

Strengthening Specialty Courts: Request for Expanded Drug Testing

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What are Specialty Courts?

- Alternative courts focused on treatment and rehabilitation
- Genesee County Specialty Courts:
 - Adult Felony Recovery Court
 - Mental Health Court
 - Veterans Treatment Court
 - Family Dependency Treatment Court
- Goal: Address root causes, reduce recidivism



Why Specialty Courts Matter

1

Reduce re-arrest rates by up to 45%

- Recovery Court – 14%
- Michigan State Rate – 23%

2

Save \$3 to \$6 for every \$1 invested

- Our recovery court saved ~\$3 million in 2024

3

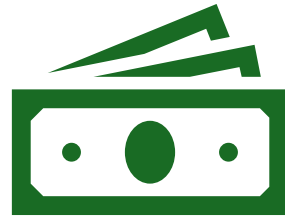
Save county jail bed days

- Saved 52,480 jail days in 2024

Federal Funding Climate



Uncertainty



Restructuring and
funding cuts



Cannot predict future
funding forecast



Current Challenges

Limited drug
testing options

Inability to detect
emerging drugs
(e.g., xylazine,
ketamine)

Gaps in
monitoring
jeopardize
program success

The Risk of Inaction



Increased relapse
rates



Higher public safety
risks



Erosion of court
program credibility

Our Proposal

- Requesting Funds to:
 - Expand drug testing capabilities
 - Enact more frequent testing
 - Obtain broader substance panels
 - Obtain faster lab results

Cost-Benefit Snapshot

Expanded testing cost:
\$50,000



Potential savings:

Lower jail costs

Reduced
emergency
services

Stronger long-
term recovery
outcomes

Call to Action

1

Invest in
expanded drug
testing

2

Strengthen
specialty court
outcomes

3

Protect public
safety and
community
health



Thank You! 😊