



Family Treatment Courts Work

House Committee on Human Services
Oregon State Legislature

December 16, 2020

Hon. Ann Lininger, Clackamas County Circuit Court Judge

Nancy J. Cozine, State Court Administrator

Oregon Judicial Department

Family Treatment Courts: Treatment Courts for Families Affected by Substance Abuse Disorders

What Family Treatment Courts Do

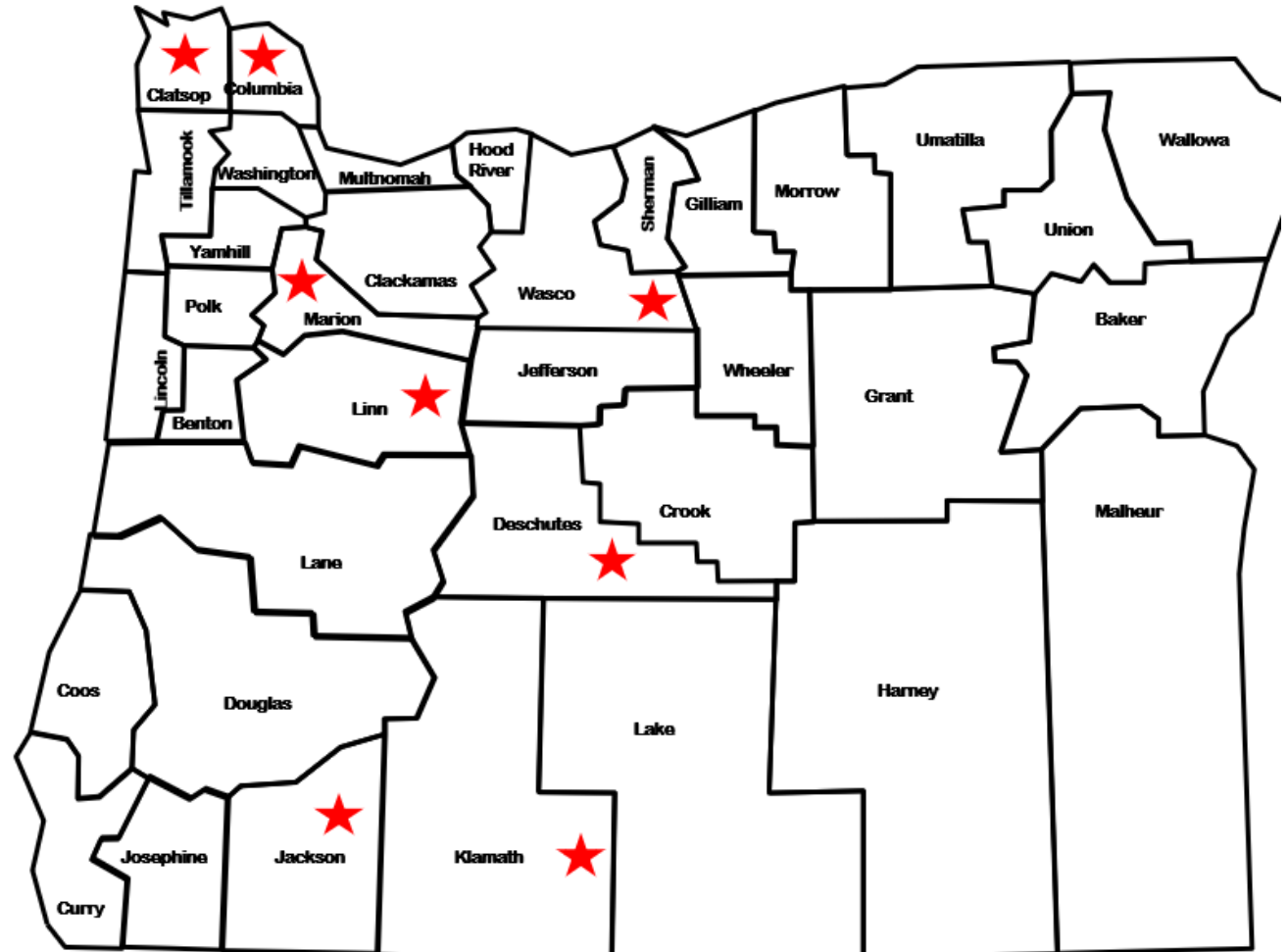
- **Help at-risk families** through a collaborative case management model
- **Deliver results through** a wrap-around, non-adversarial approach
- **Improve outcomes for children and families** when parents need help due to substance abuse disorders
- **Reduce reentry to the child welfare system**, with proven community impact and reduced costs
- **Sustain long-term sobriety for parents**

Family Treatment Courts in Oregon – Delivering Results for Kids and Parents

A 2010 outcome evaluation of two Oregon FTCs found that FTC-involved families:

- 2X more likely to complete treatment and engaged in treatment longer
- Reunited with their children twice as often and significantly sooner (half the time)
- 4X fewer had their parental rights terminated
- Significantly reduced recidivism for drug charges as well as other charges
- Over 50% less time spent in in foster care

Family Treatment Courts in Oregon





Family Treatment Courts Work

Evidence Based Practices Backed by Research

1. FTC **organization & structure** is evidence-informed and research based
2. FTC **Judge** leads the development, implementation, and operations of the court
3. FTC ensures **equity and inclusion** for all participants
4. FTC includes **early identification, screening, and assessment**
5. FTC includes timely, high-quality, and appropriate **substance use disorder treatment**
6. FTC ensures that families receive **comprehensive case management, services, and supports**
7. FTC applies **therapeutic responses to behavior**
8. FTC collects and reviews **data to monitor participant progress, engage in CQI, monitor adherence to best practice standards, and evaluate outcomes**

Child Welfare Statewide Statistics - 2019

Impact of Substance Abuse

- 3,235 children removed
 - **60% included parental substance abuse disorder**
- Median foster care stay was **19.9 months**
- **10%** of children who were reunified in 2018 came back into foster care
- Approximately **70% of reviewed fatality cases included parental history of substance abuse**
- In nearly **50% of child fatalities**, substance use was a factor in the child's death

Family Treatment Courts Bill (LC 2934, 2021; HB 4040, 2020)



Services supported by the bill:

- **Courts:** judges, court coordinators, statewide support and training
- **Human services:** Substance abuse treatment providers, child welfare case workers, and other human services
- **Parental representations:** Parent Child Representation Programs (PCRP) county-wide for all parents in the child welfare system

Support to fully fund and expand Family Treatment Court programs in five high-need counties: Coos, Clackamas, Douglas, Jackson and Marion

Funding for Judicial Services

Judges, Court Coordinators, Statewide Program Support

Overview of Costs for OJD:

- Court Coordinators
- Judge
- Statewide Support Attorney and Analyst
- Judicial Support Services

Federal FTC Grant:

- 3 year grant (January 2021- December 2023) designed to support *existing* FTC
- Supports statewide coordination and collaboration of FTCs, technical assistance, training, continuous quality improvement and outcome evaluation
- Will not fully replace need for OJD statewide services investments; individual circuit courts costs will be consistent with prior FIS (HB 4040, 2020)



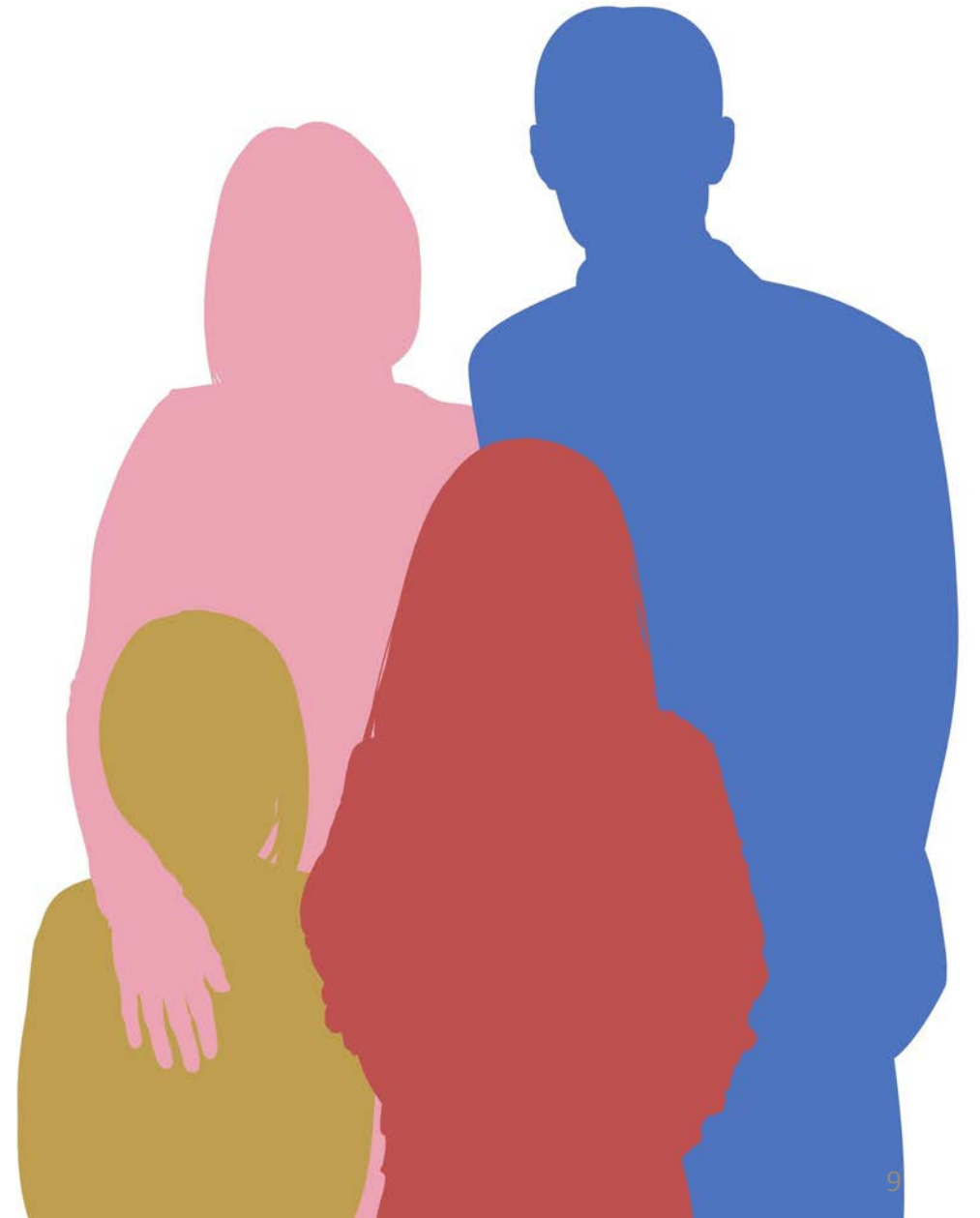


Local Need: A View from Clackamas County

Hon. Ann Lininger,
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Clackamas County Families Need Support

- 599 children in Clackamas with open matters related to abuse and neglect
- 323 in foster care away from their parent(s)
- In cases open over 2 years, 85% involve parents with addiction and/or mental illness



Stories of Families Impacted by Substance Abuse

- Julia
- Chris

A dedicated Family Treatment Court program in Clackamas County can help provide the focused coordination and wrap-around support needed for family unity and success in the face of substance abuse disorders and other co-occurring mental health issues.



Program Successes: Columbia County



Program Components

Dedicated judge and court coordinator staff
Experienced local child welfare service providers
DHS and parent advocates working together to solve problems
Treatment services providers
All working together to staff cases and support family unity

Key Services

Housing and other basic needs met
Treatment and counseling
Local Crossfit provider offering free fitness classes in group setting

Proven Results

Very low return to child welfare system
Families reunited within 60-90 in nearly all cases

Questions?

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