

North Carolina Judicial Branch Launches Holistic Hope Mental Health Diversion Program



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North Carolina Judicial Branch Launches Holistic Hope Mental Health Diversion Program

The new program is located in the Second District Court Judicial District which includes Beaufort, Hyde, Martin, Tyrrell, and Washington counties.

WASHINGTON, NC — The North Carolina Judicial Branch has launched the Holistic Hope Mental Health Diversion Program in the Second District Court Judicial District, which includes [Beaufort](#), [Hyde](#), [Martin](#), [Tyrrell](#), and [Washington](#) counties. This program is a groundbreaking initiative designed to reduce recidivism by providing an alternative pathway from the normal court process to individuals struggling with mental health challenges. This innovative approach integrates mental health support, counseling, wellness practices, and community resources. Its aim is to address the root causes of mental health issues, empower participants to embark on a journey towards holistic well-being, and eliminate the revolving cycle of court involvement.

"We are thrilled to launch the Holistic Hope Diversion Program during Mental Health Awareness Month," said Chief District Court Judge Regina Parker. "We believe that now, more than ever, it is crucial to raise awareness about mental health issues and promote innovative solutions that prioritize the well-being of all individuals in our community."

Not all offenders will be eligible for this program. Only non-violent offenders who have a diagnosed mental health illness with a clear nexus between the mental health diagnosis and the criminal offense. In addition, the district attorney's office must review the charges and consult with the offender's victim before giving their consent for the offender to be a participant in the diversion program.

"There is a growing need to effectively treat non-violent offenders' mental health issues before they reoffend by committing a more severe, potentially violent, crime," said District Attorney Seth Edwards. "I'm excited to see this program's long term, positive effects in the Second District."

Please see this link for a complete list of the [program's guidelines](#).

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About North Carolina Judicial Branch

The [North Carolina Judicial Branch](#) is an equal and distinctively separate branch and core function of government. More than 7,400 Judicial Branch employees statewide administer justice in courthouses in North Carolina's 100 counties. The [Judicial Branch budget for FY 2022-23](#) was \$712.8M, 87% of which is used to pay salaries and 11.5% is used for operations. The Judicial Branch receives 2.64% of the overall State budget.

About North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts

The North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts (NCAOC) is the administrative agency for the [North Carolina Judicial Branch](#), providing administrative services to help the North Carolina court system operate more efficiently and effectively, taking into account each courthouse's diverse needs, caseloads, and available resources.

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