

What is the Turning Point Program?

The Summit County Turning Point Program is a court-supervised program for substance dependent offenders. The Turning Point Team holds offenders accountable and gives them the support and resources they need to become positive, contributing citizens. In doing so, Turning Point enhances public safety, reduces crime, saves the community money, and changes lives.

Turning Point is offered through the Summit County Court of Common Pleas, in the courtrooms of Judge Joy Malek Oldfield and Judge Christine Croce.

Participants of the Turning Point program are required to:

- Complete the program, including substance abuse treatment
- Regularly report to caseworker
- Attend scheduled court hearings

How does Turning Point help?

Making life-altering changes isn't easy, but the information, treatment, and teaching provided in this intense, research based program helps individuals chart a new course that includes:

- A clean and sober lifestyle
- A family life with close relationships
- Healthy friendships
- Educational opportunities
- Employment goals and options
- Becoming trustworthy
- An overall, healthier lifestyle
- Resources to help you reach your full potential

What clients say about Turning Point:

"Pain induces change. If you hurt bad enough you'll change. When I decided to straighten my life out I had to have the resources to help. I couldn't do it myself."

"My problem was not being able to deal with life on life's terms. To me, drugs and alcohol were the solution."

"If it wasn't for this program I'm sure I'd either be in prison or dead."

"To have my family say they're proud of me now is such an amazing thing. I love my life now."

"Now I have a full time job, custody of my kids, my (driver's) license, I'm buying a house, and I have new hobbies."

For more information contact:

Summit County Common Pleas Court
Judge Joy Malek Oldfield
330-643-8301

Judge Christine Croce
330-643-2230

Oriana House Nonresidential Services
330-996-2225

Summit County Probation Department
330-643-7844

Summit County Court of Common Pleas Turning Point



Operated by Summit County Court of
Common Pleas in cooperation
with Oriana House, Inc.

Turning Point is an intense program, at least 12 months in length, that helps offenders with drug and/or alcohol addictions get the treatment and skills they need to achieve a sober, law-abiding, positive lifestyle.

The Turning Point Team – Summit County Common Pleas Judges Joy Malek Oldfield and Christine Croce, along with dedicated professionals from Oriana House, the Summit County Probation Department, the Summit County Prosecutor’s Office, and law enforcement – work together to provide the resources, instruction, support, accountability and tools needed for participants to reach their personal “Turning Point.”

Programming

The Turning Point Program consists of four progressive phases.

Participants must attend regular court hearings, meet often with their caseworker, attend treatment and self-help meetings as directed, undergo random and routine alcohol and drug testing, abide by the rules of the Turning Point Program and probation, and obey all laws. Further requirements of each phase include:

1 - Compliance: A minimum of four consecutive weeks

- Submit verification of employment or school enrollment/GED class enrollment
- Remain drug and alcohol free and sanction free for four consecutive weeks

2 - Engagement: A minimum of six consecutive weeks

- Engage with housing, educational, vocational, and employment referrals
- Establish sober support
- Develop pro-social activities
- Remain drug and alcohol free and sanction free for six consecutive weeks

3 - Growth and Development: A minimum of eight consecutive weeks

- Maintain sober support
- Attend pro-social activities
- Remain drug and alcohol free and sanction free for eight consecutive weeks

4 - Maintenance: A minimum of eight consecutive weeks

- Continue to participate in a sober support community
- Obtain and/or maintain employment or participate in other vocational activities
- Make regular payments on court costs and program fees
- Obtain GED if applicable
- Obtain and/or maintain stable housing
- Remain sanction free for eight consecutive weeks
- Remain drug and alcohol free for 16 consecutive weeks prior to graduation

System of Rewards and Sanctions

Research shows it is important to recognize and reinforce progress toward responsible, abstinent behavior. Graduated sanctions (lesser sanctions for less serious noncompliance and increasingly severe sanctions for serious problems) can also be an effective tool.

Turning Point participants are rewarded for positive behavior and progress in ways which may include:

- Judicial praise in court
- Certificate of achievement or completion
- Gift cards and sobriety-related rewards
- Reduction of program requirements
- Advancement to next phase in program
- Reduction of community control term

Rule violations such as missing a court hearing, a meeting with the caseworker or probation officer, or a drug test; or testing positive for drug or alcohol use will result in sanctions such as:

- More frequent review hearings
- Additional case management sessions
- Increased alcohol or drug testing
- Behavioral contracts

- Verbal reprimand by the Judge
- Written essays
- Community service
- Incarceration or placement into a residential community correctional program
- Courtroom observation
- Electronic monitoring
- Returning to previous program phase
- Termination from the Turning Point Program

“Every client in the Turning Point program is battling with the disease of addiction. Our team cares about their sobriety and their future.”

*Summit County
Common Pleas Judge
Joy Malek Oldfield*



“Participation in the Turning Point program is voluntary. Drug testing is mandatory and skills are taught that identify and address the steps to recovery. When people put the work into the program, it works.”

*Summit County
Common Pleas Judge
Christine Croce*



*Turning Point is certified as a
Specialty Court by the Ohio Supreme Court*