



Collaborating for Court Improvement: Launching a Delinquency Model Court Team



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What is a Model Court Team?



- A "model court" is a court that is a model for innovative and best practices.
- A "model court team" is a group of system partners dedicated to improving practice in their local jurisdiction.
- In Oregon, we have had Model Court Teams focused on juvenile dependency court improvement. OJD provides updates, support, data, training, and other resources to these teams.
- Since the development of JDIP, it has been a goal to support the development of Delinquency Model Court Teams. In 2026 JDIP will focus on this goal!

Delinquency Model Court Teams

Vision

Representatives from local courts and juvenile justice system partners working together to assess local system needs to improve the juvenile court's handling of delinquency cases.

Locally Driven

Model Court Teams understand their local issues and strengths and are best positioned to identify priorities and projects that will have an impact.

Collaborative

Efforts should be collaborative, inclusive, multidisciplinary, and consider system partners' roles and responsibilities in improving outcomes for justice involved youth.

Team Members to Consider

Court

OYA

Juvenile
Department

District
Attorneys

Defense
Attorneys

Local
Service
Providers

Schools

Other Important Considerations



- **Be intentional** about your team members
- **Seek diversity** in experience and thinking
- **Consider size** of team and its impact on functioning
- **Include right people @ right time** for the focus of the meeting
- **Identify team “managers”** to keep team on track, take notes, etc.
- **Be clear and specific** about member expectations
- **Be transparent** about roles and decisions

Getting Started



OUTREACH TO
POTENTIAL
MEMBERS



FORM YOUR TEAM



IDENTIFY SHARED
VALUES AND
LOCAL NEEDS



CHOOSE A FOCUS
AREA AND/ OR
PROJECT



GET TO WORK AND
TRACK PROGRESS

Building an Effective Team



- Meet regularly
- Keep a record of meetings
- Focus on system improvement
- Review data
- Collaborate to identify and implement projects
- Work toward specific goals

JDIP's Model Court Team Resources



MCT LAUNCH
MATERIALS



PROJECT
GUIDES



DATA



SUPPORT AS
NEEDED

JDIP's Model Court Team Launch Materials

Delinquency MCT Guide

DIY Launching a MCT Template

JDIP Virtual Training

JDIP In-Person Training

Other Resources from JDIP



Model Court Forms



Delinquency Bench Book
and Bench Guides



Training



Handbook for Youth (in
development)

Questions?

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