

A man with glasses and a dark suit is seated at a conference table, gesturing with both hands raised as if speaking. The background is a plain, light-colored wall. The text is overlaid on the image.

Extending Accountability Court Success in our Community

Athens community-based team approach is a triangulated framework with Accountability Courts, an established 501c3 partner, and robust Advisory Board.



ATHENS AREA
**Community
Foundation**

Athens-Clarke County
UNIFIED GOVERNMENT

Partnership in Action

What is a Community Foundation?



Tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization



Vehicle to harness community resources for permanent good



Umbrella for Charitable Funds



Cost-effective, tax-efficient way for donors to pool their assets



Steward of these assets for long-term growth and maximum returns



Strategic grantmaker of discretionary funds



Support Donors in fulfilling their philanthropic goals

Why have a Community Foundation?

Discretionary Income vs. Discretionary Assets

Individual Donations

Business Donations

Faith-based/Church Grants

Government Grants

Private Family Foundations



**STANDARDS FOR
GEORGIA
ACCOUNTABILITY
COURTS**

UNIFIED GOVERNMENT



ATHENS AREA
**Community
Foundation**

Georgia Code Title 15. Courts § 15-1-15

10. Forging partnerships among drug courts, public agencies, and community-based organizations generates local support and enhances drug court program effectiveness.

- 10.1** Pursuant to O.C.G.A. §15-1-15, each drug court shall establish a planning group to create a work plan for the court. The work plan shall “address the operational, coordination, resource, information management, and evaluation needs” of the court, and shall include all policies and practices related to implementing the standards set forth in this document.
- 10.2** A local steering committee consisting of representatives from the court, community organizations, law enforcement, treatment providers, health providers, social service agencies, and the faith community should meet on a quarterly basis to provide policy guidance, fundraising assistance, and feedback to the drug court program.
- 10.3** Drug courts should consider forming an independent 501(c)(3) organization for fundraising and administration of the steering committee.
- 10.4** Drug courts should actively engage in forming partnerships and building relationships between the court and various community partners. This may be achieved through facilitation of forums, informational sessions, public outreach, and other ways of marketing.
- 10.5** Drug court staff should participate in ongoing cultural competency training on an annual basis.



Athens - Oconee Treatment Courts Steering Committee

Mission:

To serve as an advocate for treatment courts in Athens Clarke and Oconee Counties by promoting awareness and engagement among community stakeholders: by ensuring adequate resources for courts, by connecting participants to needed services, by providing policy guidance, and by ensuring accountability.



Strategic Objectives

- 1) *Awareness and Advocacy*: Educate community organizations, local government agencies, the media, and key criminal justice and behavioral health officials, business and community leaders, and the public about the existence, efficacy, and the great value of treatment courts to the community;
- (2) *Access to Resources for Courts*: Promote sustainability and adequate operational and in-kind resources by sharing common resources to meet participant needs.
- (3) *Access to Resources for Participants*: Ensure access to appropriate treatment and ancillary services including medical, vocational, financial, housing and educational resources; and
- (4) *Policy Guidance and Accountability*: Insure use of best practices, efficient use of shared resources, and opportunity for growth and improvement of treatment courts.

Should we start our own
501c3 instead?

8 Step Process to Start a 501(C)(3) Organization

- Step 1: [Get clear on your purpose](#)
- Step 2: [Deciding the type of nonprofit](#)
- Step 3: [Name your nonprofit](#)
- Step 4: [Form a Board](#)
- Step 5: [Let's write the Bylaws](#)
- Step 6: [File your incorporation paperwork](#)
- Step 7: [File for 501\(c\)\(3\) tax-exempt](#)
- Step 8: [Ensure ongoing compliance](#)

<https://donorbox.org/nonprofit-blog/how-to-start-a-501c3/>



Contact Us!

Lynne Policaro , Court Administrator
Athens-Clarke County Unified Government
706-613-3161

lynne.policaro@accgov.com

Sarah McKinney, President | CEO
Athens Area Community Foundation
706-357-7148

smckinney@athensareacf.org

www.athensareacf.org

Athens-Clarke County
UNIFIED GOVERNMENT



ATHENS AREA
**Community
Foundation**