

DeKalb County Superior Court

DeKalb County, Georgia Stone Mountain Judicial Circuit

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 20, 2020

DeKalb County Accountability Courts Receives an award from the Office of Justice Programs



DECATUR, Ga.—The DeKalb County Accountability Courts (DCAC) received notice on Friday, October 16, 2020 of being an award recipient of the Bureau of Justice Assistance FY 2020 Adult Drug Court and Veterans Treatment Court Discretionary Grant Program.



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The award program offers financial and technical assistance to assist in enhancing the operations for the DeKalb County Drug Court and Veterans Treatment Court. The award is \$500,000.00 for three years.

The Accountability Courts goals with the support of the award is to increase its programs census, expand and provide services to current program participants and graduates, as well as conduct on going surveys and evaluations to ensure program, participants and graduates are able to maintain long term sobriety while ensuring strong alumni and community support networks post program graduation.

The DCAC assist nonviolent offenders in addressing the risk factors that lead to frequent and persistent incarceration, with specific programming for veterans (Veterans Treatment Court), individuals suffering from addiction (Drug Court) and the mentally ill (Felony Mental Health Court). The programs provide cognitive behavioral evidencebased treatments curricula that are designed to assist participants by monitoring their thinking while assessing their core values as well as their attitudes and belief systems. The programs further focus on instilling accountability and developing a network of community resources and support systems after program completion.

The programs continue to look for community partners to assist with the ongoing needs of the program participants. The participants' needs vary as they have often gone without maintaining their physical and mental health. While participating in treatment, as one of the numerous treatment goals is to ensure participants are managing and maintaining all aspects of their lives (spiritual, mental, and physical). The ability to access and connect with resources within the community are necessary to support the program's participants as they reintegrate back into mainstream society while maintaining long term sobriety.

For more information about the DeKalb County Accountability Courts programs, contact Fredericka Dent at <u>fsdent@dekalbcountyga.gov</u> or Connie Morris at <u>cfmorris@dekalbcountyga.gov</u> or visit <u>www.dekalbsuperiorcourt.com/drug-court/contact-us</u>.