



OJD Supports HB 3366

Key Points

- Adds collaborative Family Treatment Courts (FTCs) in five counties (rural, frontier, urban and suburban counties) and strengthens two counties' programs.
- Children spend less time in foster care and are reunited with their families faster when engaged with FTCs.
- Supports better outcomes for children, parents, and the community:
 - Fewer children in foster care;
- Parents stay in treatment and recovery longer;
- Fewer returns to child welfare and criminal justice systems.
- Includes statewide coordination, training and evaluation requirements.

Oregon Judicial Department Supports HB 3366: Family Treatment Courts

Family Treatment Courts (FTCs) are an effective way to address substance abuse -- the most common family stress factor in Oregon's child welfare cases. HB 3366 provides resources to fund seven Family Treatment Courts (FTCs) statewide. These problem-solving courts are considered a national best practice and provide specialized judicial procedures and court support to families involved in the child welfare system due to substance abuse disorders.

Why does Oregon need more Family Treatment Courts?

They deliver results. A wrap-around, non-adversarial approach to child welfare cases involving parents with substance abuse disorder provides the structure and support necessary for long-term recovery and family unity. Parents meet with the judge and the full FTC team multiple times a month, while parents work toward lifelong sobriety and stability for themselves and their children.

Where will the courts be located?

- Two counties with a population > 50,000
- Two counties with populations of 50,000-200,000
- Two counties with populations of 200,000-400,000
- One county with a population < 400,000
- OJD is prepared to launch or further develop FTCs in the following counties: Clackamas, Coos, Douglas, Grant, Harney, Jackson, and Marion

What resources are needed?

Courts: Judges and FTC coordinators provide intensive case management, weekly check-ins and recovery-oriented non-adversarial judicial oversight.

Human Services: Substance abuse treatment providers, housing, specialized child welfare case workers, and other human services providers to coordinate support and ensure parent success.

Public Defender Services: County-wide Parent Child Representation Programs (PCR) ensures that the rights and interests of parents and children are considered and protected.

Training, Coordination, & Evaluation. Statewide training and coordination promote adherence to best practices. Evaluation maintains program improvements.

What are the benefits?

- Faster reunification
- Sustained recovery and sobriety through treatment and peer support services
- Fewer children in foster care
- Reduced rates of recidivism
- Strengthened communities, schools, and extended family networks through increased family stability and engagement

Questions about OJD's support of Family Treatment Courts? Please contact Erin M. Pettigrew, Access to Justice Counsel for Legislative Affairs: erin.m.pettigrew@ojd.state.or.us; 971-283-1385