

## TRSC Mission

The mission of the Thumb Regional Sobriety Court is to serve the communities within Huron, Sanilac, and Tuscola Counties through improving public safety by focusing on drivers operating vehicles while under the influence of legal and illegal substances. The participants will be involved in intensive court supervision combined with treatment to provide a proactive response to the problem of driving while under the influence. This will aid in reducing recidivism while minimizing incarceration time, therefore reducing jail expenses to the communities. As a result, this will provide an opportunity to positively impact lives of offenders and families, encouraging personal responsibility towards being a law abiding, productive, and substance free citizen.

## CONTACT US

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# Thumb Regional Sobriety Court



[tuscolacountycourts.org/trial-courts/circuit-court/trsc](http://tuscolacountycourts.org/trial-courts/circuit-court/trsc)



**Thumb Regional Sobriety Court**  
440 N. State Street, Caro, MI 48723

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## Thumb Regional Sobriety Court

*Trust    Accountability    Honesty*

*Success*

# Numbers to Know

## Huron County

### Treatment Providers

Huron Behavioral Health (989) 269-9293  
List Psychological Services (989) 453-3051

### Probation

Department of Corrections Probation (989) 269-9975  
District Court Probation (989) 269-9530

### Drug Testing

A Chance to Change (989) 269-8362

## Tuscola County

### Treatment Providers

List Psychological (989) 673-5700  
New Light Consultants (989) 672-0784  
Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems (989) 673-6191

### Probation

Department of Corrections Probation (989) 672-3760  
District Court Probation (989) 672-3810

### Drug Testing

D.R.O.P/Karen Urban (989) 673-3113  
Tuscola County Jail (989) 673-8161

## Sanilac County

### Treatment Providers

Sanilac Community Mental Health (810) 648-0330  
Sanilac County Health Department (810) 648-4172  
Lexington Community Counseling Center (810) 359-2711

### Probation

Department of Corrections Probation (810) 648-4546  
District Court Probation (810) 648-3910

### Drug Testing

A Chance to Change (810) 648-9144  
Sanilac County Jail (810) 648-2000

## SANCTIONS

During your participation in the program you are expected to comply with your terms of probation, requirements of the court, and suggestions from your treatment provider and Case Manager. If you fail to comply with any terms during your involvement in TRSC, there will be sanctions based on that behavior/non-compliance. Sanctions range based on the severity of the situation/offense. We recommend that if you are unsure whether a behavior/circumstance/situation/etc. is acceptable, double check with your Case Manager and/or TRSC team. If in doubt, don't do it.

## INCENTIVES

There is more to this program than getting your life back, and that's a pretty big incentive in itself. We want you to know we recognize those changes you've undertaken and reward your positive behavior. At the many milestones within the program your progress is incentivized and rewarded; these milestones include phase promotions, 90 meetings in 90 days, sobriety days, and graduation. We also strive to acknowledge your daily progress and success, you're making great changes!

## TERMINATION FROM TRSC

If the TRSC Judge feels that you are no longer a fit for the program based on negative performance, you may be terminated from the program. Termination will include a probation violation petition and formal violation hearing which could result in significant incarceration.

Examples of behaviors that will result in termination from TRSC:

- Crime of Violence
- Driving while under the influence
- Sabotaging another individual's sobriety
- Multiple program non-compliance sanctions

## DESIGNED FOR YOUR SUCCESS

The Thumb Regional Sobriety Court (TRSC) is a treatment oriented court with many community members encouraging your sobriety and success in the program. Your treatment team includes Judge Amy Grace Gierhart, who will oversee your case while you are in TRSC. The team also includes case managers, a program coordinator, assistant prosecutors, probation/parole officers, jail administrators, treatment providers, a defense attorney, a mentor coordinator, and 12-step program representatives.

Treatment courts are geared towards successful sobriety through intensive treatment options, supervision, and accountability. Treatment courts have been extremely successful in reducing recidivism and encouraging participants to be productive members of the community. This program attempts to do this without the common 'criminal stigma' typically associated with involvement in the criminal justice system. If you have struggled or failed with traditional approaches to rehabilitation, our program is designed to give the needed support to encourage successful sobriety.

We are here to help you. Our diverse team can offer insight and suggestions that may not have been available to you during traditional court experiences. We want you to know we are invested in your sobriety and successful completion of this program. We understand that change does not occur immediately and without intense work on your part and we want you to know that we are supportive of your choice to be a part of Thumb Regional Sobriety Court.

This handbook is designed to help you understand what is expected of you during your time in the program. All treatment is individualized based on specific needs and the input of the treatment team, and ultimately the Judge overseeing your case. It is up to you to ask questions and clarify any confusion you may have in regards to what is required of you.

# PROGRAM AND PHASES

The Thumb Regional Sobriety Court program is designed to last between 15 to 24 months. There are four phases which you must complete before being eligible for graduation. Although there are four phases, each individual will complete the program at the length that is necessary for optimal success based on their needs. All timeframes and requirements are guidelines and may be adjusted based on the treatment team's input and Judge's decision. Please refer to your signed Program Agreement to review program rules. If you are ever confused over what is required of you, please contact your case manager or member of the treatment team.

It may feel overwhelming at first glance, but remember there are other participants that have done these phases successfully! Successful sobriety can be achieved, but you need to be invested in the program and most importantly invested in YOURSELF!

## Points to Remember

- **Honesty and open communication** are key components of TRSC. Therefore, it is best to be honest with yourself as well as the TRSC team when issues arise. TRSC decisions are made on an individual basis. Therefore, since each participant is different, do not compare your progress and success to other participants.
- Please dress appropriately for court. Hats, sunglasses, shorts, tank tops, or inappropriate attire will not be allowed and you will be asked to leave. Appropriate sanctions may be imposed for missing court.

## Orientation

Orientation starts after you have been through the referral process, accepted into the program, and sentenced to TRSC.

Orientation is a transition into TRSC that lasts a minimum of 14 days

- Complete Needs Assessment & Referrals
- Substance Use Disorder/Mental Health Treatment Referral
- Attend Medical Physical – Medical Disclosure Agreement
- SCRAM Enrollment/Urine Drug Testing
- Case Management Appointments – Random Home Visits
- Attend Court and Peer Support Groups twice per month
- 9PM Curfew

## TRSC Fees and Costs

**Program fees:** \$100 Assessment *Payable to the Court*  
\$50 Monthly fee *Payable to the Court*

If program fees (\$850 for 15 month-minimum) are paid in full before advancement to Phase 2, no additional monthly fees will be assessed.

### SCRAM:

Chance to Change: \$100 Installation Fee & \$11/day

MDOC: \$13/day – No Installation Fee

\* Low-Income Options Available.

**SOBERLINK:** \$50 Installation Fee *Payable to House Arrest Services*  
\$6.50 Daily Cost

**Ignition Interlock:** \$75 Installation fee *Payable to American Interlock*  
\$110 Monthly fee *Payable to American Interlock*

**Drug/Alcohol Testing:** This price varies based on what type of testing is used and how often you are required to test. TRSC will pay for up to 4 tests per month (at Chance to Change –OR- D.R.O.P) per participant to offset your financial responsibility while in the program. Participants will be required to submit to a urine drug/alcohol screen a MINIMUM of 8 times per month. (Majority of tests cost \$10 each)

**Treatment Provider:** Costs are based on insurance and income level. Please contact your treatment provider's billing department to get more information. All costs associated with treatment are paid through your treatment provider.

**All fees and costs are subject to change. Remember to be financially responsible when considering costs and payment schedules. Your case manager will be available to review any questions or concerns about financial requirements.**

## **Phase 4** (3 month minimum)

Once you reach phase 4, you will have already been approved for graduation, contingent on continued compliance. Phase 4 is a transition phase which will help prepare you for life after the program. At the start of this phase, reassessment for risk level and substance abuse may be required.

At minimum in this phase you will be required to:

- Case management meetings, frequency determined by case manager.
- Participate in random home visits
- Attend court once every 6 weeks
- Submit to urine drug/alcohol testing
- Attend therapeutic after-care sessions prior to and after graduation as required
- Complete discharge plan with case manager
- Completion and presentation of reflective writing assignment if required
- Maintain sobriety for 90 days
- Sanction free for 60 days
- TRSC fees paid in full

Phase 4 is your last phase before graduation which allows for more independence and less supervision by the TRSC team and Case Manager. Although the program requirements may lessen, you will be encouraged to determine what structure and services best support your sobriety and participate in them appropriately.

Graduation and successful completion is contingent on the confirmation of all urine drug screen results. Formal discharge will occur after results are finalized and reviewed by case management team

## **Phase 1** (4 month minimum)

Phase 1 starts after you have completed the orientation stage.

Phase 1 focuses on obtaining and maintaining stability and structure and establishing initial sober time. It is also designed to be intensive, supportive, and get you off on the right foot for sobriety.

At minimum in this phase you will be required to:

- Meet with your case manager on a weekly basis
- Participate in random home visits
- Attend court and peer support group twice per month
- Attend group and/or individual treatment sessions, as determined by treatment provider
- Submit to urine drug/alcohol testing. (SCRAM or SOBERLINK)
- Complete 90/90 support groups/12-step meetings. After 90/90 completion, three (3) support groups/meetings are required per week
- Attend 1 mentor-sponsored sober event if applicable.
- Adhere to 9PM Curfew
- Develop payment plan for program fees
- Develop personal budget

### **Phase Advancement**

The TRSC team will discuss your individual progress and needs throughout Phase 1 and to ensure you have met certain milestones that include but are not limited to:

- Maintain sobriety for 14 consecutive days
- Sanction free for 30 days
- Complete 90/90.
- Submission of budget and payment plan
- Compliant attendance and engagement in all treatment, case management, and probation appointments.

### **Sobriety Court Restricted License Eligibility**

- 45 days of verified sobriety – all negative UDS & SCRAM results.
- Remain compliant with all court and treatment recommendations.  
\*If determined eligible from the Secretary of State and approved for a restricted license by the TRSC judge, an ignition interlock device must be installed before the license will be issued by the Secretary of State.

## **Phase 2 (4 month minimum)**

Phase 2 focuses on relapse prevention planning and behavior modification. During this phase, you will be required to adhere to program requirements and expectations as well as develop and complete a relapse prevention plan or reflective assignment with your treatment provider. We understand that relapses may occur, however, it is your goal to work on how to identify and discuss preventative methods with your treatment provider and case management team.

At minimum in this phase you will be required to:

- Meet with your Case Manager on a bi-weekly basis
- Participate in random home visits
- Attend court twice per month
- Maintain compliance with all recommendations of treatment provider
- Submit to urine drug/alcohol testing
- Attend a minimum of 3 support groups/meetings per week
- Adhere to curfew as directed by case manager
- Attend 1 Mentor sponsored sober event if applicable
- Maintain consistency with payment plan
- Write and present relapse prevention plan/reflective assignment

### **Phase Advancement**

- Maintain sobriety for 30 consecutive days
- Sanction free for 30 days
- Consistent payment plan adherence
- Completion and presentation of relapse prevention plan
- Compliant attendance and engagement in all treatment, case management, and probation appointments
- Discuss timeline of completion of treatment services.

## **Phase 3 (4 month minimum)**

Phase 3 supports a healthy re-entry into the community with a focus on healthy living, expanding sober support systems, participating in sober activities, and achieving work/life balance. You will be required to complete a graduation application before advancing to phase 4. You may be required to complete a healthy living plan or other writing assignments, if you are assigned these they will need to be completed before advancement.

At minimum in this phase you will be required to:

- Monthly case management meetings
- Participate in random home visits
- Attend court once per month
- Submit to urine drug/alcohol testing
- Attend a minimum of 1 support group/meeting per week
- Maintain consistency with payment plan
- Complete community service (20 hours for Misdemeanor/40 hours for Felony)
- Attend 1 Mentor sponsored sober event if applicable
- Complete graduation application and other writing assignments as required

### **Phase Advancement**

- Maintain sobriety for 60 consecutive days
- Sanction free for 45 days
- Consistent payment plan adherence
- Completion and approval of graduation application and healthy living plan.
- Completion of community service requirement
- Compliant attendance in all case management and probation appointments
- Compliant attendance and engagement in all treatment leading to successful completion of Substance Abuse treatment