# What should the recovering parent expect?

- The recovering parent participates in treatment and supportive services under close court supervision
- An individual treatment plan is developed with each parent in collaboration with a licensed treatment provider
- The parent initially comes to court approximately every 2 weeks and is required to comply with frequent testing and treatment recommendations
- While the parent is in treatment, the Court makes appropriate orders in the best interests of the children, but a final custody determination will not be made for up to 2 years, giving the parent the opportunity to succeed at recovery

#### For More Information, Please Contact

#### **The Court Service Center**

at 101 Munson Street Greenfield, MA 01302 (413) 775-7483

or

#### The Franklin Probate and Family Court at 101 Munson Street Greenfield, MA 01302

(413) 775-7452



For information about the work being done to combat addiction in our community, please contact our partner organization, The Opioid Task Force at <u>www.opioidtaskforce.org</u>



# Franklin Family Drug Court

Help for families struggling with substance use disorder



### What is substance use disorder?

Substance use disorder is a brain disease that affects behavior. Addiction is not something to be ashamed of. It is a chronic illness that requires long term treatment. It is diagnosable and treatable, just like any other disease.

If substance use disorder affects someone's ability to parent, your family may be eligible.



"The best advice I can give parents is that life is so much better without drugs. I wish every addict could learn that and feel the way I do. It is not an easy or a fast process but it is so worth it. Things will get better."

- Molly, Drug Court Graduate 2 years in recovery

### Why participate in Family Drug Court?

Children of all ages suffer when a parent abuses drugs or alcohol.

Every child deserves and wants the best parent he or she can have.



The goal of the Franklin Family Drug Court is to treat the entire family by:

- Assisting the parent in his or her recovery
- Addressing the needs of the child and caregiver
- Removing the stigma of addiction

## What are the services of the Family Drug Court?

The Franklin Family Drug Court offers services for families struggling with substance use disorder and who have a case in the Franklin Probate and Family Court. It is a voluntary program that may help your family.

The services for children and caregivers include:

- Trauma assessments and follow up treatment
- Education about the disease model of addiction
- Referrals for resources and supportive services for the caregiver

