



**20th Judicial District**

**Family Dependency  
Integrated  
Treatment Court**

**Parent Handbook**

## Table of Contents

Welcome .....	3
Overview .....	3
The ITC Team .....	4
Treatment Court Hearings .....	4
DSS & BCPH Treatment Plans.....	5
Program Basics .....	5
Confidentiality .....	5
About Drug Screens.....	6
Instructions for a Missed Drug Screen.....	6
Incentives & Sanctions.....	6
Phases of the ITC .....	7
Graduation Criteria .....	9
Termination from the ITC.....	10
Courtroom Expectations .....	10
Children in the Courtroom .....	11
Important ITC Contact Information.....	12
Useful Community Resources.....	13

## Welcome

Welcome to the 20<sup>th</sup> Judicial District's Integrated Treatment Court (ITC). If you are reading this handbook, it means you are being considered for acceptance into the program's family dependency track, due to your history of drug/alcohol abuse and the need for the state to become involved with your family.

The purpose of this handbook is to provide you with the information you need to be successful in the program. Should you decide to participate, you will be expected to comply with the expectations outlined below, as well as any instructions given to you in court.

## Overview

The Integrated Treatment Court is a collaborative effort between the Boulder County Courts, the Department of Social Services (DSS), Boulder County Public Health (BCPH), and other agencies. The purpose of the program is to provide you with the services and support you need to maintain sobriety and provide a safe and secure environment for your children.

Participants are required to enroll in substance abuse and/or mental health treatment, submit to random drug testing, and attend frequent court reviews as directed. These requirements, along with any others imposed by the Court, will become part of your Family Services Plan (also called a treatment plan). The Court will closely monitor your compliance with these requirements, and will respond accordingly. Compliance may result in rewards or incentives; non-compliance may result in sanctions.

**It is very important to understand that compliance with ITC program requirements does not guarantee that your children will be returned to you. There may be circumstances in which, even with full compliance, the Court determines that returning home is not in the best interests of the children.**

The ITC program consists of five phases, and takes approximately 16 months to complete.

## **The ITC Team**

As head of the ITC team, the Judge or Magistrate will make all final decisions regarding your status in the program, with frequent and regular input from the other ITC team members. The other team members include:

- DSS (ITC) Caseworker
- BCPH representative
- An Assistant County Attorney
- A Guardian ad litem (GAL)
- Your attorney, if you have an attorney
- ITC Coordinator

Your ITC Caseworker will be your primary contact person during your involvement in the program. However, all members of the ITC team will play a role in your case, and all are committed to your success in the program.

## **Treatment Court Hearings**

Frequent court appearances are a key part of the ITC program. These hearings, or status reviews, are typically held every two weeks, at least initially. Before your ITC status reviews, the Judge or Magistrate reviews a progress report put together by the members of the ITC team. This report will include information about your drug test results, participation and attendance in treatment, and your general progress toward your treatment plan goals. At your status review hearings, you will also have the opportunity to inform the Judge or Magistrate of any problems you may be having.

## DSS & BCPH Treatment Plans

Both your ITC Caseworker and substance abuse treatment provider will work with you to establish treatment plans. These treatment plans will outline the specific requirements each agency expects you to follow. Because these agencies will work together to address your treatment needs, many of these goals and requirements will be the same. The DSS treatment plan will identify any of the requirements not specifically related to substance abuse, such as participation in parenting classes or mental health treatment. The Court will order your compliance with all elements of the DSS treatment plan, which will include all recommended treatment.

### Program Basics

By following a few basic guidelines, you can greatly increase your chances of successfully completing the program. A few suggestions:

- Attend all court hearings, meetings, and appointments.
- Comply with the requirements of your DSS and BCPH treatment plans.
- Stay in touch with your ITC Caseworker and your attorney. Be sure they always have a current address and telephone number in case they need to reach you.
- Be as organized as possible. You will need to keep track of lots of meetings, court dates and appointments. A calendar or day-timer is very helpful.
- If you are not sure about any requirements or expectations, ask your Caseworker or other ITC team member.

**NOTE:** Please be aware that you are not permitted to act as a confidential informant for law enforcement while you are enrolled in the ITC. If you are approached by law enforcement regarding such matters, please inform your caseworker or other ITC team member immediately.

## **Confidentiality**

State and Federal laws require that your identity and privacy be protected. In response to these regulations, the ITC has developed procedures that guard your privacy.

You will be asked to sign an Authorization for Release of Information. This authorization is for the sole purpose of hearings and reports concerning your ITC case.

## **About Drug Screens**

Random drug and/or alcohol screening is a very important part of the program. While drug use is typically monitored through urine and/or breath testing, you may also be required to submit to other types of tests, including saliva tests (swabs) and hair tests. You will be expected to comply with any testing ordered by your ITC Caseworker or the Court.

Positive, missed, altered or refused tests will be considered positive and result in a sanction. Specimens found to have abnormal creatinine levels are also subject to sanction.

You are ultimately responsible for ensuring the screens you provide are valid. You should be aware that prescription drugs, over-the-counter medications, herbal remedies, and dietary or energy supplements can affect your test results. As such, it is strongly advised you learn how the ingredients of a given medicine or supplement might impact results before you start taking them.

## **Instructions for a Missed Drug Screen**

1. Call your Caseworker within one hour. If you cannot speak with the Caseworker directly, leave a message.
2. Take a drug screen as soon as possible!

## Incentives & Sanctions

Each time you come to court, the treatment team will decide whether you will receive an incentive, a sanction, or neither. This decision will be based on several factors, including your attendance and participation in treatment & visitation, drug screen results, and general progress in the program. While incentives and sanctions may not be exactly the same for everyone, they will be fair, and the Judge/Magistrate will explain the specific reasons for the response chosen.

Possible incentives include verbal recognition from the Court, applause, or a special gift for you or your children.

Possible sanctions include day reporting, work crew, or jail time. In the event you are given a sanction, its severity will depend upon several factors, including how long you've been in the program, your history of compliance or noncompliance, phase, previous sanctions imposed by the Court, and the nature of the infraction.

## Phases of the ITC

There are five phases to the FITC program. The time frames below indicate how long it takes to complete each phase. These should be considered estimates, as the actual time it takes will depend on each participant's unique circumstances. Typically, the program takes one year to complete. Your progress toward meeting specific phase requirements will be determined by the treatment team. The final decision regarding phase advancement is made by the Judge/Magistrate.

### **Phase I (2 weeks)**

Minimum Requirements:

- Attend substance abuse intake/evaluation at BCPH (or other approved treatment agency)
- Attend all required substance abuse treatment, therapeutic services, and

community support groups

- Attend all court appearances
- Attend all scheduled visitation (if applicable)
- Comply with Initial Protective Orders of the Court
- Comply with all random drug/alcohol monitoring

## **Phase 2 (12 weeks)**

Minimum Requirements:

- Attend and participate in all required substance abuse treatment, therapeutic services, and community support groups
- Attend all court appearances
- Attend all scheduled visitation (if applicable)
- Comply with all random drug/alcohol monitoring
- Comply with all court-ordered treatment plans
- Make acceptable efforts to establish sober/stable housing

To be eligible for Phase 3, participants must have a minimum of 30 consecutive days of sobriety.\*

## **Phase 3 (16 weeks)**

Minimum Requirements:

- Attend, participate, and engage in all substance abuse treatment, therapeutic services, and community support groups
- Attend all court appearances
- Attend all scheduled visitation (if applicable)
- Comply with all random drug/alcohol monitoring
- Comply with all court-ordered treatment plans
- Maintain sober/stable housing
- Develop a plan to address financial obligations, including treatment costs

To be eligible for Phase 4, participants must have a minimum of 30 consecutive days of sobriety.\*



**Phase 4 (10 weeks)**

## Minimum Requirements:

- Attend, participate and engage in all required substance abuse treatment, therapeutic services, and community support groups
- Attend all court appearances
- Attend all scheduled visitation (if applicable)
- Comply with all random drug/alcohol monitoring
- Comply with all court-ordered treatment plans
- Maintain sober/stable housing
- Make acceptable efforts to meet financial obligations, including treatment costs

To be eligible for Phase 5, participants must have a minimum of 30 consecutive days of sobriety.\*

**Phase 5 (8 weeks)**

## Minimum Requirements:

- Attend, participate and engage in all required substance abuse treatment, therapeutic services, and community support groups
- Attend all court appearances
- Attend all scheduled visitation (if applicable)
- Comply with all random drug/alcohol monitoring
- Comply with all court-ordered treatment plans
- Maintain sober/stable housing
- Make acceptable efforts to meet financial obligations, including treatment costs

\* Transition from one phase to the next includes a sobriety requirement. Given the lag time between testing and when results are received, should a person be promoted to the next phase and the results indicate use, dilution, or tampering, the promotion will be rescinded until the participant fulfills the sobriety requirement.

## **Graduation Criteria**

Graduation from the FITC is an important event that demonstrates to the Court, the treatment team, and your family members that you have made significant changes in your life. Successful completion of the FITC is a major achievement!

Participants must meet the following criteria in order to be eligible for graduation:

- Successful completion of all five program phases
- Successful completion of all court-ordered treatment plans
- Be able to assist in permanency decisions regarding your children, (i.e. whether they should be returned to your care, placed with kin, placed in a foster/adoption home, etc.)
- Not be subject to a new D&N filing
- A minimum of 30 consecutive days of sobriety
- Financial obligations have been fully met, or an approved plan is in place

## **Termination from the ITC**

While every member of the ITC Team is committed to helping you successfully complete the program, there are certain events that can result in your being terminated from the ITC. If you are terminated from the program, you will not automatically lose your children. You will still have the opportunity to demonstrate to the Court that you can be a safe and stable parent.

The following are reasons for possible termination from the ITC:

1. You voluntarily request to leave the program.
2. You no longer live in Boulder County.
3. You fail to complete the assessment and evaluation with Boulder County Public Health in a timely manner.

4. You disappear from DSS supervision and fail to make contact with the department within 30 days of last contact.
5. You are arrested for a disqualifying criminal offense, such as Child Sexual Abuse, Criminal Enterprise Drug Sales or Child Abuse Involving Serious Bodily Injury or Death.
6. You are determined to have a condition that would prevent you from participating in or achieving benefits from the ITC's clinical program.
7. You fail to progress through the program phases in a reasonable period of time, as determined by the ITC Team.
8. Failing to attend court appearances (for reasons other than those beyond your control.)
9. Evidence of ongoing drug use (as opposed to an occasional relapse.)
10. A pattern of noncompliance that suggests you are either unable or unwilling to abide by program rules.

## **Courtroom Expectations**

When you appear before the Court, you will be expected to follow the guidelines below:

- Dress appropriately when appearing in court. Do not wear ripped jeans, halter tops, short skirts, or hats in the courtroom.
- Do not chew gum in the courtroom.
- Address the judge as "Your Honor," "Judge," "Sir," or "Madam."
- Answer questions with a "yes" or "no" instead of nodding or shaking your head.
- Do not bring cell phones or pagers into the courtroom.

## **Children in the Courtroom**

The FITC team understands that childcare is an issue for many participants. For this reason, children are welcome to accompany you to your court hearings. If a family member can also attend, they may care for the children in the Child Friendly Play Room just down the hall from Courtroom O.

Please note that the Judge or Magistrate may occasionally ask the children to leave the courtroom, such as before a sanction is imposed.

## **Important ITC Contact Information**

### **ITC Caseworkers:**

Kelly Karson	(303) 678-6036
Karey Montoya	(303) 678-6019
Aaron Seiden	(303) 678-6066

Office Location: Boulder County Department of Social Services  
529 Coffman Street, Longmont, CO 80501

### **BCPH Contacts:**

Diane Magliolo, Intake Specialist	(303) 441-1548
Jen Sutton, ITC Liaison	(303) 678-6143

Office Locations: Boulder County Department of Public Health  
3470 Broadway, Boulder, CO 80304  
529 Coffman, Longmont, CO 80501

<b>ITC Coordinator:</b> Harry McCrystal	(303) 441-4912
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**My Attorney:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Child(ren)'s Guardian ad litem:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Useful Community Resources

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
Alcoholics Anonymous	(303) 447-8201
Boulder Community Treatment Center (BCTC)	(303) 449-2539
Boulder County Attorney	(303) 441-3190
Boulder County Bar Association	(303) 440-4758
Boulder County Child Support Enforcement	(303) 441-1070
Boulder County Justice Center	(303) 441-3750
District Court, Juvenile Division	(303) 441-4765
Boulder County Dept. of Social Services	
Boulder:	(303) 441-1000
Longmont:	(303) 678-6000
Louisville:	(303) 413-7000
Boulder County Housing Authority	(303) 441-3929
Boulder Housing Partners	(720) 564-4610
Boulder Valley Women's Health Center	(303) 442-5160
Child Abuse Crisis Hotline	(303) 441-1240
Community Food Share (Longmont)	(303) 652-3663
Community Infant Program (CIP)	(303) 661-0433
Emergency Family Assistance Association (Boulder)	(303) 442-3042
Labor Ready (Boulder)	(303) 499-9288
Longmont Community Treatment Center (LCTC)	(303) 651-7071
Longmont Housing Authority	(303) 651-8581
Mental Health Center of Boulder & Broomfield Counties	
Boulder:	(303) 443-8500
Longmont:	(303) 684-0555
Metro Volunteer Lawyers	(303) 830-8210
Narcotics Anonymous	(303) 412-2884
OUR Center Day Shelter (Longmont)	(303) 772-5529
People's Clinic (Boulder)	(303) 449-6050
Probation, 20 <sup>th</sup> Judicial District	
Boulder:	(303) 441-3790
Longmont:	(720) 564-2555
Project Safeguard	(303) 863-7233
RTD Information	(303) 229-6000
Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence	(303) 449-8623
24 Hour Crisis Line:	(303) 444-2424
Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley (Longmont)	(303) 772-0432
24 Hour Crisis Line:	(303) 772-4422
Workforce Boulder County	
Boulder:	(303) 301-2900
Longmont:	(303) 651-1510