The Warren County Drug Court (WCDC) Program is a specialized docket of the Warren County Common Pleas Court that held its first session on Wednesday, February 3, 2016.

Through the efforts of numerous staff from the Warren County Common Pleas Court and the local community, an Advisory Committee was established in the summer of 2015 and initial certification was received on December 31, 2015.

The Warren County Drug Court Program was originally set up as a program to target the growing heroin epidemic in Warren County. The Program currently accepts all substance abuse offenders. Defendants that qualify for the Warren County Drug Court program will engage in a high level of treatment and accountability. They will participate in Drug Court for an estimated fifteen months. During this time an emphasis is placed on acquiring employment, housing, participating in sober support, and obtaining a driver’s license.

Warren County is privileged to have a Drug Court to assist in curbing the epidemic substance use problem in the area.

Judge Robert W. Peeler is the Warren County Drug Court Judge.

**Mission Statement**

The mission of WCDC is to enhance community safety and restore productive law abiding citizens by breaking the cycle of drug and alcohol addiction. WCDC will provide a court-managed monitoring Program, that assists Participants with substance use disorder diagnosis in developing a sober lifestyle through evidence based intervention and treatment in a non-adversarial approach, as an alternative to traditional case processing. WCDC will strive to transform these offenders into positive, contributing members of the community thereby closing the “revolving door” to the criminal justice system.

**The Ten Key Components**

The National Association of Drug Court Professionals has identified ten key components for successful Drug Courts. These elements, as set forth below, are considered essential to a Drug Court’s success and WCDC strives to incorporate all of them:

1) Drug Courts integrate alcohol and other drug treatment services with justice system case processing.

2) Using a non-adversarial approach, prosecution and defense counsel promote public safety while protecting Participants’ due process rights.

3) Eligible Participants are identified early and promptly placed in the Program.

4) Drug Courts provide access to a continuum of alcohol, drug and other related treatment and rehabilitation services.

5) Abstinence is monitored by frequent alcohol and other drug testing.

6) A coordinated strategy governs Drug Court responses to Participants’ compliance.

7) Ongoing judicial interaction with each Program Participant is essential.
8) Monitoring and evaluation measure the achievement of Program goals and gauge effectiveness.

9) Continuing interdisciplinary education promotes effective Program planning, implementation and operations.

10) Forging partnerships among Drug Courts, public agencies, and community-based organizations generates local support and enhances WCDC effectiveness.

CLICK BOX BELOW FOR ATTACHED DOCUMENT:

- WCDC Participation Agreement
- WCDC Participant Handbook
- WCDC Program Description
- WCDC Application
- WCDC Entry Ordering Assessment

Contact Information:

Monica Thomas
WCDC Coordinator
Monica.Thomas@co.warren.oh.us
513.695.2575

Jan Egner
Warren County Adult Probation and Court Services Programming
Jan.Egner@co.warren.oh.us
513.695.2552

Jennifer Burnside
Court Administrator
Warren County Common Pleas Court
Jennifer.Burnside@co.warren.oh.us
513.695.1570