



Pre-trial Diversion Programs have wide ranging benefits:

- ❖ Public safety is improved when jails are less crowded. Incarcerated offenders in overcrowded facilities are at greater risk of physical and psychological impairment, leading to problems when re-entering society and re-offense behaviors
- ❖ Crime victims benefit through a restorative justice system that holds the offender accountable while facilitating and enforcing reparative agreements, including restitution.
- ❖ Offenders benefit by receiving the services necessary to avoid repeat offenses and negative consequences associated with a criminal conviction.
- ❖ Taxpayers benefit from savings realized in reduced court and corrections costs.
- ❖ Local justice systems can devote limited resources to concentrate on more serious or violent criminal behaviors.

FRONT-END INTERVENTION & TREATMENT (FIT) DIVERSION PROGRAM

CHIPPEWA COUNTY

Kayce Lawcewicz
Diversion Program Specialist

Email:
cjs-web@chippewacountywi.gov

Rose Baier
Criminal Justice Services Director

<http://www.chippewacountywi.gov>

GOALS OF DIVERSION

- ❖ Reduce recidivism
- ❖ Promote public safety
- ❖ Reduce prison and jail populations
- ❖ Reduce prosecution and incarceration costs
- ❖ Improve the welfare of participants and their families

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- ❖ Tailored specifically to non-violent offenders for whom substance abuse is a contributing factor in their criminal activity
- ❖ 9-24 month voluntary program
- ❖ Addresses the criminogenic needs of offenders based on their risk level
- ❖ Addresses the offenders thought processes through a cognitive thinking program (CBT)
- ❖ Allows for diversion of criminal charges or jail time while receiving treatment and services
- ❖ Case management supervision and treatment plan dependent on risk level, needs, performance, and compliance

ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

- ❖ Chippewa County resident
- ❖ Drug or alcohol related criminal activity
- ❖ Non-violent offender
- ❖ No active warrants or pending charges in other County.

ELIGIBLE OFFENSES

- ❖ Non-violent offenses motivated by drug or alcohol activity.
- ❖ Eligibility determined at time of screening.

INELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

- ❖ Any prior felony convictions for violent crimes or convictions involving a weapon

PROGRAM FEES

- ❖ Based on a Fee for Service Delivery
- ❖ Participants are required to complete Statement of Income paperwork from the Financial Services Division and meet with a representative to determine their ability to pay
- ❖ If this process is not completed the participant will be billed the full fee for FIT services

CBT PROGRAM COMPONENT

- ❖ Completion of a cognitive behavioral thinking program may be required and will be individualized to meet the participant's needs
- ❖ CBT programs have been proven to reduce recidivism

TESTING AND TREATMENT

- ❖ Other treatment services may be recommended based on the participant's needs
- ❖ Random urinalysis and breathalyzer testing is done to monitor program compliance