

SAN FRANCISCO FAMILY TREATMENT COURT

A Collaborative Court of the San Francisco Superior Court



AT A GLANCE

The San Francisco Family Treatment Court (FTC) is a collaboration of public agencies and community-based service providers and offers highly coordinated assessment, treatment planning, and recovery maintenance support for families involved in the juvenile dependency, or child welfare, system as a result of parental substance use.

OUR APPROACH

FTC uses a non-adversarial approach to integrate judicial and procedural accountability with substance use disorder treatment, parenting education, and other services to maximize positive outcomes for families. Over the past 16 years, FTC has served over 625 parents and 800 children with a comprehensive array of services and an emphasis on compassion, fairness, and self-determination.

GOALS



- Ensure parents have the resources and support they need to care for their children and themselves.
- Ensure children's physical health, mental health, and developmental needs are met.
- Increase incidence of reunification.
- Reduce incidence of re-entry into foster care after reunification.
- Improve cross-systems collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and efficiencies.
- Ensure judicial accountability and procedure fairness for all families served.

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"Honestly, I don't know what I would have done without FTC's help. I feel the members of FTC go above and beyond for their clients. I don't think I would have been able to make it. I'm just proud of myself that I fought so hard and all the way until the end. And that I have my boys, that I kept my word, that I'm reliable, I'm steadfast and unrelenting in my quest for being a better person and a better parent for my children."

- FTC Parent Client



PARTNERS

- San Francisco Superior Court
- Family & Children's Services (Human Services Agency)
- Behavioral Health Services (Department of Public Health)
- Foster Care Mental Health (Department of Public Health)
- Maternal Child, and Adolescent Health (Department of Public Health)
- Homeless Prenatal Program (HPP)
- HealthRIGHT 360
- Epiphany Center for Women in Recovery
- Latino Commission
- Hamilton Families
- San Francisco Court Appointed Special Advocates (SFCASA)
- UCSF Infant Parent Program (IPP)
- UCSF Primary Care Addiction Medicine Fellowship

KEY METRICS

Data shows that a higher percentage of FTC-participating families remain out of the child welfare system compared to the general child welfare population. For parents who complete FTC:

97% of children remained reunified one year after reunification.

95% of children remained reunified two years after FTC completion.

FTC's 3% re-entry rate compares to the County's rate of 22.5% of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of exit to reunification or guardianship.

OUTCOMES

FTC's completion rate is approximately 60%, but data shows that **any participation** in FTC promotes family reunification. A study completed in collaboration with Family & Children's Services in 2021 concluded that children whose parent(s) entered FTC were 9.9 times more likely to reunify than the comparison group of similar parents who did not enter FTC. At 13.3%, FTC's 12-month re-entry rate for children of **all parents, whether they complete or not**, is also substantially lower than the County rate.

"Because of my recovery my son has his mom back! Because of my recovery, I can show my son what hard work is. He's worth it. We are worth it. I just want to thank each and every one of you that took the time to help me get strong, that took the time to listen to me when I needed help but didn't know how to ask for it or was just too ashamed to."

- FTC Parent Client