-6 weeks
- Participate in random home visits
- Submit to random urine drug/alcohol testing
- Adhere to Curfew, if applicable (Refer to Order of Probation)
- Attend therapeutic after-care sessions prior to and after graduation as required.
- Complete discharge plan with case manager
- Complete Graduation Application
- Maintain sobriety for 90 consecutive days
- Sanction free for 60 consecutive days
- Payment of all fines/costs/fees associated with conviction, including TRSC fees.

*(Individual financial circumstances will be taken into consideration in order to determine if a participant is making a responsible effort toward satisfying all monetary obligations.)

Phase 4 is your last phase before graduation which allows for more independence and less supervision by the TRSC team and Case Manager. Although the program requirements may lessen, you will be encouraged to determine what structure and services best support your sobriety and participate in them appropriately.

Graduation and successful completion is contingent on the confirmation of all urine drug screen results. Formal discharge will occur after results are finalized and reviewed by case management team

Phase 1 (4 month minimum)

Phase 1 focuses on obtaining and maintaining stability and structure and establishing initial sober time. It is also designed to be intensive, supportive, and get you off on the right foot for recovery.

At minimum in this phase you will be required to:

- Meet with your case manager on a weekly basis
- Attend court and peer support group twice per month
- Participate in random home visits
- Attend group and/or individual treatment sessions, as determined by treatment provider
- Submit to random urine drug/alcohol testing and SCRAM.
- Complete 90/90 recovery-based support group meetings. After 90/90 completion, three (3) support groups/meetings are required per week.
- Adhere to Curfew, if applicable (Refer to Order of Probation)
- Review education/employment programming and goals with Case Manager (obtain G.E.D./Diploma, employment, and/or participate in community service)
- Develop payment plan for program fees.
- Develop personal budget

Phase Advancement

The TRSC team will discuss your individual progress and needs throughout Phase 1 and to ensure you have met certain milestones that include but are not limited to:

- Maintain sobriety for 30 consecutive days
- Sanction free for 30 consecutive days
- Complete 90/90.
- Submission of budget and payment plan
- Compliant attendance and engagement in all treatment, case management, and probation appointments.

Sobriety Court Restricted License Eligibility

- 45 days of verified sobriety – all negative UDS & SCRAM results.
- Compliance with all court and treatment recommendations.
*If determined eligible from the Secretary of State and approved for a restricted license by the TRSC judge, an ignition interlock device must be installed before the license will be issued by the Secretary of State.

Phase 2(4 month minimum)

Phase 2 focuses on relapse prevention planning and behavior modification. During this phase, you will be required to adhere to program requirements and expectations as well as develop and complete a relapse prevention plan or reflective assignment with your treatment provider. We understand that relapses may occur, however, it is your goal to work on how to identify and discuss preventative methods with your treatment provider and case management team.

At minimum in this phase you will be required to:

- Meet with your Case Manager on a bi-weekly basis
- Attend court twice per month
- Participate in random home visits
- Maintain compliance with all recommendations of treatment provider
- Submit to random urine drug/alcohol testing.
- Attend a minimum of 3 support groups/meetings per week
- Adhere to Curfew, if applicable (Refer to Order of Probation)
- Maintain consistency with payment plan
- Write and present relapse prevention plan.

Phase Advancement

- Maintain sobriety for 30 consecutive days
- Sanction free for 30 consecutive days
- Consistent payment plan adherence
- Completion and presentation of relapse prevention plan
- Compliant attendance and engagement in all treatment, case management, and probation appointments

Phase 3(4 month minimum)

Phase 3 supports a healthy re-entry into the community with a focus on healthy living, expanding sober support systems, participating in sober activities, and achieving work/life balance.

At minimum in this phase you will be required to:

- Monthly case management meetings
- Attend court once per month
- Participate in random home visits
- Maintain compliance with all recommendations of treatment provider
- Submit to random urine drug/alcohol testing
- Attend a minimum of 1 support group/meeting per week
- Complete community service (20 hours for Misdemeanor/40 hours for Felony)
- Adhere to Curfew, if applicable (Refer to Order of Probation)
- Maintain consistency with payment plan

Phase Advancement

- Maintain sobriety for 60 consecutive days
- Sanction free for 45 consecutive days
- Consistent payment plan adherence
- Completion of community service requirement
- Compliant attendance in all case management and probation appointments
- Compliant attendance and engagement in all treatment leading to successful completion of Substance Abuse treatment