



2026 OREGON TREATMENT COURT CONFERENCE

Preliminary Agenda - All Treatment Court Team Members

September 24th

- 7:30 AM Registration
- 8:00 AM Welcome
- 8:15 AM General Session
- 9:45 AM Break
- 10:00 AM General Session
- 11:30 AM Working Lunch
- 12:45 PM Session 1
- 2:00 PM Break
- 2:15 PM Session 2
- 3:30 PM Break
- 3:45 PM General Session
- 5:00 PM End
- 5:00 PM Networking

September 25th

- 7:30 AM Registration
- 8:00 AM Welcome
- 8:30 AM General Session
- 10:00 AM Break
- 10:15 AM Session 3
- 11:30 AM Break
- 11:45 PM Session 4
- 1:00 PM End

Questions? Contact Us!

SCA.ESD.Treatment.Court.Staff@ojd.state.or.us
or visit our [website](#)





2026 OREGON TREATMENT COURT CONFERENCE

Preliminary Agenda - General Session

General Session 1

Session Title: Target Population, Role of the Judge, and a Multidisciplinary Team

Presenter(s): Jim Eberspacher & Julie Seitz, LGSW, MSW, LADC - Impaired Driving Solutions

Description: Effective treatment courts depend on identifying and serving the right participants. According to the National Adult Treatment Court Best Practice Standards, strong judicial leadership and coordinated teamwork are essential for making sound eligibility decisions and maintaining program fidelity. This session highlights how clear roles, collaborative decision-making, and consistent leadership help ensure accountability, evidence-based practices, and improved long-term outcomes.

General Session 2

Session Title: Smarter Responses, Better Outcomes: The Science of Behavior Change

Presenter(s): Judge Diane Bull & Helen Harberts M.A., J.D

Description: People affected by substance use, mental illness, and trauma often think and behave differently, which shapes how they engage in treatment court programs. This session offers a practical introduction to brain and behavioral science and how it applies to treatment court populations. Aligned with the Adult Treatment Court Best Practice Standards, it emphasizes effective use of incentives, sanctions, and service responses. Participants will learn evidence-based behavioral strategies that support lasting change and improve outcomes.

General Session 3

Session Title: Recovery Capital and Community Supervision

Presenter(s): Dr. van Wormer

Description: Examines research on how building personal, social, and community recovery capital supports long-term recovery beyond treatment court participation. Participants will review tools and strategies for aligning recovery capital approaches. The presentation also offers practical guidance for integrating recovery capital into daily operations, including staffing and case management. In addition, it highlights how community supervision practices can strengthen recovery capital by fostering accountability, supportive engagement, and long-term stability.

General Session 4

Session Title: Treatment Court Best Practice Standards Applied to Oregon

Presenter(s): Dr. Juliette Mackin & Dr. Laura Hunter

Description: This session will provide an overview of the new Oregon Treatment Court Standards and how national research will be applied uniquely in Oregon. Oregon Standards, updated from the 2018 version, will be shared, including new content and specific considerations for different court types.



2026 OREGON TREATMENT COURT CONFERENCE

Preliminary Agenda - JDTC Track

JDTC Session 1

Session Title: JDTC Data & Core Practices for Effectiveness

Presenter(s): Dr. Juliette Mackin & Dr. van Wormer

Description: This session will provide an overview of the results of the national JDTC evaluation, highlight best practices specific to JDTCs, and discuss common areas of success and challenge for JDTCs. Suggestions will be offered to assist programs in enhancing their alignment with best practices.

JDTC Session 2

Session Title: Behavior Responses to Address Cannabis Use for the Developing Brain

Presenter(s): Dr. van Wormer & Helen Harberts M.A., J.D

Description: This session explores evidence-informed behavioral responses to address cannabis and other drug use among adolescents and young adults, with a focus on the unique impact of cannabis on the developing brain. Participants will examine practical strategies for motivation enhancement and behavior change. The session will highlight ways to engage youth and families, reduce risk factors, and support healthier decision-making during critical stages of development.

JDTC Session 3

Session Title: Understanding Risk and How to Integrate Criminogenic Risk Factors into Case Plans

Presenter(s): Dr. van Wormer

Description: This session explores how the Risk-Needs-Responsivity (RNR) model is applied in juvenile treatment courts to better assess and manage the youth we serve. Participants will learn practical strategies to translate risk assessment results into individualized, developmentally appropriate case plans that target underlying drivers of behavior and improve outcomes for justice-involved youth.

JDTC Session 4

Session Title: Strategies for Promoting Family/Caregiver Engagement in JDTCs

Presenter(s): Dr. Jessica Dahlgren & Dr. Mackin - NPC

Description: This session will address a common challenge in juvenile drug treatment courts, how to manage family/caregiver engagement. Parent, family, and caregiver engagement is an important element within the Juvenile Drug Treatment Court best practice standards, can improve youth success, and can be difficult to achieve. This session includes various strength-based approaches, considerations, and suggestions for how to engage parents/families and other supports for youth in your JDTC program.



2026 OREGON TREATMENT COURT CONFERENCE

Preliminary Agenda - ADC/DUII Track

ADC/DUII Session 1

Session Title: Building and Maintaining a Therapeutic Alliance: The Cornerstone of Effective Treatment

Presenter(s): Julie Seitz, LGSW, MSW, LADC - Impaired Driving Solutions

Description: This interactive session focuses on the crucial role of the therapeutic alliance in achieving lasting treatment outcomes with justice-involved clients. Participants will review core elements like trust, empathy, and collaboration and examine evidence linking strong alliances to better retention and success. The session includes practical skill-building in active listening, motivational interviewing, and managing discord, with real-world examples and tools for assessing and strengthening the alliance across diverse settings.

ADC/DUII Session 2

Session Title: From Screening to Strategy: Interpreting RANT Outcomes to Support Decision-Making

Presenter(s): Judge Peggy Davis & Dr. Shannon Carey

Description: This session will provide a practical overview of the RANT screening tool, beginning with a brief foundation of why screening is important, what the RANT is, how it works, and implementation trends and successes seen in treatment courts. The session will then focus on how teams can move beyond simply completing screening to effectively using RANT result to support triage, eligibility discussions, referral pathways, and early identification of individuals with high risk and high treatment needs.

ADC/DUII Session 3

Session Title: Developing the Treatment Continuum for High Risk, High Need Individuals

Presenter(s): Chris Wig, CADC II & Shala Molina, LCSW, CADC III

Description: High-risk, high-need individuals require more than standard treatment. This session focuses on how to build a continuum of care that matches intensity, duration, and services to risk and need, with the goal of improving engagement and reducing recidivism.

ADC/DUII Session 4

Session Title: What Others Need To Know About Impaired Drivers

Presenter(s): Jim Eberspacher - Impaired Driving Solutions

Description: Impaired drivers appear across all treatment court models. With polysubstance use on the rise, alcohol, drugs, and medications often combine to create complex risks that traditional assumptions can overlook. This session explains how impaired driving behaviors intersect with substance use disorders, mental health issues, and broader risk patterns seen in treatment court participants. Whether or not your program formally includes impaired driving cases, this session shows why these risks matter and how to manage them.



2026 OREGON TREATMENT COURT CONFERENCE

Preliminary Agenda - MHC Track

MHC Session 1

Session Title: Importance of Drug Testing in MHC's

Presenter(s): Kendall Friend, MA, MPA

Description: Drug testing in Mental Health Treatment Courts serves a different role than in traditional models. For participants with co-occurring disorders, testing offers clinical insight and early relapse detection. For those with primarily mental health needs, testing should be individualized and tied to treatment goals and legal needs. This 75-minute session will explore how to use testing to support recovery rather than surveillance, with practical adaptations based on diagnosis, risk, engagement, and stability.

MHC Session 2

Session Title: Core Correctional Practices in Behavioral Health: What Changes and What Doesn't

Presenter(s): Kendall Friend, MA, MPA

Description: Core Correctional Practices support behavior change, but using them with participants who have serious mental illness can be challenging. This session will cover what remains essential and what must be adapted when working with individuals experiencing mental illness, cognitive limitations, emotional dysregulation, or co-occurring disorders. Participants will learn practical strategies for communication, prosocial modeling, reinforcement, and skill building while balancing accountability with stabilization, engagement, and trust.

MHC Session 3

Session Title: Building Treatment and Collaborative Case Plans for Individuals with SMI

Presenter(s): Eric Olson, LCPC

Description: This session will discuss how teams can share the appropriate information needed to develop individualized Case Plans for participants with SMI. We will discuss how to collaborate as a team to get a simple case plan that addresses the key areas that will target recidivism reduction.

MHC Session 4

Session Title: A Holistic Trauma-Informed Approach for Every Role: Maximizing Team Members' Effectiveness in Interpersonal Interactions

Presenter(s): Dr. Shannon Carey & Helen Harberts M.A., J.D

Description: While courtroom trauma-informed practice—especially the judge's role—gets most of the attention, far less focus is placed on how the rest of the team applies these principles in the field. This session covers how team members can respond to agitation, difficulty listening, and other challenging behaviors, emphasizing the nonverbal cues and approaches that most shape participant experience.



2026 OREGON TREATMENT COURT CONFERENCE

Preliminary Agenda - FTC Track

FTC Session 1

Session Title: Recovery Parenting: Integration, Practices, and Resources

Presenter(s): Dr. Jessica Dahlgren - NPC

Description: This session will cover important strategies to consider as we coach parents to be the best version of themselves for their children during substance use disorder recovery. Content will focus on pivotal parent-child communication strategies rooted in developmental research and other materials that can be free resources for parents.

FTC Session 2

Session Title: Family Recovery Housing: Models, Partnership, and Expansion

Presenter(s): Laura Hall - NARR Oregon

Description: Safe and sober housing is a challenge for many FTC families. This session describes the types of sober housing, how to best assess and partner with family sober housing, and models to create more family sober housing.

FTC Session 3

Session Title: A Particular Practice: Unique FTC Applications of the Standards

Presenter(s): Dr. Juliette Mackin - NPC & Panel

Description: The Oregon Standards are for all treatment court types, and family treatment courts are no exception. However, applying the standards in a civil family court can sometimes look very different than criminal court models! Join national expert Dr. Juliette Mackin and a few of Oregon's most experienced dependency champions for a journey through common areas of confusion with current examples, role-specific insights, and practical discussion.

FTC Session 4

Session Title: Finding and Integrating Children's Services: A Holistic Approach

Presenter(s): Prevent Child Abuse Oregon & Oregon Association of Relief Nurseries

Description: Finding children's services can be a constant challenge. Relief nurseries are hubs for many children's services beyond supportive childcare, and getting children families the services they need is critical for preventing further abuse and neglect. Hear about current models of service, how to bring them into your TC team, and opportunities for future expansion and partnership to strengthen your participant community into the next generation.



2026 OREGON TREATMENT COURT CONFERENCE

Preliminary Agenda - VTC Track

VTC Session 1

Session Title: Military and Veteran Culture

Presenter(s): Scott Swaim, USAFV, M.A., LMHC

Description: This presentation provides an overview of military and veteran culture, including core values, structure, and the lived experiences that shape service members and veterans. It highlights how cultural awareness can improve engagement, trust, and outcomes in healthcare, behavioral health, and community settings.

VTC Session 2

Session Title: Referral, Identification, and Acceptance

Presenter(s): Sheila McCarthy, LMSW

Description: Successful treatment court outcomes begin with effective identification, referral, and engagement practices. This session will explore practical strategies for recognizing veterans at key intercept points, using available screening tools, and strengthening communication across justice and community partners. Participants will leave with concrete ideas for improving referral pathways and building local partnerships that better connect veterans to supportive services.

VTC Session 3

Session Title: The "Hook"

Presenter(s): Scott Swaim, USAFV, M.A., LMHC

Description: What motivates veterans to say yes to Veterans Treatment Courts—and what keeps them there? This session highlights practical approaches to engagement, retention, and success by addressing trust, identity, and system responsiveness.

VTC Session 4

Session Title: Building and Supporting Alumni and Mentor Programming

Presenter(s): Brandy Martinez, MPA

Description: The session will provide an overview of peer run organizations in Oregon and detail how treatment court coordinators can leverage these resources to strengthen mentor, volunteer, and alumni programs within treatment courts. The session will include a presentation, followed by a facilitated panel discussion. Several presenters bring prior military service experience to inform and enrich the dialogue. This session is open to all treatment court team members.



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Understanding Risk and How to Integrate Criminogenic Risk Factors into Case Plans

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The "Hook"

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A Holistic Trauma-Informed Approach for Every Role

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What Others Need To Know About Impaired Drivers

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Finding and Integrating Children's Services: A Holistic Approach

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Strategies for Promoting Family/Caregiver Engagement in JDTCs

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Building and Supporting Alumni and Mentor Programming