

*"I want to be productive and actively pursue goals that I set for myself."*

-Regional Mental Health Court graduate



*"Mental Health Court has helped me stay focused."*

-Regional Mental Health Court graduate

## What is unique about this program?

King County District Court recognizes that people with mental health challenges sometimes need additional, individualized support within the criminal justice system, to further their recovery and accountability. The King County Regional Mental Health Court benefits individuals and the overall community by providing a therapeutic response that helps defendants recover, while addressing the underlying issues that can contribute to further criminal activity. The program's success is based on a collaborative, team-based approach, supplemented by judicial monitoring.

## What are the expectations of Regional Mental Health Court?

Every treatment plan is unique, but typical conditions of supervision include:

- Comply with conditions of treatment and up to 24 months of supervision
- Be actively engaged in mental health treatment and/or substance use treatment, as recommended
- Take prescribed medications as directed
- Maintain court-approved housing and follow all housing rules (the RMHC team can assist with housing placements)
- Submit to urinalysis, as directed
- Report to a probation mental health court specialist as directed by the judge
- Return to court for reviews on a regular basis

## Questions?

Please contact the Regional Mental Health Court program manager/coordinator:

**[mentalhealthcourt@kingcounty.gov](mailto:mentalhealthcourt@kingcounty.gov)**  
**206-477-1692**

Regional Mental Health Court prosecutor:

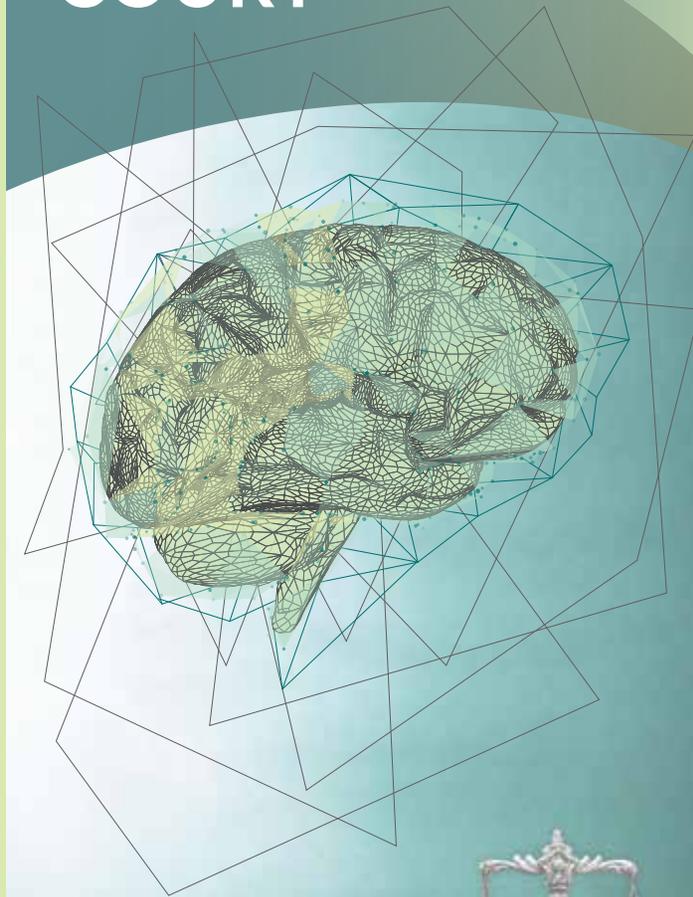
**[paomhc@kingcounty.gov](mailto:paomhc@kingcounty.gov)**

**[tinyurl.com/regional-mental-health-court](http://tinyurl.com/regional-mental-health-court)**



**King County  
District Court**

# REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH COURT



## How does a case get into Regional Mental Health Court?

- **Felony cases** – the superior court prosecutor must make the referral.
- **Municipal court cases** – the city prosecutor must make the referral.
- **State misdemeanor cases** – any party may make a referral to RMHC, including the judge or defense attorney.

Law enforcement and other interested parties may contact the King County Prosecutor's Office at [paomhc@kingcounty.gov](mailto:paomhc@kingcounty.gov) at any time to initiate a referral.

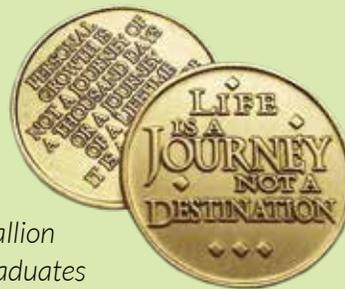


## What are the eligibility criteria?

- Act occurred in King County
- Major mental illness (severe and persistent Axis I disorder)
- Amendable to treatment
- Agreeable to Mental Health Court conditions, supervision, and monitoring

## What happens once the case is referred to Regional Mental Health Court?

- Defendants appear at RMHC and meet the RMHC clinician to learn about the program and to schedule a screening appointment to determine program eligibility.
- If the defendant is eligible for RMHC and willing to engage with program requirements, the court clinician will draft a plan specific to the defendant's needs.



*Inspirational medallion given to RMHC graduates*

## Who is on the Regional Mental Health Court team?

Regional Mental Health Court consists of a team of professionals who have specialized training and experience with mental health issues and therapeutic courts. They meet regularly to ensure that RMHC functions at its highest possible level.

### The team consists of:

- Judge
- Defense attorneys and defense social workers
- Prosecutors and victim advocate
- Outreach specialist
- Probation mental health specialists
- Court clinicians
- Program manager



[tinyurl.com/regional-mental-health-court](https://tinyurl.com/regional-mental-health-court)