



**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
OF THE COURTS**

Veterans Treatment Court

Kimberly Shumate

Vice-Chief Regional District Judge, 9th Judicial District

Audrey Collins

Department of Specialty Courts, Executive Officer



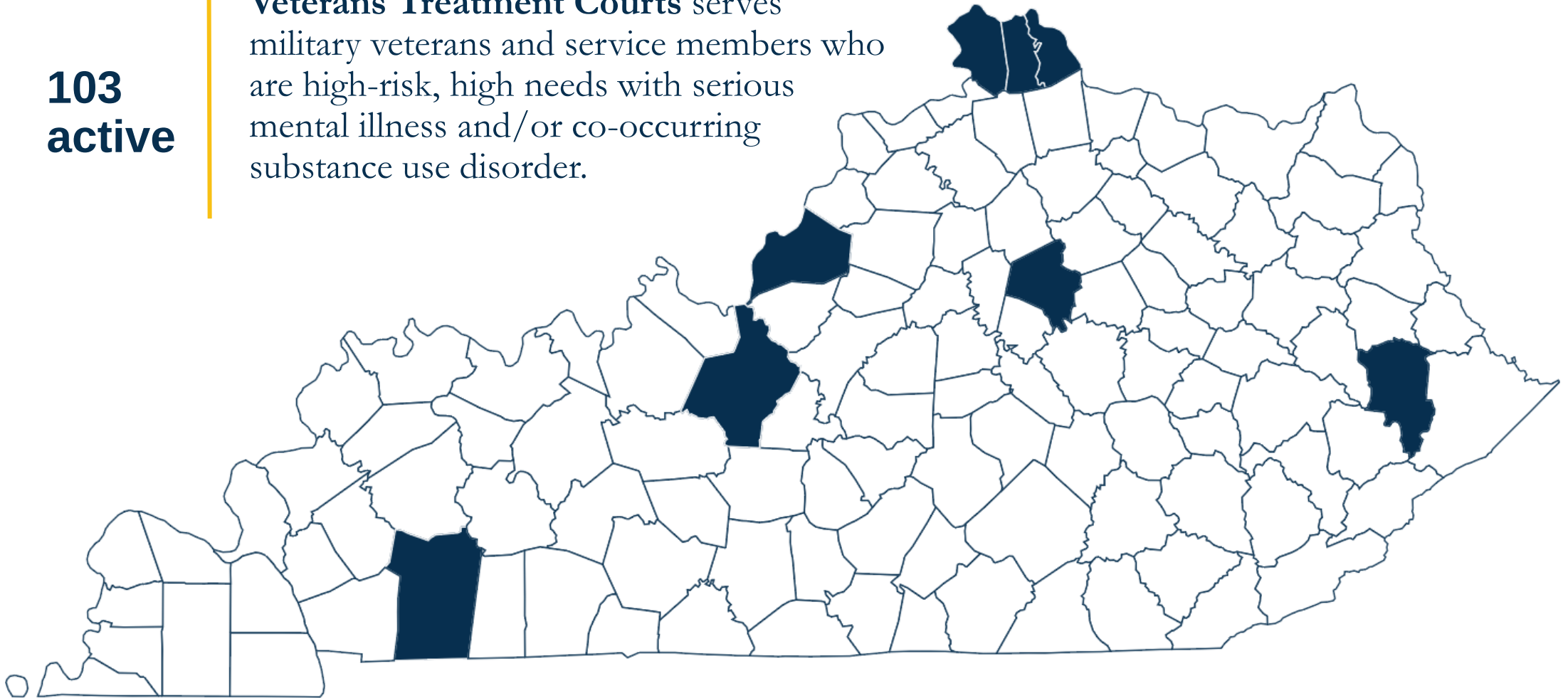
Honoring Service, Healing Justice

Every veteran deserves a justice system that understands their sacrifice.

Locations

**103
active**

Veterans Treatment Courts serves military veterans and service members who are high-risk, high needs with serious mental illness and/or co-occurring substance use disorder.



Presiding Judges

- Boone – Hon. Jeffrey S. Smith
- Campbell – Hon. Cameron J. Blau
- Christian – Hon. J. Foster Cotthoff
- Fayette – Hon. Thomas L. Travis
- Floyd – Hon. Jimmy R. Marcum
- Hardin – Hon. Kimberly W. Shumate
- Jefferson – Hon. Mitch Perry
- Kenton – Hon. Ann Ruttle



Why Treatment Courts?

- Intervene on the “Revolving Door” of criminal activity
- Mandated treatment with strict compliance and expectations
- Treatment and Justice hand-in-hand
- “Motivated” Court Defendant = “Thirsty” treatment client

Drug Court

- Participants have been diagnosed with Substance Use Disorder (SUD)
 - Abuse of illicit or prescription drugs, and/or alcohol
- Focus on ensuring stability and sobriety across four key dimensions of recovery: health, home, purpose and community

Mental Health Court

- Participants have been diagnosed with behavioral health conditions, which may include mental illness, substance use disorder, and/or intellectual disabilities
 - Ex: Bipolar Disorder, Schizophrenia, Major Depressive Disorder
- Mental illness is primary factor in justice-involvement
- Focus on promoting stability through consistent monitoring of medication adherence

Veterans Treatment Court

- Participants have been diagnosed with behavioral health conditions, which may include mental illness, substance use disorder, or a co-occurring disorders
 - Ex: Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) or Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)
- Focus on promoting stability through consistent monitoring of medication adherence and an emphasis on veteran peer mentoring

Who We Serve



- Veterans and active-duty service members
- Veterans with behavioral health challenges
- Often justice-involved due to trauma

What Makes VTC Effective?



Judicial oversight



Coordinated treatment and recovery services

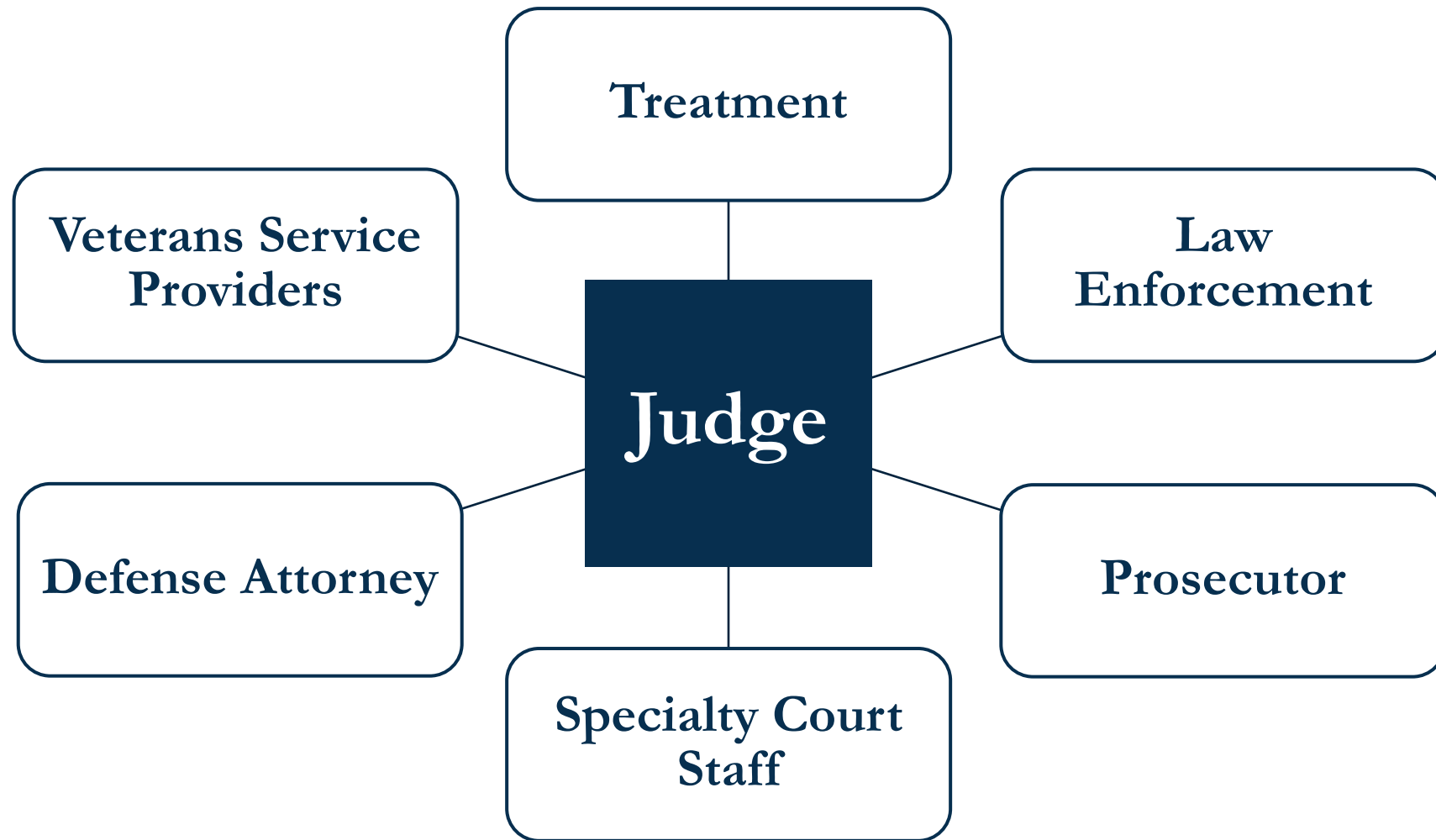


Peer mentorship from fellow veterans



Case management

Veterans Treatment Court Teams



Cost Comparison



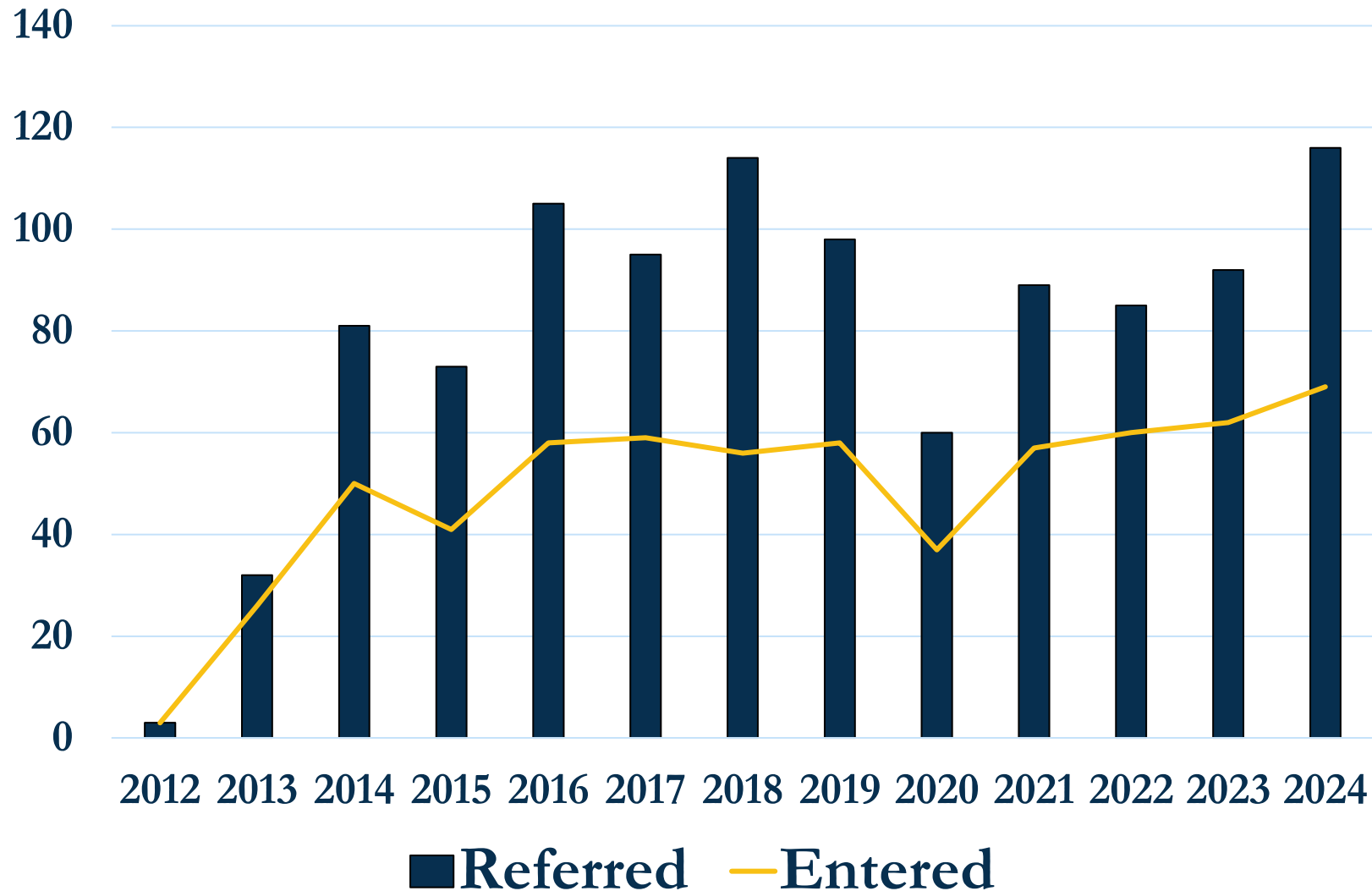
Average annual cost per incarcerated person in Kentucky is \$16,060 (approximately \$44 per day).

**Vera Institute of Justice*



Annual Specialty Court participant cost is \$6,507.85 (approximately \$18 per day).

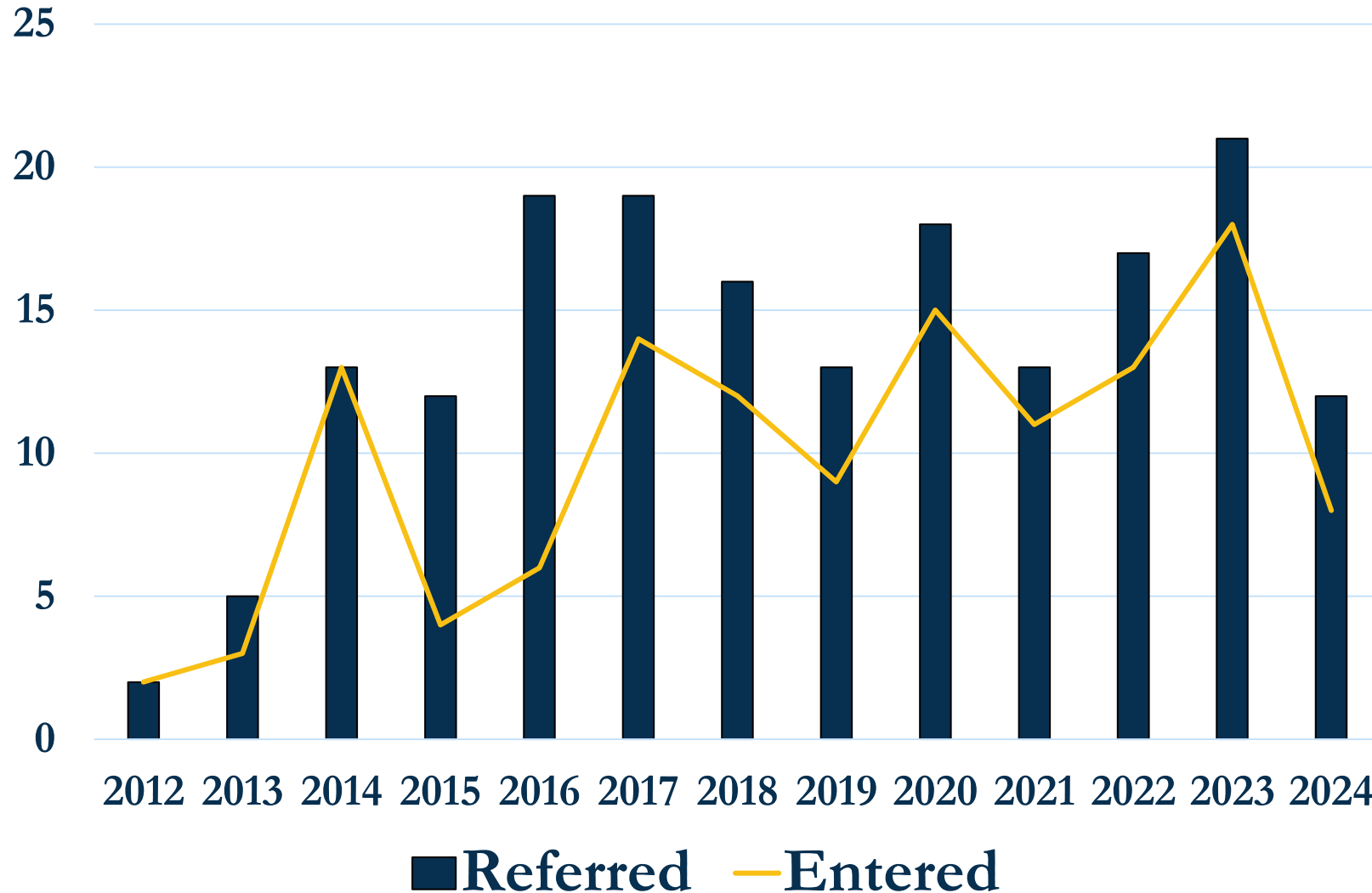
Statewide VTC Referrals/Entrances



- *1,043 Referrals*
- *636 Entrances*

Data reflects those who participated from inception through 2024

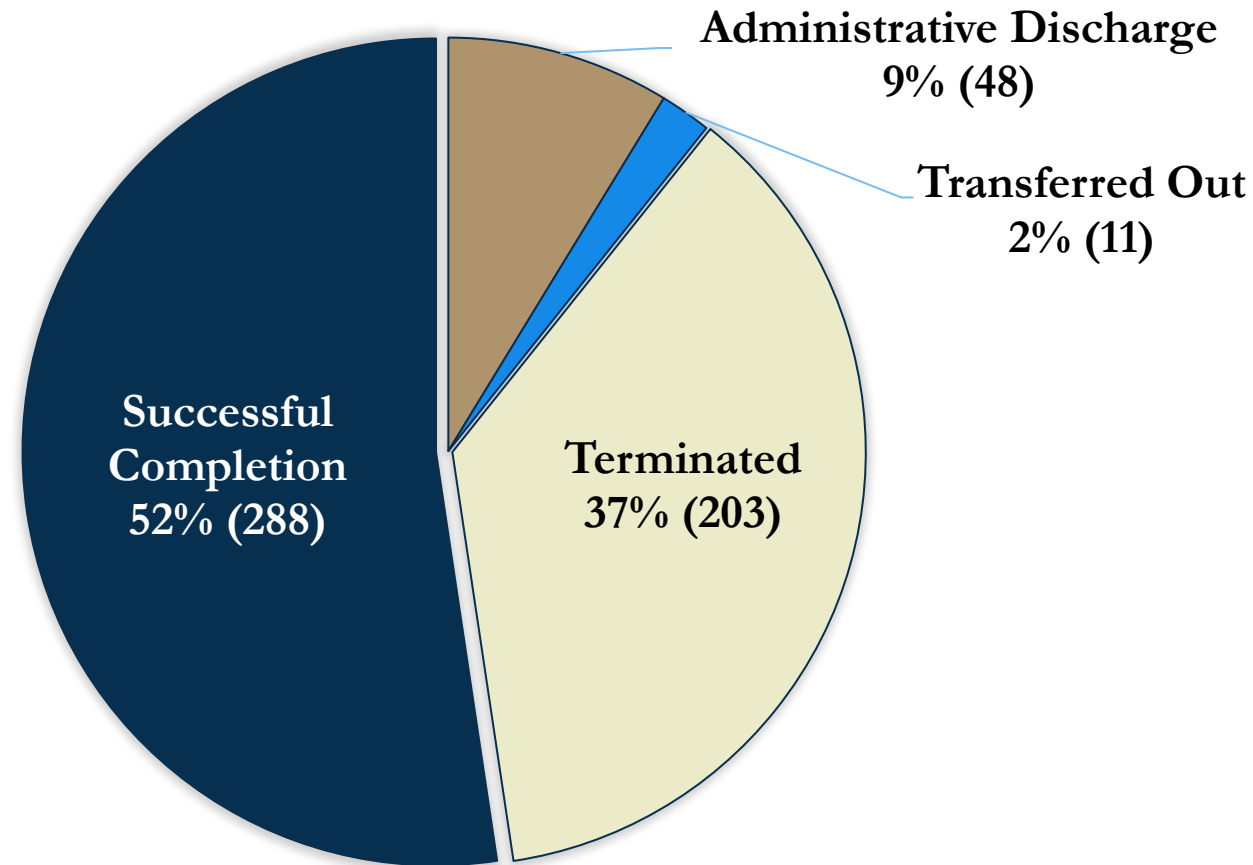
Hardin Co VTC Referrals/Entrances



- *180 Referrals*
- *128 Entrances*

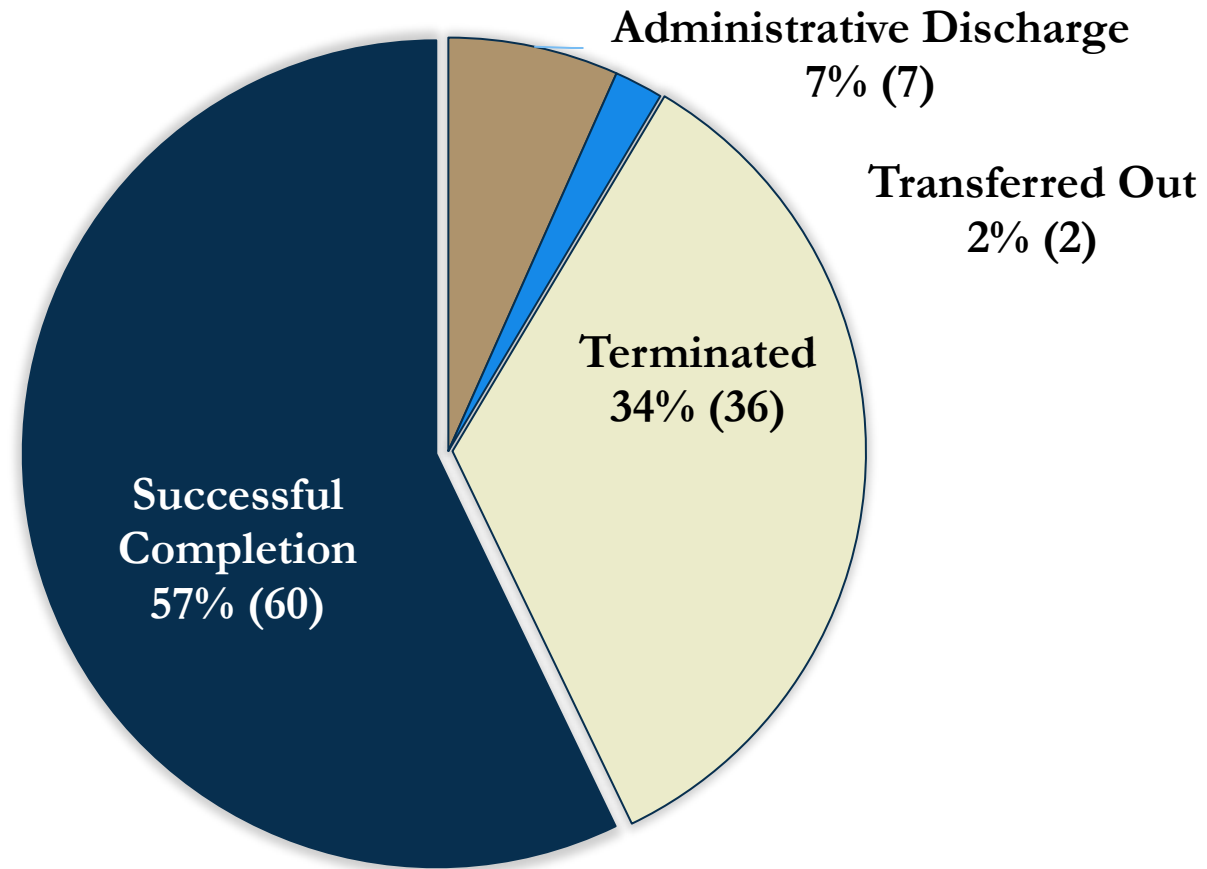
Data reflects those who participated from inception through 2024

Statewide VTC Outcomes



Data reflects those who participated from inception through 2024

Hardin Co VTC Outcomes



Data reflects those who participated from inception through 2024

Statewide VTC Outcomes

113

participants obtained
employment

84%

of VTC graduates
remained free of new
Felony or Misdemeanor
Convictions within 3 years
(147)

67

participants completed
in-patient treatment

76K+

76,363 recovery support
meetings attended by
participants

175

participants successfully
completed the program
(2016 – 2021)

\$242K+

Paid on obligations by
participants

Data reflects those who participated from inception through 2024

Hardin Co VTC Outcomes

19

participants obtained
employment

97%

of VTC graduates
remained free of new
Felony or Misdemeanor
Convictions within 3 years
(34)

18

participants completed
in-patient treatment

17K+

17,194 recovery support
meetings attended by
participants

35

participants successfully
completed the program
(2016 – 2021)

\$70K+

Paid on obligations by
participants

Data reflects those who participated from inception through 2024

Statewide Recidivism

Time After Completion	Re-Arrest	Re-Incarceration
≤ 6 months	2.86% (5)	0.57% (1)
1 year	7.43% (13)	1.14% (2)
3 years	20.57% (36)	4.57% (8)

Kentucky's general recidivism rate: **30.81%** (two-year measure)

Data reflects those who participated from inception through 2024

Hardin Co Recidivism

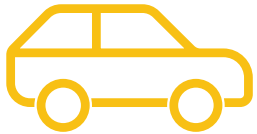
Time After Completion	Re-Arrest	Re-Incarceration
≤ 6 months	2.86% (1)	0% (0)
1 year	2.86% (1)	2.86% (1)
3 years	5.71% (2)	2.86% (1)

Data reflects those who participated from inception through 2024

Challenges



Housing instability



Transportation gaps



Limited rural access

Veteran Voices

“VTC has given me a chance to find myself. I have opened up in therapy, found accountability, and become self-aware of some life-threatening health issues I would likely have never seen coming.”

-Y.W. 46 y.o. Marine combat vet



Veteran Voices



“I had never taken advantage of my benefits and VTC has given me a new chance to be successful.”

-K.D. 38 y.o. Army combat vet

“I have not only gotten my life back, Legal Aid is helping me with a discharge upgrade to obtain VA benefits.”

-R.D. 58 y.o. Army vet

Veteran Voices



“Thank you, just thank you. It is more than words can say.”

-P.M. 37 y.o. Army combat vet

Veteran Voices

“I have achieved goals that I never expected I would ever be able to achieve after having criminal charges.”

-C.A. 61 y.o. Army vet

“I am so thankful for this program. It has gotten my life back on track.”

-D.B. 62 y.o. Army combat vet

“I found true friends.

-E.M. 44 y.o. Marine vet



Veteran Voices



“VTC has taken me from just existing, to living and now in Phase 5 to flourishing. I could never have regained this life without the support and encouragement of VTC.”

-R.F. 39 y.o. Army vet



Hardin County
Veterans Treatment Court
and presiding Judge Kimberly Winkenhofer Shumate

cordially invite you to attend

VTC Graduation Ceremonies

Thursday, November 13, 2025

At 1400 hours, EST

We are moving OUTDOORS. Bring your own chair.

Elizabethtown Nature Park/ Veterans Memorial Wall

Ring Road

Elizabethtown, KY 42701



Thank You