
Monitoring by the Court: The court monitors the participant's adherence to the case plan through regularly held status hearings and receives reports on the participant's progress. If treatment non-adherence occurs, the court may adjust the plan to motivate adherence or employ non-jail-based sanctions or incarceration.

Invitation:

Court is open to the public and anyone may observe ACRP Hearings.

Judge Patrick Hanley
Courtroom 28
Monday at 2:45 P.M.

Judge Jennifer Henderson
Courtroom 28
Tuesday and Wednesday at 2:45 P.M.

Boney Courthouse 303 K Street.
Anchorage, AK 99501

For more information:

ACRP Project Coordinator
303 K Street Anchorage, AK 99501
Phone: 907-264-0886
Fax: 907-265-0137
ksumey@akcourts.us

Referral Process

Anyone can make a referral to the Anchorage Coordinated Resources Project. Police, corrections staff, lawyers, friends, family members, community behavioral health providers, judges, and court staff can alert the Project Coordinator that a defendant may be eligible to have his or her case heard in this therapeutic court.

For more information on court observation days and times, or to make a referral, contact the Project Coordinator at (907)264-0886.

The Anchorage Coordinated Resources Project is a collaborative effort of:

- Alaska Court System
- Alaska Department of Corrections
- Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
- Alaska Office of Public Advocacy
- Alaska Department of Law
- Alaska Public Defender Agency
- Alcohol Safety Action Program (ASAP)
- Anchorage Municipal Prosecutor's Office
- Denali Law Group
- Criminal Defense Attorneys
- Community Behavioral Health Providers
- Consumers and Family Members

For more information about this publication, please call the Alaska Court System Administrative Office at
(907) 264-8240
820 West Fourth Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Alaska Therapeutic Courts

Anchorage Coordinated Resources Project

Anchorage Mental Health Court

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What is the Anchorage Coordinated Resources Project (ACRP)?

The Anchorage Coordinated Resources Project (ACRP) - also known as the Anchorage Mental Health Court - is a voluntary “therapeutic” or “problem-solving” court located within the Anchorage District Court that hears cases involving individuals with mental disabilities who are charged with criminal offenses.

Created in 1998, the ACRP is a post booking diversionary response to the problem of “criminalization” or an increased likelihood that people with mental disabilities will be processed through the criminal justice system instead of the mental health system. The court diverts people with mental disabilities charged with criminal offenses from incarceration and into appropriate community treatment and services to prevent further contacts with the criminal justice system.

The project supports the well-being of individuals with mental illness by identifying criminogenic risk factors (factors known to impact recidivism) and developing a comprehensive case plan that is responsive to the needs of the participant. The plan addresses mental health and substance issues, educational and vocational deficits, family and relationship problems, criminal thinking, housing, promotes engagement in meaningful activities and increases overall social functioning.

Objectives of the Anchorage Community Resources Project:

- Promote public safety
- Reduce inappropriate incarceration of offenders with mental health disorders and promote their well-being in the community
- Relieve the burden on the Alaska Department of Corrections presented by inmates with mental health disabilities
- Reduce repeated criminal activity among mentally disabled offenders (legal recidivism)
- Reduce psychiatric hospitalization of mentally disabled offenders (clinical recidivism).

Who is Eligible?

To be eligible for participation in the ACRP, a defendant must be:

- Charged with a misdemeanor crime or Class C felony
- Diagnosed with a mental illness (Mental Health Trust Beneficiary)
- Residing in the Municipality of Anchorage
- Willing to voluntarily participate in an individualized case plan in lieu of traditional bail or sentencing conditions
- Eligible to receive community behavioral health services

How the Anchorage Coordinated Resources Project / Mental Health Court works

The court diverts eligible offenders with mental health disorders from jail and into appropriate community treatment, focusing on their individual therapeutic and criminogenic needs (factors that are predictive of recidivism). With the second generation of mental health courts we follow criminal justice research that emphasizes the importance of addressing criminogenic needs when the case plan is developed.

Collaborative Team Approach: An important highlight of the CRP project is to provide a single point of contact for a criminal defendant with a mental health disorder. The project provides a multidisciplinary team of designated and trained judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys and probation officers who consistently participate in court hearings.

Community Treatment: A defendant is eligible to receive assistance from the projects in developing, coordinating and monitoring an individualized case plan. The court orders that plan as a condition of bail or probation. Participants are monitored by Probation Officers who work exclusively with the CRP projects. CRP probation officers are employed by the Division of Behavioral Health, Alcohol Safety Action Program. Probation Officers provide treatment and resource matching, linkage to and monitoring of the case plan.