



What is FATC Court?

- It is a Family Drug Court, created for families who have a ODHS dependency case because substance use is affecting their ability to parent safely.
- It is a court-supervised treatment program.
- It brings community agencies together to help design a treatment process that is unique to each family's needs.
- It focuses on recovery, skill building, and self-reliance to safely reunify children with their parents.
- It assists in removing barriers like housing, bills, finding employment, and other basic needs (clothing, school supplies, child-care, food, etc.).
- It believes that recovery and reunification require a whole family approach.

Frequently Asked Questions:

How long does it take to complete FATC Court? – *It is up to you. It can take 12 to 18 months. However, the length is tailored to your individual pace in your recovery.*

Why should I join FATC Court/How will this help me? *You will have a whole team of professionals to help you remove barriers, build your recovery, and invest in your success.*

If I participate in FATC Court, does that mean I automatically get my child back? – *Generally, it is ODHS' decision when to place a child back with a parent. However, your ODHS caseworker is on the FATC Team, and the program is designed to remove barriers to reunification.*

How Often do I meet with the Judge? – *1st, 2nd, & 4th Wednesday at first. Less often, as you progress in the program.*

Can I ask the Judge about my dependency case when I go to court? – *You should ask your lawyer about your dependency case. At FATC hearings, the Judge will talk to you about your recovery journey and will work with the FATC Team to help you get the support you need to reunify with your family. The Judge will not make decisions about your dependency case at FATC hearings.*

What am I required to do besides attend court? – *Follow your Integrated Case Plan, which is a combination of your treatment plan and the ODHS plan. Follow the recommendations of the FATC Team and focus on your recovery journey.*

When and where is FATC Court? – *1st, 2nd, and 4th Wednesday 10:30am -12pm, 2970 Center Street, Salem, Oregon.*

If I don't follow the rules, will FATC Court put me in jail? – *Jail is never a sanction in FATC Court.*

Will FATC Court find me housing? – *FATC doesn't have specific housing, but it can connect participants with housing resources and assist with rent (if funding is available).*

I have a criminal history. Can I still do FATC Court? – *Yes, except certain sex crimes or aggravated offenses against children may disqualify you.*

Do I have to go far away from my family for treatment? – *In many cases, reunification may not be possible without residential treatment. Some treatment may be at a distance but being apart for a short period of time can make it possible for children to be safely returned home to their parent.*

Does FATC Court tell me where I can do treatment? – *No. While you must engage in treatment, it is important to find treatment you are comfortable with. FATC Court partners with many providers and programs to help participants receive the treatment that best fits their needs.*

Who can tell me if I am eligible to join? – *Please contact your lawyer, ODHS case worker, or a FATC team member. They can help you get the answers you need.*

Contact Us:

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Court



Who Is Eligible?

The Families in our program:

- Have an open dependency case with ODHS.
- The Court has jurisdiction over the family.
- Have substance use issues that interfere with parenting.
- Parental Rights have not been terminated, and no TPR hearing is scheduled within 90 day of program entry.
- Has recently taken or is willing to engage in an Alcohol and Drug Assessment

The Families in our program *ALSO*:

- Need help understanding their ODHS case and following their plan.
- Need help learning how to live a life of sobriety and recovery.
- Need help finding housing, employment, and/or education.
- Need help building skills to provide a safe and healthy environment for their family.

Practice Self-Care – Kids need healthy parents. Healthy does not mean perfect. You will work towards progress, not perfection.

Create Memories – One of the gifts of parenting in recovery is the chance to build wonderful new memories with your children. Take time to enjoy one another.

Work on Rebuilding Trust – As parents in recovery, your children may have lost trust in you. Rebuilding may take time, work, and outside help.

Build a Strong Support System – You and your child need to have a strong sense of community. Surround yourself with those who can help you feel part of something bigger than yourself.

Including Your Child in Recovery – Don't avoid talking about your addiction or recovery with your children. Be as honest and Age-appropriate as often as possible.

Forgive Yourself – It is common to feel some guilt and shame when first entering treatment, but parents can be especially hard on themselves when it comes to forgiving themselves for their addiction. You need to be the healthiest version of yourself possible to raise your children.



What Does FATC Court Do For You?

- Provides you with an entire team of professionals who are invested in your success.
- Ensures you will have weekly access to your caseworker.
- Gives you the opportunity to speak to the Judge as often as three times a month.
- Connects you with counselors, parent mentors, and other specialists to address your substance use.
- Provides a team of support to you and your family who communicate weekly about how best to help you.
- Makes your safety and recovery a priority.
- Connects you to sober and safe housing opportunities.
- Helps you connect with a Parent Mentor.
- Help you obtain any needed services for your family so you can remove barriers to reunification.

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