

Athens County Common Pleas Court Veterans Treatment Court

Participants Handbook



Athens County Court of Common Pleas, General Division
Specialized Docket – Veterans Court
1 S. Court Street
Athens, Ohio 45701

(740) 593-3591 Telephone
(740) 592-3020 Fax

JUDGE GEORGE P. McCARTHY
VETERANS COURT PRESIDING JUDGE

Revised 9/7/2017

Table of Contents

Introduction and Program Description Summary	Page 3
Program Requirements/Phase Advancement Schedule	Page 7
Sanctions	Page 10
Drug Testing Procedures	Page 10
Incentives	Page 12
Veterans Court Requirements	Page 13
Completion Criteria	Page 15
Veterans Court Schedule	Page 14
Mentor Program and Give-Back Projects	Page 15
Employment Information and Tips	Page 16
Participation Agreement	Page 19
Release of Information Authorization	Page 22
Entrance Survey	Page 23
Graduate Survey	Page 24
Aftercare Plan	Page 25
Service Provider Information	Page 27

Introduction & Program Description Summary

Welcome to the Athens County Veterans Treatment Court Program for veterans and active duty service members of the United States Military. The motto of the Athens County Veterans Court is “**Reclaiming Your Life.**” This program is in existence to assist you in your completion of Intensive Supervised Probation, to connect you to services within the Veterans Administration (VA), and to local community partners. The goal is to give you the tools and support necessary to deal with life’s issues including, but not limited to, substance abuse and/or mental health issues that may have resulted in your being involved in the criminal justice system. This handbook sets forth your rights and responsibilities.

Veterans Court is designed to allow you to complete your probation in one (1) calendar year. However, it must be completed within two (2) calendar years. Failure to comply with all requirements of the program will result in an unsuccessful termination from the program and you will be required to appear before the assigned sentencing judge and/or your case is returned to the regular docket.

Please be advised that the Veterans Court Program is a VOLUNTARY program. If you are not committed/interested in Veterans Court, you should contact your probation officer immediately to discuss further options.

Your rights and responsibilities are outlined in the participation agreement attached to this handbook which you are required to sign upon entering the program. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your rights, please ask the public defender on the treatment team or contact your attorney. You preserve the right to request the attendance of defense counsel during a Specialized Docket treatment team meeting concerning your case. If you have questions regarding your responsibilities in the program, contact your attorney for more details.

Admission Criteria/Eligibility:

The Veterans Court presiding judge has discretion to decide the admission into and/or termination from the Veterans Court Program in accordance with the following criteria. The below criteria, however, does not create a right for participation in the Athens County Veterans Treatment Court Program. Participation is voluntary and considered to be a privilege. The judge must admit you to the program.

All participants generally must:

- Be an Athens County, Ohio resident
- Have charge(s) eligible for diversion, probation, or re-entry programming
- Be a veteran or an active duty service member of the United States Military including: Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, National Guard, Reserves, and Homeland Security or similar agency.
- Benefit from receiving specialized supervision and services
- Demonstrate an interest and willingness to participate in Veterans Court
- Enter a plea of Guilty to the charged offense(s) and sign all waivers and agreements, and/or participate as a condition of bond.

Procedures for Entry into Veterans Court:

You must sign a release of information to allow the Veterans Court Treatment Team to determine your eligibility for services through the VA and local community partners. As part of the requirements of Veterans Court, you must be compliant with the Veterans Court orders and instructions at all times.

Upon meeting with the Court you will review, sign and submit the attached releases to the VTC (Veterans Treatment Court) Coordinator, Mahala Runyon. You have also been provided with the Veterans Court Schedule and a start date for your first session.

1. Status review hearings are held bi-weekly throughout Phase I of the program. You report monthly throughout Phase II-IV of the program.
2. You are required to appear at the courthouse at 2:30 p.m. to meet with your Veteran Mentor (VM). Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) Status Review Hearings start at 3:00 p.m.
3. Attendance to BOTH the mentoring session and status review hearings are **MANDATORY** and are a strict requirement of the Veterans Court Program.
4. **Failure to appear and/or tardiness for a session will result in a sanction or termination from the program.**
5. If you are employed or are a student and your work/class hours conflict with this time, contact your attorney and VM and the Veterans Court Coordinator immediately to discuss permission for attending late on the docket.
6. If you find that you are ill and unable to attend Court, please contact your attorney, VM or the Veterans Court Coordinator or the Court immediately and be prepared to submit proof of either a doctor's note or emergency room record to verify the reason you are unable to attend. **Failure to submit proof of these documents will result in sanctions or could result in termination from the program.**
7. Mentoring and Status Review Hearings will be held at: **ATHENS COUNTY COURTHOUSE (CORNER OF COURT STREET AND W. WASHINGTON STREET), COMMON PLEAS COURTROOM A (THIRD FLOOR), 1 S. COURT STREET, ATHENS, OHIO 45701, (740)593-3591**

DD214

You will need to bring a copy of your DD214. Please bring a copy of this document to your first Veterans Court session. If you do not have a copy of your DD214 you will be asked to sign a release to the Veterans Justice Outreach specialist allowing the Ohio Department of Veterans Services to obtain a copy for you.

Athens County Veterans Court Treatment Team Members:

The Treatment Team wants to see you succeed and graduate from the program!

Frequent contact is maintained between Veterans Court Team members in order to monitor program compliance and to stay informed of any new problems and concerns. Reports are prepared for each participant by Veterans Court staff, and are reviewed during a team meeting prior to each court session.

The Treatment Team is non-adversarial. That means the team works toward the goal of getting participants the help they need to successfully graduate from the program. While non-adversarial, the program recognizes the following duties of certain parties:

- a) The Prosecutor's Office has the distinct role in pursuing justice and protecting public safety and Victims' Rights.
- b) Defense counsel's distinct role is to preserve the constitutional rights of the program participants.
- c) The program participant (you) has the right to request defense counsel to be present during the portion of the Specialized Docket Treatment Team meeting that concerns you.

The Veterans Court Treatment Team includes but is not limited to:

Name	Title	Organization
Hon. George P. McCarthy	Presiding Judge	Veterans Court-Court of Common Pleas
Keller J. Blackburn	Athens Co. Prosecuting Attorney	Athens Co. Prosecutor's Office
Herman A. Carson	State of Ohio Public Defender's Office	
	Athens Branch Director Athens Co.	Public Defender's Office
Marianna Carson	Probation Director APA	Athens Adult Parole Authority
John Koren	Probation Department APA	Intensive Supervision Probation
Chief Thomas Pyle	Law Enforcement Representative	Athens Police Department
Sheriff Rodney Smith	Law Enforcement Representative	Athens County Sheriff's Dept.
Dr. Joe Gay	Treatment Provider	Health Recovery Services
Sandy Sickles	Treatment Provider	Hopewell Health Center
Ty Engle	Treatment Provider	Appalachian Behavioral Healthcare
Jonah Mullins	Treatment Provider	P.R.I.S.M.
Dennis Johnson	Treatment Provider	T.A.S.C.
Treasa Lucas	Treatment Provider	Flores & Associates
Tisha Hardin-Spradlin	Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist	Veterans Administration
Dr. Stephen Owens	Veteran Treatment Liaison	VA Athens Outpatient Clinic
Shawn Stover	Ohio Means Jobs – Athens County	Employment Representative
Tammy Thatcher	Program Coordinator	Court of Common Pleas
Mahala Runyon	Assignment Commissioner	Court of Common Pleas
Cindy McFerren	Veteran Mentor Coordinator	Court of Common Pleas
Jillian Wright	Intake/Interview Specialist	Court of Common Pleas

- Judge George McCarthy is the chair of the Treatment Team and attends all the Treatment Team Meetings.
- The Treatment Team is initially comprised of the above persons or their representative.
- The Veterans Court Program has a Treatment Team which meets prior to status review hearings to review the status of program participants and potential candidates.
- The Treatment Team meets from time to time as set by the chair to discuss matters concerning the Veterans Court program and its participants as it sees necessary to track participant's progress and completion of the program.
- The Treatment Team is responsible for the day to day operations of the program.
- Treatment Team members are anticipated to engage in ongoing communications with Team Members including frequent and timely exchanges of information as needed concerning treatment of the participant.
- Treatment Team members will respect the opinions of other Team Members and show respect for their expertise in their individual positions.
- Treatment Team members are anticipated to be State Licensed professionals in their respective fields for purposes of treatment, are to maintain licensure individually and as an agency (if applicable) and are trained to deliver services as a condition of participation in the program.
- Teams Members are anticipated to seek and maintain continuing education credit in the field of treatment in their areas of expertise.

Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO) Specialist:

The VJO specialist serves as a liaison between the Veterans Administration (VA) and the Athens County Veterans Court Team. Your VJO at this time is **Tisha Hardin-Spradlin**, Chillicothe VA Medical Center, 17273 State Route 104, Chillicothe, OH 45601 (740) 773-1141 tisha.hardin-spradlin@va.gov

You will be required to meet with the VJO upon entering the Veterans Court Program. She will coordinate with your probation officer and he will schedule an appointment with you during status review hearings. This is to assess any registration issues with the VA and to assist you in connecting to the appropriate

services. Please be advised that the VJO commutes from the Chillicothe area and failures to appear or constant rescheduling of appointments with him/him will result in necessary sanctions.

Various Service Providers:

Referrals and contact information are given based on the individual needs of each participant.

- You will be required to comply with all requirements of probation or bond in addition to completing a substance abuse and a mental health assessment. This is required of every Veterans Court participant.
- You will be required to complete an Individual Service Plan (ISP) following the recommendations of your treatment provider.
- If you are eligible for VA benefits, you will be referred to the Athens VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) after your first Veterans Court appearance.
- If you are not eligible for VA benefits, you will be referred for assessments.

Your progression through the Specialized Docket is based upon your performance in the treatment plan and compliance with the Veterans Court Phases.

Service providers include substance abuse and mental health counselors. These may be private counsellors, or may be counsellors provided through the VA Medical Centers or VA CBOC providers.

Veterans Court Program Requirements/Phase Advancement Schedule

The structure of the Veterans Court Program consists of four (4) phases of Intensive Outpatient Programming (IOP) and an aftercare plan. In order to successfully complete each phase, each participant must do the following. Time guidelines are approximation and are dependent upon participant's ability to complete required tasks.

Phase I: Structure

Term: 2 months (Day 1-60)

- Determine eligibility of VA services and Acceptance by Veterans Court Team
- Complete Entrance Survey
- Attend bi-weekly court appearances
- Orientation of the rules
- Complete assessments
 - Mental health
 - Substance abuse
 - Enroll in VA services and see primary doctor (if eligible)
 - VJO Assessment
 - VSC Assessment (if not eligible for services and eligible for upgrade)
- Begin individual treatment plans
- Prescription compliance/Treatment compliance (if applicable)
- Verification of one of the following:
 - F/T Employment OR
 - F/T College Enrollment/Certificate Training Program OR
 - Disability (SSI or VA) OR
 - Retirement
- Negative drug and alcohol screens (random, frequent and observed)
 - Examples: Drugs, Alcohol, K-2, Suboxone, Bupenephorine, Methamphetamine
- Obtain stable, drug-free housing (home visit approval)
- Honesty
- No new criminal offenses, law abiding citizen
- Mentor connection
- Curfew 9:00 p.m.— or by the discretion of the P.O. or Court

Phase II: Treatment

Term: 2 months (Day 61-120)

- Attend bi-weekly or monthly court appearances
- Prescription compliance/Treatment Compliance
- Make regular monthly payments on fines/costs/fees and restitution (min \$20/mo. on all)
- Maintain negative drug and alcohol screens (random, frequent and observed)
- Examples - Drugs, Alcohol, K-2, Suboxone, Bupenephorine, Methamphetamine
- Maintain stable, drug-free housing
- Honesty
- No new criminal offenses, law abiding citizen
- Maintain verifiable employment/schooling/disability/retirement
- Continued contact with mentors

- Complete Court-ordered community service hours (100 hrs at court-approved site)
- Curfew 9:00 p.m. or by discretion of the probation/parole officer (except for employment purposes)

Phase III: (Continued Treatment)

Term: 5 months (Day 121-270)

- Attend monthly or every other month court appearances
- Pay fines and costs in full (excludes restitution and Veterans Court fee)
- Relapse prevention
- Prescription compliance/Treatment Compliance
- Continued contact with mentors
- Maintain verifiable employment/schooling/disability/retirement
- Maintain stable drug-free housing
- Plan for **“Give Back” hours/project**
- No new criminal offenses, law abiding citizen
- Honesty
- Maintain negative drug and alcohol screens (random, frequent and observed)
 - Examples - Drugs, Alcohol, K-2, Suboxone, Bupenephorine, Methamphetamine
- Curfew 12:00 a.m.

Phase IV (Completion of Program)

Term: 3 months (Day 271-365)

- Attend monthly or every other month court appearances
- Community **“Give-Back” hours or project**
- Complete Aftercare Plan in writing and review with Probation/Parole Officer
- Prescription compliance/Treatment Compliance
- Continued contact with mentors
- Maintain verifiable employment/schooling/disability/retirement
- Maintain stable drug-free housing
- Pay Veterans Court Fee in Full (\$250.00)
- Pay Restitution in Full
- No new criminal offenses, law abiding citizen
- Honesty
- Maintain Negative Drug and alcohol screens (random, frequent and observed)
 - Examples - Drugs, Alcohol, K-2, Suboxone, Bupenephorine, Methamphetamine
- Curfew 12:00 a.m.
- Complete Graduation Exit Survey
- Possible mentor sign-up (Alumni Network)
 - You are eligible to volunteer as a veteran mentor one (1) year after your graduation if you choose.
- Graduation at end of Phase IV
 - Graduation ceremonies are held quarterly. The team will set your graduation date during phase four.

Overview:

You will be required to complete all of your conditions as outlined by your sentencing judge. A positive attitude and completed accomplishments will move you forward in this year long program. A brief explanation of Veterans Court completion criteria and timeline is included. Please note that these tasks are in addition to any and all special conditions imposed by your sentencing judge.

Failure to comply with the program requirements will result in either an unsuccessful termination from the program or a delay in phase advancement.

Successfully completing this program can lead to but is not limited to:

BOND/BAIL: Release is partly based upon participation in the program.

DIVERSION PARTICIPANTS I: Result in a dismissal of your case and your court record will be sealed.

DIVERSION PARTICIPANTS II: Result in a reduction of the charge and/or penalties.

DIVERSION PARTICIPANTS III: Results in no or reduced jail or prison sentence and community control supervision.

DIVERSION PARTICIPANT IV: Completion of program results in no charges being filed.

COMMUNITY CONTROL/RE-ENTRY: Result in a successful discharge from probation/community control after a minimum of one year.

If you have questions or concerns regarding any of the program requirements, contact your P.O. or attorney

The Veterans Court team implements sanctions depending upon the severity of an infraction of the Veterans Court Rules and Requirements. The judge has discretion to decide termination from the Specialized Docket in accordance with the written eligibility criteria for the specialized docket. The court maintains a current treatment plan and record of activities. Termination criteria may include:

- **Relapse or slip**
 - Honest or Dishonest
- **Drug screen problems**
 - No show or Late
 - Tampering
- **Programming non-compliance and/or attendance**
- **Rule violations**
 - Verification
 - Association
 - Curfew
 - Job and/or Housing
- **Behavior at service sites and court**
- **Attitude toward staff and court**
- **Compliance with outside rules and other courts**
- **Abscond**
 - Turn yourself in or you are arrested and brought in

SANCTIONS

Sanctions are issued on a case-by-case basis to motivate program success by punishing participants who are failing to follow the rules and regulations or otherwise failing to advance in the program due to their actions:

- **Admonition and instruction by staff**
- **Admonition by court**
- **Adjust drug screen schedule**
- **Enhance/augment programming requirements**
 - 12 step
 - Anger management
 - Domestic Violence Program
 - Court appearances
 - Parenting classes
 - Residential treatment
- **Community Service (Verified at approved site)**
 - Late to mentoring sessions = 5 hours (in addition to court-ordered hours)
 - Minimum Payment on Fines/Costs (\$20) not made after two (2) months into the program 5 hours community service (in addition to court-ordered hours); thereafter, every month a payment is missed, up to an additional 5 hours community service is added
- **Day of Jail/house arrest/alternate detention**
- **Phase Retention**
- **Phase Return**
- **Structured Days**
- **Flash Incarceration**
- **Termination and return to assigned judge**
 - **Track I (Diversion):**
Sentencing; Community Control; Continue in Veterans Court; Lose dismissal and sealing of case
 - **Track II (Probation) (Probation violation):**
Prison with Judicial Release; Jail; Shift to alternative program
 - **Track III (Probation violation):**
Jail; Prison
 - **Reentry:** Continued on probation/community control. No early termination.

Drug Testing:

A description of the substance monitoring policies and procedures (including plans for addressing participants that test positive at intake or relapse, including treatment guidelines and sanctions, enforced and reinforced by the Specialized Docket judge) that participants are expected to follow is outlined herein. The expected protocol for drug test monitoring of a participant's progress is that the participant will be tested frequently to check that they are not using non-prescribed drugs and substances.

The anticipated drug test will usually be by screening a urine sample but may be by other methods especially if tampering is suspected. The urine sample will be observed by person from Veteran's Court, the Adult Parole Authority, treatment provider, or other designated person from these agencies. The observer will be of the same sex to make sure the participant's sample is obtained. A clean sample collection cup, vial or similar device will be used for each test. The participant will provide the sample in a restroom. Person's collecting a sample may wait up to 10 minutes to collect such a sample. Persons collecting the sample are not required to wait longer than 10 minutes to collect a sample but may do so at their discretion. A person

who is unable to provide a sample after 10 minutes may be marked as a refusal which would be treated as a positive drug sample. Samples collected shall be marked with the participants name and date of collection. Drug detection kits that are used by the Adult Parole Authority or prosecutor's office or other treatment providers used in their regular course of business for treatment of substance dependent persons are suitable to be used for Veteran Court substance abuse monitoring purposes. Results of such testing shall be provided to the Veterans Court as soon as possible, but no later than the participants next review hearing.

Participants are advised that:

- You are subject to frequent and observed alcohol and drug testing, both scheduled and random.
- Drug testing may be requested by, but not limited to, the Adult Parole Authority, Court Personnel and/or treatment providers who provide the results immediately to the Court.
- Attempts to alter, doctor, or to give someone else's sample can result in termination from the program and additional charges.
- If you believe you would test positive for substances, it is preferred that you notify your probation officer prior to testing.
- You may be charged for the cost of any drug testing performed/administered.

All drug and alcohol testing plans are individualized for each participant and are random, frequent and observed. Positive results, failing to submit to testing, submitting an adulterated sample or submitting a sample of another individual and diluting a sample are treated as positive screens. Further, failure to report for screening or providing a sample by 4:00 p.m. the day you are scheduled to report with the Veterans Court Coordinator or for random testing, will be considered a refusal.

Immediate, graduated, and individualized incentives and sanctions govern the responses of the Athens County Veterans Court participant's compliance or noncompliance. Positive screens upon intake and relapse during the program are not grounds for automatic termination from the program. Sanctions for positive screens will be assessed on a case-by-case basis depending on frequency, severity, and honesty about use.

Positive drug screen upon intake will result in immediate placement on random testing, outpatient treatment and/or residential treatment placement if appropriate (i.e. Health Recovery Services (HRS), TASC, PRISM, Hopewell Health Centers, etc.) with an emergency chemical dependency assessment, and follow up assessments and treatment.

If you know that you are going to test positive upon intake, be honest with your P.O. and follow his or her instructions for immediate treatment. Testing includes the participant's primary substance of abuse, as well as other common substances such as, but not limited to, marijuana, K2, alcohol, Bupenephorine, Suboxone, opiates, stimulates, Methamphetamine, and other substances.

Positive screen during the program and/or relapse may result in immediate placement on random testing or residential treatment placement if appropriate (i.e. Health Recovery Services (HRS), TASC, PRISM, Hopewell Health Centers, etc.), and immediate sanctions including, but not limited to: phase retention, notification and request for participant to return to more frequent treatment with new or existing service providers and a day or more in jail depending on, but not limited to, the amount of times testing positive and how often the person tests positive.

If you know that you are going to test positive or have compromised your sobriety in any way, be honest with your probation officer and the court and follow instructions for immediate treatment.

Treatment providers shall immediately notify the court when the participant tests positive, fails to submit to testing, submits an adulterated sample or the sample of another individual, or dilutes the sample. Failure

to submit to testing, submitting an adulterated sample or the sample of another individual, or diluting the sample shall be treated as positive tests and immediately sanctioned. Sanctions will be graduated, based upon, but not limited to, participant's overall progress through the program, and number of times of relapse, and frequency of relapse. Positive drug tests are treated as serious program violation that may result in termination or other appropriate sanctions by the Specialized Docket Judge.

Incentives:

Additionally, the following incentives are issued on a case-by-case basis to motivate program success and reward participants who are excelling and advancing in the program:

INCENTIVES:

- Positive peer reinforcement
- Public recognition and/or applause in Court
 - Milestones (Phase graduations)
- Accelerated phase advancement
- More flexible rule application
 - Out-of-county employment or travel
- Early graduation (usually no earlier than 365 days)

Please keep in mind that the Veterans Court team is here to HELP you. If you are in need of assistance, counseling, medical care, or basic needs, such as food, clothing, shelter, monetary assistance, vehicle repair, etc., please let us know. It is best to first contact your parole/probation officer, then your mentor. They are very resourceful and can bring any and all issues to the team should you choose to contact them.

VETERANS COURT REQUIREMENTS

Name: _____

Case No . _____

Sentencing Judge: _____

Date Entered Program: _____

Participants are anticipated to have completed the following sections as set forth above. Before moving to a new unit, the Participant must complete all the prior Phase requirements as well as stay compliant with all prior Phase requirements. Additionally, the Participant shall complete the additional items set forth in each additional Phase section below.

Phase I: Structure

Length: 2 months (Day 1-60)

- Eligibility of Services Determined
- Entrance Survey Completed
- Orientation of H.C. Rules
- Mental Health Assessment Complete
- Substance Abuse Assessment Complete
- Enrolled in VA Services and Seeing Primary Doctor
- Assessment by VJO or VSC
- Prescription/Treatment Compliance
- Employment and Schooling Verified
- Drug and Alcohol Screens Negative
- Stable, Drug-Free Housing Verified
- Mentor Connection

Completion Date: _____

Phase II: Treatment

Length: 2 months (Day 61-120)

- Court Ordered Community Service Complete

Completion Date: _____

Phase III: Continued Treatment

Length: 5 months (Day 121-270)

- Fines Paid in Full
- Costs Paid in Full
- Plan for Give-Back Project in Writing to PO

Phase IV: Completion of Program

Length: 3 months (Day 271-365)

- Community Give-Back Project Complete
- Aftercare Plan in Writing to PO
- Honor Court Fee Paid in Full
- Restitution Paid in Full
- Exit Survey Complete

Completion Date: _____

**Athens County Veterans Court (Veterans Treatment Court)
2018 & 2019 & 2020 Schedule**

All proceedings will take place in Courtroom A on the Third Floor of the
Athens County Court of Common Pleas Courthouse,
Located at 1 S. Court Street, Athens, Ohio 45701
(Corner of Court Street and W. Washington Street)

Status Review Hearings are held every other Tuesday (Unless it is a court-observed holiday)

Mentors meet with participants in the courtroom at **2:00 p.m.**

Proceedings start at **3:00 p.m.**

Court concludes at **4:00 p.m.**

2018	2019	2020
January 9, 2018 January 23, 2018	January 8, 2019 January 22, 2019	January 7, 2020 January 21, 2020
February 6, 2018 February 20, 2018	February 5, 2019 February 19, 2019	February 4, 2020 February 18, 2020
March 6, 2018 March 20, 2018	March 5, 2019 March 19, 2019	March 3, 2020 March 17, 2020 March 31, 2020
April 3, 2018 April 17, 2018	April 2, 2019 April 16, 2019 April 30, 2019	April 14, 2020 April 28, 2020
May 8, 2018 May 22, 2018	May 14, 2019 May 28, 2019	May 12, 2020 May 26, 2020
June 12, 2018 June 26, 2018	June 11, 2019 June 25, 2019	June 9, 2020 June 23, 2020
July 10, 2018 July 24, 2018	July 9, 2019 July 23, 2019	July 7, 2020 July 21, 2020
August 7, 2018 August 21, 2018	August 6, 2019 August 20, 2019	August 4, 2020 August 18, 2020
September 11, 2018 September 25, 2018	September 3, 2019 September 17, 2019	September 1, 2020 September 15, 2020 September 29, 2020
October 16, 2018 October 30, 2018	October 08, 2019 October 22, 2019	October 13, 2020 October 27, 2020
November 13, 2018 November 27, 2018	November 5, 2019 November 19, 2019	November 10, 2020 November 24, 2020
December 4, 2018 December 18, 2018	December 3, 2019 December 17, 2019	December 8, 2020 December 22, 2020

From the Veteran Mentor Coordinator - Cindy McFerren:

On behalf of the Veteran Mentors of the Athens County mentor programs, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the Athens County Veterans Court. Below is a description.

Mission Statement of the Mentor Program:

Providing mentorship and support to veterans with legal difficulties by assisting veterans to navigate through the court system and encouraging their participation in Veterans Affairs and community-based treatments and interventions.

Mentor Program Description:

As you have read in prior instructions, you will be required to report to court **one hour** prior to court session to meet with your assigned Mentor. A Mentor is a community volunteer, who is also a veteran, that has dedicated his or her time to help participants in the Veterans Court Program. These Mentors have completed training on how the program functions and ways to best help you. They do not receive compensation of any kind to assist you--they are merely trying to help and assist veterans in need. Please remember to be respectful to your Mentor as they can become a valuable resource, support, and friend to you during and even after your time in Veterans Court. If you do not yet have a Mentor, now is the time you should be talking with each of the Mentors to find the Mentor with whom you can best communicate. If you have not yet chosen a Mentor, and you have been coming to court for a period of two months, one **will** be appointed to you.

The Mentors are here to help you get through this trying time. If there is anything that they can do to help you, **please** do not hesitate to ask.

If you and your Mentor have not met before your first appearance in court, make sure you receive one of my business cards with my name and contact information: Cindy McFerren, ((740)707-7733), and my email: cmcferren@athensoh.org. Please feel free to call or email me at any time if there is anything you need assistance with. Remember that if you have a Mentor, it is better to go to him/her first unless it is a question they are unable to answer.

Community Give-Back Project:

A Community Give-Back Project must be completed in Phase III or IV in order to successfully complete the Veterans Court Program. This project is a community project that must be completed in addition to your court-ordered community service hours. **It will be your responsibility to think of a project idea and obtain approval; ideally, your project idea will benefit a veteran in need!**

You may ask your mentor or the Mentor Coordinator for help in determining a Give-Back Project and that project must be approved by the Mentor Coordinator prior to completion of the program; it must be supervised by a Team Member OR a Mentor.

There is no specific number of required hours for a Give-Back Project. Generally, it consists of 1-3 full days of community service that helps the community or an individual a part of the community. Past projects have included: building a wheel-chair accessible ramp for a disabled veteran's home; home projects for a deceased veteran's widow, chopping wood for heating a home, park and veteran memorial beautification projects, and establishing and running a support group for a substance abuse or mental health issue.

If you feel that you might have an idea for a Give-Back Project, please contact the Mentor Coordinator at cmcferren@athensoh.org for approval and/or feedback.

Employment Information and Tips:

The Work Station – Athens County Jobs & Family Services
70 N. Plains Rd., Suite C, Athens, Ohio 45701, (740) 677-4232
Contact Shawn Stover
www.workstation.athensoh.org

Tips for Talking with employers about your background:

Be honest. Background checks are simply too easy for employers to run these days to risk being dishonest. Even if you do not get caught right away, if your employer finds out, they will have grounds to fire you. Be careful not to volunteer too much information. Limit your responses to employment inquiries to the scope of what was asked. For instance, if you are asked about convictions or criminal offenses, only misdemeanor and felony convictions need included. Rehearse your explanation prior to the interview.

Take responsibility. This is called “owning it.” You’ve got to admit your conviction and *not* make excuses. For some people this can be as simple as saying, “*Yes, I was convicted of a felony*” and giving the reason (my judgment was clouded by...immaturity, drugs, financial stress, poor values, hanging with the wrong crowd, etc.) Others may feel compelled to identify the offense, perhaps because of mitigating circumstances. Just remember to keep it brief, look the employer in the eye and beware of too much information.

Move on. This is the point where you want to talk about concrete things you have done to improve yourself and turn your life around. Getting your GED, completing a drug program, holding down a succession of jobs since your release and pursuing further education or training; anything that shows steps you have taken to change. Talking about Veterans Court can help ease an employer’s concerns as well. Discussing your Give Back Project, the support that you receive from the Veterans Court Team and Mentors, and your goals can go a long way in the eyes of a potential employer. Furthermore, it allows you to change the topic and discuss your experience in the military, what you are doing in Veterans Court, and your enthusiasm to work.

Acknowledge the employer’s concerns. Say something such as, “I understand how you may be hesitant or you may have concerns, BUT, I want to assure you that I will do a great job for you.” As uncomfortable as this may be to acknowledge, it shows the employer that you are sensitive to his or her concerns, but you are determined not to let your past interfere with your future work life. **Make your pitch and close.** End on a positive note by reiterating that you have the skills and a good attitude for the position and that you will do a great job.

- **Employers cannot require disclosure or obtain information about your drug treatment or drug use history.** However, when a criminal record is associated with drug use, it may be a good idea to explain to the potential employer that you have been in treatment to show you have been rehabilitated and are in recovery. This way, you have the opportunity to describe your rehabilitation process at the same time that you must disclose information on your criminal history.
- **You may be able to clean up your rap sheet.** All too often, arrests that should be sealed (arrests not leading to convictions, youthful offender adjudications or convictions for non-criminal offenses) remain open (unsealed) on your record, and are available for potential employers to see. In addition, errors, duplications, and unnecessary information in criminal records should be corrected before

conducting a job search. Ex-offenders should contact the State Criminal Justice Department's record review unit for a copy of a state rap sheet and the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a federal rap sheet.

- **The Work Opportunity Tax Credits and Federal Bonding**, funded by the U.S. Department of Labor and administered by state employment agencies, encourages private employers to hire from seven targeted groups, including ex-felons.

Answering Questions

- Start with the year of the conviction: It is important to show the employer you have nothing to hide. Although you may feel the need to soften the blow with words like "I made a little mistake," this only creates doubt in the employer's mind and suggests that you are trying to minimize the significance of being incarcerated.
- Tell the employer what you were convicted: Telling the employer about your conviction in a matter-of-fact way will help the employer to see what you have done (or not done) has already been taken care of by a court of law. Do not use jargon; for example, if asked about the nature of the conviction, do not simply say, "sale." Say, "sale of a controlled substance." Otherwise, the employer will not necessarily know what this means and will likely begin asking unnecessary and uncomfortable questions. Remember, you have already been tried and convicted, there is no reason to be on trial again.
- Tell the employer how much time you served and what you did while you were incarcerated: This is your turn to re-educate the employer about incarceration. You can describe how you have changed and grown since your conviction. Emphasize your accomplishments and what you have learned and programs you may have participated in and completed while incarcerated are good things to discuss.
- Describe your current situation, your current goals and your reason for being at the interview: This is a good time to discuss Veterans Court and may be done in a number of ways depending on what you are comfortable with. Some people can very easily say, *"I am currently participating in the Athens County Veterans Court, a voluntary program that assists low level, non-violent, first time offenders."* OR *"I am currently completing a Give-Back Project with the veteran community as part of my participation in Veterans Court."* Whatever you decide, make sure you are comfortable with what you are going to say and practice in advance.
- Examples of what you could say:
"Last year I was convicted of sale of a controlled substance. I was sentenced to five years, but was released after three years due to good behavior. I realized I made a mistake right away and took advantage of all the help and education I could get while I was incarcerated. I participated in Athens County Veterans Court, completed a Give-Back Project and I'm proud to say I now have my GED and am currently working on an Associate's Degree."

"I also learned how to work with people, even when the work is hard. I really want to work. I know I do not need to do the things I used to do. I am here interviewing with you because I have changed my life and would value the opportunity to work with you."

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
ATHENS COUNTY, OHIO**

STATE OF OHIO,

CASE NO. _____

Plaintiff,

JUDGE GEORGE P. MCCARTHY

Defendant.

**VETERANS COURT
PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT**

In order to participate in the Athens County Court of Common Pleas Veterans Court,

I _____ (Participant's Name), agree to abide by the following conditions:

1. I understand that the Veterans Court Program incorporates a non-adversarial approach by including both the State of Ohio Public Defender's Office and the Athens County Prosecuting Attorney's Office representatives on the Veterans Court Team and for all status review hearings in order to protect Public Safety, Victim's Rights and to preserve the constitutional rights of the Specialized Docket participants. I understand that I reserve the right to request the attendance of defense counsel during the portion of a Specialized Docket Treatment Team meeting concerning my case.
2. I agree to sign any and all releases of confidential information to and from any individual, public or private agency, and the Court and its representatives if requested to do so while in Veterans Court. I agree to sign and maintain all Veterans Administration releases to allow for open and ongoing communication between the Veterans Administration and Veterans Court network of agencies and individuals.
3. I understand I may have to provide copies of drug test screening and results as well as any mental health assessments from Veteran Administration Medical Center or Veterans Administration CBOC upon request.
4. I understand that I will be held accountable for my attitude, behaviors, and progress toward my goals on the Individual Service Plan. I understand that my non-compliance with the program (including new criminal felony-level charges during the program) will result in immediate sanctions which may include jail.
5. I agree to a search by staff of my person and any personal belongings that I bring to the Veterans Court or service agencies. I understand that pagers, beepers or cell phones are not permitted at the Adult Parole Authority Office, Court Offices, Court House, Day Reporting Offices, or any program related function or activity. Any contraband found in my possession is subject to seizure and may result in criminal charges.
6. I agree to conduct myself in a manner consistent with the intent and purpose of Veterans Court. I will not disrupt or interfere with the normal flow and operation of Veterans Court.
7. I understand that any act or threat of violence by me toward any person will result in termination from the Veterans Court Program.
8. I will submit to random, frequent and observed urine/drug screens, meet with my probation officer, and attend Court hearings as directed. I understand that failing to submit to testing, submitting an adulterated sample, submitting a sample of another individual, or diluting a sample will be treated as a positive test. Positive tests are considered to be a serious program violation that may result in termination or appropriate sanctions by the Specialized Docket Judge. I will also participate in community service, GED, or any other

program deemed necessary for me. I will comply with all Veterans Administration recommendations and referrals

9. I understand that I will be monitored for use of substances including illegal substance, controlled substances, and alcohol. I understand that from time to time I will be asked to provide a urine sample and I am subject to frequent and observed alcohol and drug testing, both scheduled and random.
10. That drug testing may be requested by, but not limited to, the Adult Parole Authority, Court Personnel and/or treatment providers who provide the results immediately to the Court.
11. That Attempts to alter, doctor, or to give someone else's sample can result in termination from the program, sanctions including jail, and additional charges.
12. That if I believe I would test positive for substances, it is preferred that I notify my probation officer prior to testing.
13. That I may be charged for the cost of any drug testing performed/administered.
14. That positive results, failing to submit to testing, failing to provide a sample, submitting an adulterated sample or submitting a sample of another individual and diluting a sample are treated as positive screens.
15. That immediate, graduated, and individualized incentives and sanctions govern the responses of the Athens County Veterans Court participant's compliance or noncompliance.
16. That positive screens upon intake and relapse during the program are not grounds for automatic termination from the program. Sanctions for positive screens will be assessed on a case-by-case basis depending on frequency, severity, and honesty about use.
17. That positive drug screen upon intake will result in immediate placement on random testing, outpatient treatment and/or residential treatment placement if appropriate (i.e. Health Recovery Services (HRS), TASC, PRISM, Hopewell Health Centers, etc.) with an emergency chemical dependency assessment, and follow up assessments and treatment.
18. I will report to Veterans Court as instructed, will develop an Individualized Service Plan and will participate in all recommended programs and services. I understand the services of Veterans Court will be provided by the Veterans Administration (if eligible) and community agencies listed on my Individual Service Plan. I agree to abide by all rules and regulations of this program. I will be required to attend bi-weekly status review hearings in the initial phase of the program, and thereafter I will be required to attend monthly status review hearings until completion of the program to review my progress in the program.
19. I understand that I must meet with the Court's Financial Enforcement Officer and that I am required to pay my Court costs and fines. I understand that failure to pay Court costs and fines each month will result in a sanction of community service work hours. I understand that I am required to pay a Veterans Court Program Fee of \$250.00 at the Athens County Clerk of Courts for Veterans Court.

I will tell the clerk that the \$250 is for Veterans Court costs. I understand that if I do not tell the Clerk of Courts that the money is for Veterans Court Costs that it may be applied to other court costs or fees. I will provide the Probation Officer with receipts of payments made on the above costs from the Clerk of Court's Office. I understand that if I am in the Veterans Court Diversion Track that my case cannot be dismissed until I have fulfilled these financial obligations. I understand that if I am in the Community

Control or Reentry tracks that I cannot be successfully terminated from Veterans Court until I have fulfilled these financial obligations.

20. I understand that I must comply with the following additional requirements of the Veterans Court Program including:
- a. Verification of full-time employment, full-time student (or combination of both), retirement or disability;
 - b. Maintain stable, drug-free housing;
 - c. Participation in veteran mentor program;
 - d. Comply with curfew set by ISP Officer;
 - e. Completion of all Court-Ordered community service work hours;
 - f. Completion of an approved Give-Back Project;
 - g. Completion of an Aftercare Plan with ISP Officer;
 - h. Compliance with all survey and informational forms to assist the Court with program evaluation.
21. In the event of an emergency, I will contact your emergency contact, my Mentor, and my Probation Officer, immediately.
22. I understand that if I do not successfully complete the mandates of Veterans Court, I will be referred back to the Court for further proceedings.

I have read or had read to me the conditions of this agreement. I understand the conditions of this agreement and acknowledge that I am required to comply with all the conditions. Both compliance and non-compliance will be reported to the Court. I fully understand that I may be sanctioned or terminated from Veterans Court if I violate any conditions of this agreement.

Participant's Signature

Date

Witness

Date

**ATHENS COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
VETERANS COURT
RELEASE OF INFORMATION AUTHORIZATION**

I, _____ (Participant's Name), authorize the agencies and individuals working with the Athens County Veterans Court Program to release, share, and obtain information from each other regarding my case and issues pertaining to my individualized treatment plan. These agencies and individuals include, but are not limited to:

- Athens County Court of Common Pleas, General Division;
- Athens County Adult Parole Authority;
- Athens County Veterans Service Commission;
- Athens County Veterans Court;
- Veterans Court Mentors;
- Veterans Administration
- Veterans Administration Community Based Outpatient Clinic;
- Veterans Administration Medical Center
- Athens County Prosecutor's Office;
- Athens County Public Defender's Office and private defense counsel;
- Veterans Court Law Enforcement Liaison/OUPD/APD/OSP/Sheriff's Department;
- Health Recovery Services
- Flores & Associates
- T.A.S.C.
- P.R.I.S.M.;
- Hopewell Health Centers/Appalachian Behavioral Health Center;
- Ohio University Veterans Services Center
- Hocking College Veterans Services Center
- Pregnancy Resource Center/Rural Recovery/River Rose
- Ohio Means Jobs Representative/Area 14 Workforce Development Representative
- Any other service provider I am involved with as a result of participating in the Veteran's Court Treatment Program

I further authorize these individuals and agencies to share information obtained from third party sources and agencies not directly affiliated with Veterans Court regarding my case and individualized treatment plan including any required for the "Health Insurance Portability And Accountability Act of 1996," 42 U.S.C. 300gg-42, as amended, and R.C. 2151.421 and any other applicable state, federal, and local laws.

I will sign all necessary releases to allow the Intensive Supervised Probation Department to obtain information from any individual, public and/or private agency if requested to do so while in the Veterans Court Program.

I understand that the information released and shared under this authorization will not be further disclosed without my specific written consent, or as otherwise permitted by applicable regulations and law.

I will keep confidential the names and any information shared by other clients in the Veterans Court Program. I understand that violating another client's confidentiality could result in litigation directed toward me.

I understand that this release will expire at the time my case and supervision with the Court of Common Pleas is concluded.

SIGNED: _____

DATE: _____

Judge George P. McCarthy

22

Veterans Court Participation Handbook

Athens County Veterans Court Entrance Survey

Full Name: _____

Date of Birth (Month/Day/Year): _____

CIRCLE YOUR ANSWERS BELOW:

Gender:

Male Female Other: _____

Race: (CHOOSE ONLY ONE)

- American Indian/Alaska Native
- Asian
- African American
- Caucasian
- Multi-Racial
- Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian
- Other: _____

Ethnicity:

- Hispanic/Latino
- Non-Hispanic/Latino
- Other: _____

Children:

- Yes (How Many) _____
- Ages: _____
- No

Marital Status:

- Married
- Single
- Separated
- Divorced

Education Level:

- College Degree (Associates/Bachelors)
- Some College Classes Taken
- High School Diploma
- GED
- Less than HS Diploma/GED: _____

Paying Child Support:

- Yes- Current on Payments
- Yes- Behind on Payments
- No

Employment:

- Student (Part-Time)
- Student (Full-Time)
- Unemployed
- Laid Off—Receiving Unemployment? Yes / No
- Employed (Full-Time)
- Employed (Part-Time)
- Disabled—Receiving Disability? Yes / No
- Retired

Living Situation:

- Own a Home
- Rent
- Staying With Family
- Staying With Friends
- Residential Treatment Facility
- Homeless

Service Dates (Duty): ____ / ____ / ____ TO ____ / ____ / ____

(Example: 05/-01/2010—10/01/2011):

Branch of Military:

- Army
- Marine Corps
- Navy
- Air Force
- Coast Guard
- National Guard

Currently Active Duty? Yes / No **Drilling?** Yes / No

Reserves: Yes / No

Combat Veteran: Yes / No

Wars/Conflicts Served In:

Anything you need assistance with at this time? Explain:

Complete and Return to MAHALA RUNYON at Athens Common Pleas Court

Veterans Court Graduate Survey

Name: _____

Program Admission Date: _____ Graduation Date: _____

Track of Program: _____ Branch of Military: _____

1. What was the most difficult part of the program?

2. What was the best/most rewarding part of the program?

3. Were the regular court appearances important to your success? Please explain.

4. Were the probation supervision and drug screens important to your success? Please explain.
Do you have a sponsor?

5. Was the mental health and/or substance abuse assessments and required treatment important to your success? Please explain.

6. Do you feel that the support of the Veterans Court Treatment Team helped you to successfully complete this program? If yes, please explain.

7. Did the veteran mentoring aspect of the program help you with successful completion of the program?

8. Would you consider becoming a veteran mentor to future participants in this program (at least one year from graduation date)?

If **YES** or **MAYBE**: provide the following information so that we can send you information:
**by filling this out you will also be notified of future Veterans Court graduation ceremonies

Address: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Please provide any additional comments on the reverse side of this page.

The information disclosed on this form is strictly to aid the Veterans Court Team to ensure that programming needs are being met and participants' goals and needs have been addressed during their time in the Veterans Court Program.

Veterans Court Aftercare Plan

Name: _____

Program Admission Date: _____

Expected Graduation Date: _____

Track of Program: _____

Phase of Program: _____

Branch of Military: _____

Need Area:
Appointments/Resources

Progress Made
During Program

Recommendations/Steps
to Maintain Progress

Aftercare
to Maintain Progress

Criminal History:

- None
- Achieved
- Significant
- Adequate
- Marginal
- No Progress

No Resources Needed

Agency Name/Contact:

Phone Number:

Comments:

Appointment Date/Hrs:

**Employment/Education/
Financial:**

- None
- Achieved
- Significant
- Adequate
- Marginal
- No Progress

No Resources Needed

Agency Name/Contact:

Phone Number:

Comments:

Appointment Date/Hrs:

Family and Social Support:

- None
- Achieved
- Significant
- Adequate
- Marginal
- No Progress

No Resources Needed

Agency Name/Contact:

Phone Number:

Comments:

Appointment Date/Hrs:

Neighborhood Problems:

- None
- Achieved
- Significant
- Adequate
- Marginal
- No Progress

No Resources Needed

Agency Name/Contact:

Phone Number:

Comments:

Appointment Date/Hrs:

Substance Abuse:

- None
- Achieved
- Significant
- Adequate
- Marginal
- No Progress

No Resources Needed

Agency Name/Contact:

Phone Number:

Comments:

Appointment Date/Hrs:

Mental Health:

- None
- Achieved
- Significant
- Adequate

No Resources Needed

Agency Name/Contact:

- Marginal
 - No Progress
- Comments:

Phone Number:
Appointment Date/Hrs:

**Need Area:
Appointments/Resources**

**Progress Made
During Program**

**Recommendations/Steps
to Maintain Progress**

**Aftercare
to Maintain Progress**

Peer Associations:

- None
 - Achieved
 - Significant
 - Adequate
 - Marginal
 - No Progress
- Comments:

No Resources Needed
Agency Name/Contact:
Phone Number:
Appointment Date/Hrs:

**Criminal Attitudes/
Behavioral Patterns:**

- None
 - Achieved
 - Significant
 - Adequate
 - Marginal
 - No Progress
- Comments:

No Resources Needed
Agency Name/Contact:
Phone Number:
Appointment Date/Hrs:

Military:

- None
 - Achieved
 - Significant
 - Adequate
 - Marginal
 - No Progress
- Comments:

No Resources Needed
Agency Name/Contact:
Phone Number:
Appointment Date/Hrs:

Other:

- None
 - Achieved
 - Significant
 - Adequate
 - Marginal
 - No Progress
- Comments:

No Resources Needed
Agency Name/Contact:
Phone Number:
Appointment Date/Hrs:

PARTICIPATING SERVICE PROVIDERS

Service providers include, but are not limited to, the following:

FOR MEN & WOMEN:

- a. Adult Parole Authority — Intensive supervision of individuals on judicial release, including drug and alcohol testing, referrals for services, compliance of ordered conditions, issuance of sanctions, and Veterans Court requirements for all participants. 1005 E. State Street, Athens, Ohio 45701 (740) 593-3361
- b. Athens Veterans Administration Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) — Treatment for medical, mental health, and substance abuse based upon eligibility for services. Provides all substance abuse and mental health assessments for VA eligible participants with treatment recommendations. 510 W Union St., Athens, OH 45701 (740) 593-7314
- c. Athens County Veteran Center—Counseling services for combat veterans and family
www.vetcenter.va.gov
- d. Athens County Veterans Service Office - A county agency dedicated to aiding veterans in times of need. Provides Veterans Court with additional services and information for participants. 70 N. Plains Rd, Suite A, The Plains, OH 45780 (740) 592-3216
- e. Athens County Prosecutor’s Office and Prosecutor’s Vivitrol Program - Represents the citizens of Athens County in criminal and civil matters as the prosecuting attorney is authorized by the Laws of the State of Ohio. Additionally, the office helps administer a vivitrol treatment program in conjunction with Health Recovery Services. Athens County Prosecutor Keller Blackburn Athens County Courthouse – First Floor, 1 S. Court Street, Athens, OH 45701 (740) 592-3208
- f. State of Ohio Public Defender’s Office – Athens Branch - Responsible for providing legal representation and other services to those accused of a crime who cannot afford to hire their own attorney. 5 N. Court Street, Athens, OH 45701 (740) 593-6400
- g. Athens County Re-Entry Program - Provides transitional support to felony offenders returning from state and county institutions to Athens County. Including: assistance with employment, housing and connections to programs and services that provide mentoring, anger management, chemical dependency treatment, and sex offender treatment. Athens County Jobs and Family Services Office, 70 N. Plains Road, Suite C, The Plains, Ohio 45780 (740) 797-1405
- h. Ohio Means Jobs—Athens County - Employment preparation and job search assistance; funding for vocational education and job training programs. Shawn Stover. The Work Station – Athens County Jobs & Family Services, 70 N. Plains Rd., Suite C, Athens, Ohio 45701, (740) 677-4232 www.workstation.athensoh.org
- i. Hopewell Health - Center offers treatment services to children, adolescents, adults, families and couples. Offers Vivitrol Treatment, mental health and substance abuse counselling 90 Hospital Drive, Athens, Ohio 45701 (740) 593-3682
www.hopewellhealth.org
- j. Health Recovery Services – Offers Vivitrol Program. Offers a short to moderate length drug and alcohol treatment program. Suboxone and Vivitrol programs are available. 244 Columbus Rd, Athens, OH 45701 (740) 592-6720 www.hrs.org

- k. Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime—Offers long-term treatment for drug/alcohol dependent people. Provides assessment referral, drug testing, case management and treatment services at no charge. Steven Thompson, 8 N. Court Street, Athens, OH 45701 (740) 594-2276
- l. Pregnancy Resource Center – Provides information and resources for women & men expecting children, 43A S. Court St, Athens, OH 45701 (740) 592-4700 www.athenspregnancy.com
- m. Ohio University Veteran and Military Student Services - Provides Veterans support services and information for those enrolled or seeking education through Ohio University. David Edwards, Sr. Baker University Center, Suite 350, 1 Ohio University, Athens, OH 45701. Phone: 740.566.VETS (8387) Fax: 740.593.4145 www.ohio.edu/veteranscenter
- n. Flores & Associates – Drug/Alcohol/Anger Management - treatment assessments and counseling. Treasa Lucas - 386 Richland Avenue, Athens, OH 45701 (740) 592-4797
- o. Appalachian Behavioral Healthcare Hospital- Provides Mental Health Care and Counselling. 100 Hospital Drive. Athens, OH 45701 (740) 594-5000 TDD (740) 594-2911 Toll Free 1-800-372-8862 www.mha.ohio.gov/default.aspx?tabid=187
- p. Hocking College Veteran Student Support Center – Provides Veterans support services and information for those enrolled or seeking education through Hocking College. Ken Teter teterk@hocking.edu. Veteran/Military Student Success Advocate. Hocking College Parkway, Nelsonville, Ohio, 740.753.7055
- q. Veteran Justice Office – Provides resource contacts for Veterans involve with the criminal justice system and acts as a liaison with the Veterans Treatment Program. Tisha Hardin-Spraglin, VJO Specialist, Chillicothe VA Medical Center, 17273 State Route 104, Chillicothe, OH 45601 (740) 773-1141 Tisha.Hardin-Spradlin@va.gov
- r. Natural Freedom Wellness Center – Stress management with the help of horses. Pam Jeffers, 41810 State Farm Rd., Albany, Ohio 45710 (740)698-6031 www.naturalfreedomohio.com naturalfreedomohio@gmail.com
- s. Pregnancy Resource Center– Helping men and women with choices regarding contraception, pregnancy, birth and abortion and related service. 43A S. Court St, Athens, OH 45701 (740) 592-4700 www.athenspregnancy.com

ADDITIONALLY FOR WOMEN:

- t. Rural Women’s Recovery— Intensive Residential Treatment For Adult Women P.O. Box 724, Athens, Ohio 45701 (740) 593-6152 www.hrs.org
- u. River Rose - Helping expectant mothers with opiate & heroin addiction issues 75 Hospital Drive, Suite 260, Athens, OH 45701 (740) 594-8819 www.riverroseobgyn.com
- v. Pregnancy Resource Center - 43A S. Court St, Athens, OH 45701 (740) 592-4700 www.athenspregnancy.com