

+For immediate release

October 27th 2011

Mansfield Municipal Mental Health Court Graduation on October 31st, 2011–Press Release

Attached is a press release for the Mansfield Municipal Court graduation.

Please contact me if you have any questions. Mark Cox-419-755-9603

We would encourage you to attend.

The Mansfield Municipal Mental Health Court will be having a graduation ceremony on October 31st, 2011 at The Center for Individual and Family Services, 741 Scholl Rd. at 11:00am followed by a reception. The keynote speakers will be Judge Frank Ardis Jr. and Judge Jerry Ault of the Mansfield Municipal Court.

. The Mansfield Municipal Mental Health Court was formed and began operating on January 1st, 2004 and was the third of its kind in Ohio. It was developed to coordinate Court supervision services with treatment providers to divert non-violent misdemeanor offenders with severe mental illness from repeated encounters with law enforcement and the jails by increasing treatment compliance and access to services. Some of these services include medication, group and individual counseling, housing, case management, crisis intervention, education and employment. This project was implemented without additional funding from the residents of Mansfield and Richland County.

The Mansfield Municipal Mental Health Court is a voluntary diversion program providing intense supervision of offenders that involves home visits, curfew checks, drug and alcohol testing and increased communication with the treatment providers. The length of a participant's involvement in the program is determined by their individual needs and progress as well as community safety needs. The Mental Health Court has served over 350 participants thus far and has had 80 successfully complete the program.

For more information, please contact Mark Cox, Treatment Court Coordinator for the Mansfield Municipal Court at 419-755-9603.