

# TEHAMA COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY



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## Public Service Announcement

For Immediate Release

### TEHAMA COUNTY TREATMENT COURTS' GRADUATION CEREMONY HONORING ADULT DRUG COURT and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COURT GRADUATES MAY 9, 2017 – 5:30 PM

Tehama County Adult Drug Court and Behavioral Health Court are Specialty Treatment Courts that handle felony court cases involving person(s) with a significant Substance Use Disorder and/or Mental Illness. These types of Treatment Courts have proven to be an effective treatment-based alternative to incarceration.

The Tehama County Adult Drug Court and Behavioral Health Court programs were established through a collaborative effort between the Tehama County Health Services Agency, Tehama County Superior Court, Tehama County District Attorney, Tehama County Sheriff's Office, Tehama County Probation, Public Defense Counsel, Tehama County Department of Social Services, Tehama County Employment and Educational programs and other community partners.

The Adult Drug Court and Behavioral Health Court programs make extensive use of comprehensive probation supervision, drug testing, treatment services, vocational and educational services and frequent court appearances to support participants in healing and recovering from Substance Use and/or Mental Health Illnesses and criminal thinking/behavior patterns.

For over two decades, these types of Treatment Courts have led the charge in criminal justice reform providing a more humane, cost effective justice system. Research demonstrates that Treatment Courts provide a highly effective alternative to incarceration for individuals whose involvement in the criminal justice system is rooted in serious addiction to drugs and alcohol and/or mental illness. By keeping drug-addicted and mentally ill offenders out of jail and in treatment, Treatment Courts have been proven to reduce drug abuse and crime; while saving money.

#### **FACT: Drug Courts Reduce Crime**

- Nationwide, 75% of Drug Court graduates remain arrest-free at least two years after leaving the program.

**FACT: Drug Courts save Money**

- Drug Courts save money reflected in reduced prison costs, reduced revolving-door arrests and trials, and reduced victimization.

**FACT: Drug Courts Ensure Treatment Compliance**

- Unless substance abusing/addicted offenders are regularly supervised by a judge and held accountable, 70% drop out of treatment prematurely.

The Tehama County Adult Drug Court and Behavioral Health Court Teams are proud to be a part of the success experienced by Specialty Courts nationwide.

Please join us on May 9, 2017 @ 5:30pm at the Tehama County Department of Education, 1135 Lincoln Street, Red Bluff, when the Tehama County Adult Drug Court and Behavioral Health Court Teams will celebrate the success of eleven (11) Specialty Court graduates.

For additional information, please contact Patrice Tamp at (530) 527-7893 x 3410.