

Resolution # 24-107
Establishment of Regional Drug Court
Date
FY 2025

WHEREAS, the counties of Marshall, Putnam, and Stark are committed to addressing the growing issue of substance use disorder and its negative impact on our communities; and

WHEREAS, Substance use disorders have a detrimental effect on individuals, families, and the public, creating a need for effective intervention and treatment programs; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a Drug Court provides an opportunity to offer an alternative to traditional criminal justice processing, focusing on treatment, rehabilitation, and reintegration into society for individuals who are involved in the justice system due to substance use disorders; and

WHEREAS, a collaborative approach between Marshall, Putnam, and Stark Counties will allow the pooling of resources and expertise, making the creation of a regional Drug Court more efficient and effective in addressing substance abuse issues across these counties; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Marshall, Putnam, and Stark Counties will benefit from the development of a regional Drug Court that offers a comprehensive approach to treatment, accountability, and recovery, and will have access to services that may not otherwise be available within each individual county; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of such a court will promote public safety, reduce recidivism, and help individuals lead healthier, drug-free lives, while also easing the burden on local jails and courts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Boards of Marshall County, Putnam County, and Stark County hereby approve the creation of a joint regional Drug Court that will serve residents of all three counties and be governed by an intergovernmental agreement detailing the roles and responsibilities of each county.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The regional Drug Court will have a designated program coordinator, judicial officer, and support staff, who will work collaboratively across county lines to implement and oversee the program's operations.

2. The Drug Court will provide comprehensive services, including substance abuse treatment, counseling, case management, random drug testing, and educational or vocational programs for participants.
3. Funding for the Drug Court program will be secured through a combination of state, federal, and local resources, as well as grants, with each county contributing proportionally to support its operations.
4. A Joint Oversight Committee, made up of representatives from each county, will be established to monitor the program's effectiveness, evaluate its success, and ensure it is meeting the needs of the participants.
5. The Drug Court will adhere to all relevant state laws, court rules, and national best practices for drug courts, in order to ensure fairness, consistency, and accountability.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the necessary steps be taken immediately to begin the planning, development, and implementation of the regional Drug Court, including seeking any required state approval, establishing the necessary partnerships, and engaging community stakeholders to ensure the success of the program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption by the County Boards of Marshall, Putnam, and Stark Counties.

PRESENTED, ADOPTED, APPROVED AND RECORDED this 14 day of November 2024.

Attest [Signature]
Marshall County Clerk

[Signature]
Henry Gauwitz, Chairman
Marshall County Board Chairman

Ayes: 12
Nays: 0
Absent: 0
Abstain: 0

Attest _____
Putnam County Clerk

Charlie Lenkaitis, Chairman
Putnam County Board Chairman

Ayes: _____
Nays: _____
Absent: _____
Abstain: _____

Attest _____
Stark County Clerk

Kari Bush, Chairman
Stark County Board Chairman

Ayes: _____

Nays: _____

Absent: _____

Abstain: _____