



NADCP 

The National Association of Drug Court Professionals

Drug Courts
Reinventing Justice

NADCP 

The Future of Drug Courts:
Its Ours for the Taking!

The Verdict is In

In February of 2005, the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO, 2005) issued its third comprehensive report on the effects of adult criminal drug courts. At the time, results of 23 program evaluations confirmed that drug courts:

**Significantly Reduce Drug Use,
Crime and Save Money**

In the Ensuing Years

The most rigorous and conservative scientific estimates from “meta-analyses” have all concluded that **drug courts significantly reduce crime as much as 35 percent** compared to the alternatives.

The Verdict Is In

In rigorous experimental studies, reductions in crime lasted at least 3 years and longer-term effects are still being evaluated by the researchers.

In one study, effects on crime lasted over 14 years

Drug Court - Methamphetamine

In one study comparing 8 different treatment programs for methamphetamine addiction, drug court **produced the highest rates of abstinence from methamphetamine** as measured by urine drug screen tests.

In that same study, drug court **produced the longest period of consecutive abstinence from methamphetamine**, in some instances **doubling, tripling and even quadrupling** the length of time clients avoided using methamphetamine compared to other programs.

In another study, **abuse of methamphetamine was reduced by more than 50%** for clients in a drug court program as compared to outpatient treatment alone without drug court supervision

Meth Study Cont...

Attendance in **treatment was also increased by over 40%** for methamphetamine abusers in drug court as compared to other programs.

Successful **graduation rates from treatment increased by nearly 80%** for clients in the drug court

DWI Courts Outcomes

Michigan Outcomes After 2 Years

<u>DWI Arrest</u>	<u>DWI Ct.</u>	<u>Probation</u>
Ottawa	1%	14%
Bay County	1%	6%
Clarkston	2%	10%

<u>Any Arrest</u>	<u>DWI Ct.</u>	<u>Probation</u>
Ottawa	8%	24%
Bay County	18%	31%
Clarkston	5%	14%

The Bottom Line

The scientific community has put drug courts under its microscope and concluded that **drug courts work better than jail or prison, better than probation, and better than treatment alone.**

Why Isn't Drug Court Available to Everyone ?

20.4 Million Americans Currently Using Drugs

7 Million are Addicted to Drugs

20 Million Alcoholics

The prison population in the US has increased over 1,000% in the past 30+ years

1970	200,000	prisoners
1980	400,000	prisoners
1984	800,000	prisoners
1995	1,600,000	prisoners
2006	2,166,260	prisoners

The nation's incarceration rate reached

1 in every 100 Americans

A cost to taxpayers of **\$27.5 billion** over the next five years beyond what we currently spend.

Impact of an Addict

If left untreated, an addict will cost a community 47,000 a year and 1.5 million dollars over a lifetime in emergency room episodes, STD's, car crashes, arrests and victim costs associated with their crimes.

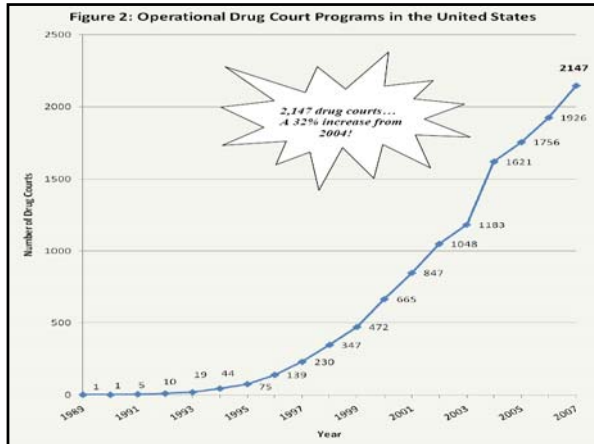
Now is the Time to Take Drug Court to Scale By:

Increasing our numbers

Enhancing our capacity

Spreading our philosophy of combining treatment with accountability for ALL nonviolent drug involved offenders.

Increasing our Numbers







Research ALERT!!

To Treat or Not To Treat:

Evidence on the Prospects of
Expanding Treatment to
Drug-Involved Offenders

*Avinash Singh Bhati
John K. Roman
Aaron Chalfin*

April 2008

URBAN INSTITUTE

research for safer communities Justice Policy Center

Overall, the current adult drug court treatment regime produces about \$2.21 in benefits for every \$1 in costs, for a net benefit to society of about \$624 million.

Allowing access to treatment for all 1.47 million at risk arrestees would be most cost effective—producing more than \$46 billion in benefits at a cost of \$13.7 billion, and avoiding millions of future crimes.

NADCP



Advocacy

**NADCP is YOUR voice
on Capitol Hill.**

NADCP



■ With over 580 face-to-face congressional meetings in 2007, a letter of support signed by 49 members of the House of Representatives and a second letter of support signed by 34 Senators, coupled with literally thousands of letters and e-mails from you to your Members of Congress, we did the impossible.

■ **50% increase in Federal Drug Court Funding!**

NADCP



2009 LOOKS GOOD!!!

■ A letter of support signed by 77 members of the House of Representatives and a second letter of support signed by an unprecedented 43 Senators.

■ **\$40 Million in Federal Drug Court Funding!**

United States Senate
MEMORANDUM FOR THE SENATE

DATE: 1/23/08

TO: THE SENATE

FROM: THE HONORABLE RICHARD SHULTZ, Ranking Member, Committee on Appropriations, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510

SUBJECT: 2009 Drug Court Funding

Dear Members of the Senate:

As you consider the Fiscal Year 2009 funding levels for the Department of Justice, we request that you fund Drug Courts at least \$40 million.

The Justice Department's Drug Court Demonstration Grant Program has proven to be effective in the fight against substance abuse addiction. Drug courts save money, reduce crime, and ensure communities. In February 2005, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) issued a report (GAO-05-279) that Congress is confirming that drug courts effectively reduce recidivism. Drug courts saved 20,000 jail beds nationwide from drug courts and more than 400 children were kept drug free in drug court clinics.

Additionally, drug courts are a powerful tool in addressing the methamphetamine epidemic. Law enforcement and manufacturing nations have had a positive impact on our ability to deal with this epidemic. We cannot expect our strategy that includes the treatment of the issue of methamphetamine until we have the same set of tools as the Department of Justice issued a 2007 report confirming the use that drug courts play in our national strategy against meth.

In FY08, the Appropriations Committee provided \$32 million in funding for the program. Unfortunately, the FY09 budget request reduced the program's funding to \$19 million. The House of Representatives has passed a bill that would increase the program's funding to \$40 million. We urge you to support this bill. We urge you to support this bill. We urge you to support this bill.

Respectfully,
Richard Shultz
Ranking Member, Committee on Appropriations, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510

[Handwritten signatures of Senators follow]

**Democratic and Republican Presidential
Platforms Endorse Drug Court!**

“The human toll of drug addiction and abuse hits all segments of American Society...We support the work of those who help individuals struggling with addiction, and we support strengthening drug education and prevention programs to avoid addiction. We endorse state and local initiatives, such as Drug Courts, that are trying new approaches to curbing drug abuse and diverting offenders to rehabilitation.” (Republican Domestic Platform)

**Democratic and Republican Presidential
Platforms Endorse Drug Court!**

“We must help state, local and tribal law enforcement work together to combat and prevent drug and alcohol abuse, which are a blight on our communities. We will restore funding for the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program and expand the use of Drug Courts and rehabilitation programs for drug offenders” (Democratic Domestic Platform)

**Drug Court
is the Antidote**

What's Next

Fidelity to the Model

- State and National Standards
- Linked to future funding
- IN, MS and TN!

Other Populations

- Federal Drug Courts
- Mental Health Courts
