

Prescription Drug Abuse Drug Courts

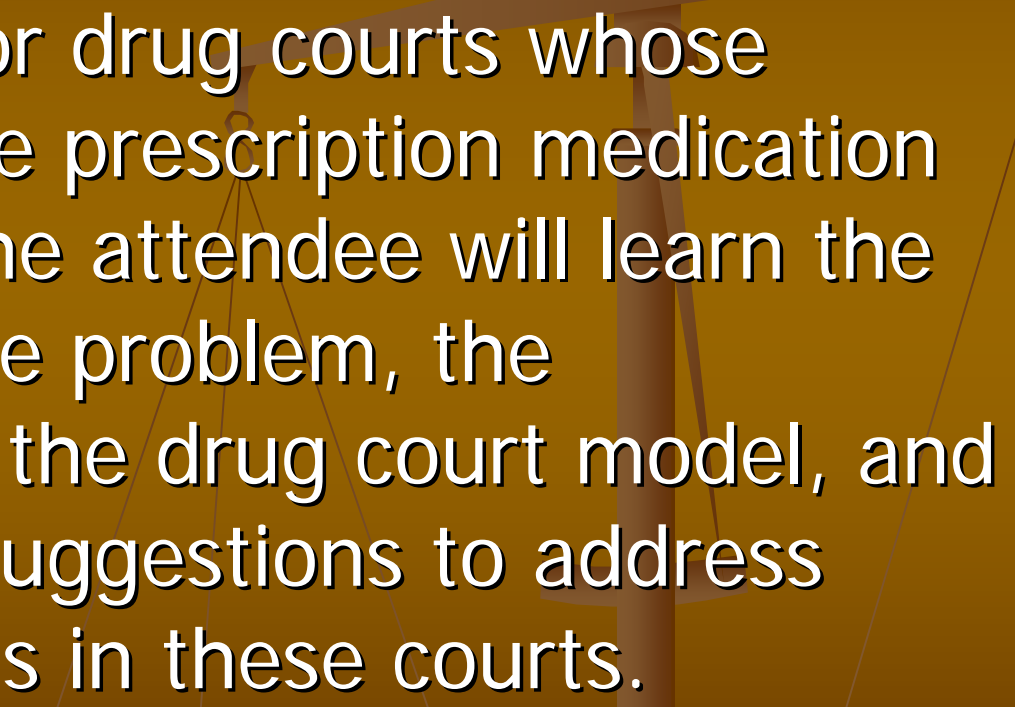


June 12, 2009

Anaheim, California

Educational Objective

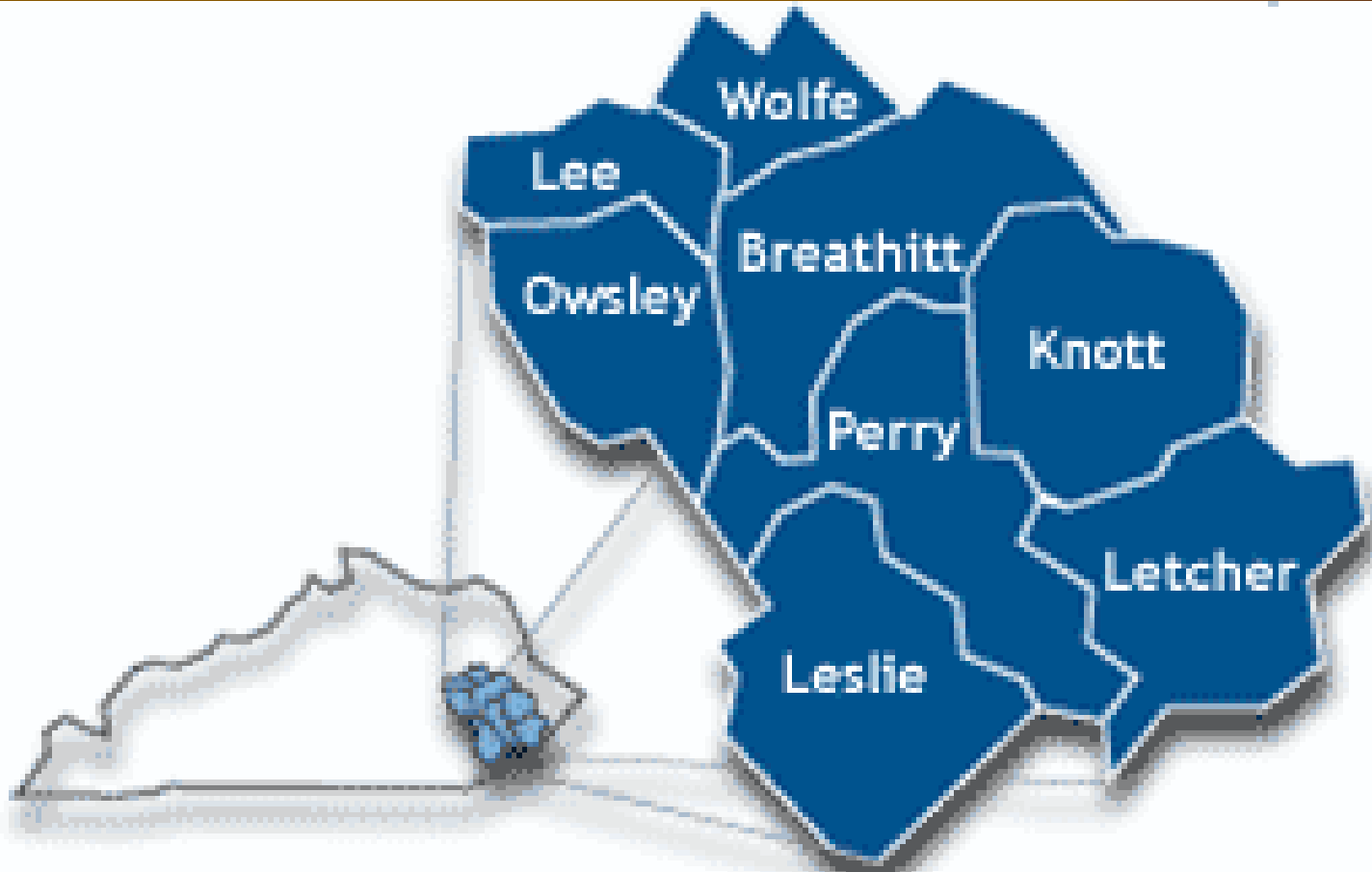
This session is for drug courts whose participants have prescription medication abuse issues. The attendee will learn the complexity of the problem, the effectiveness of the drug court model, and some practical suggestions to address specific problems in these courts.



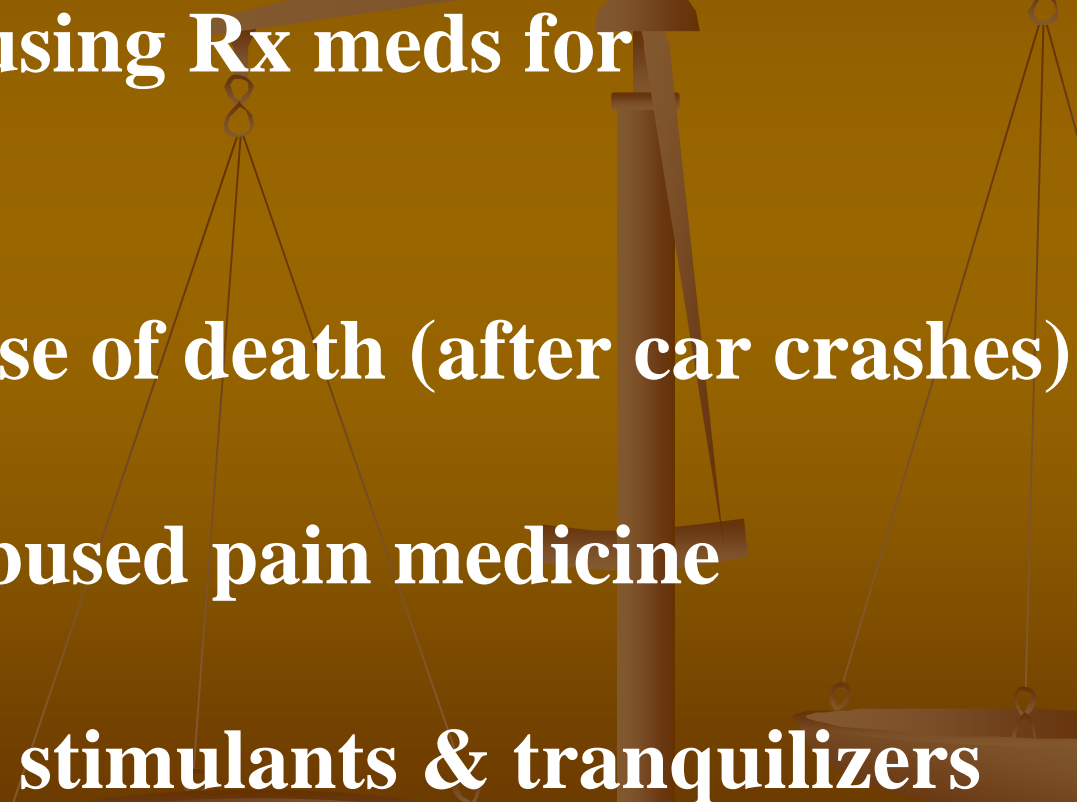
Northeastern Kentucky



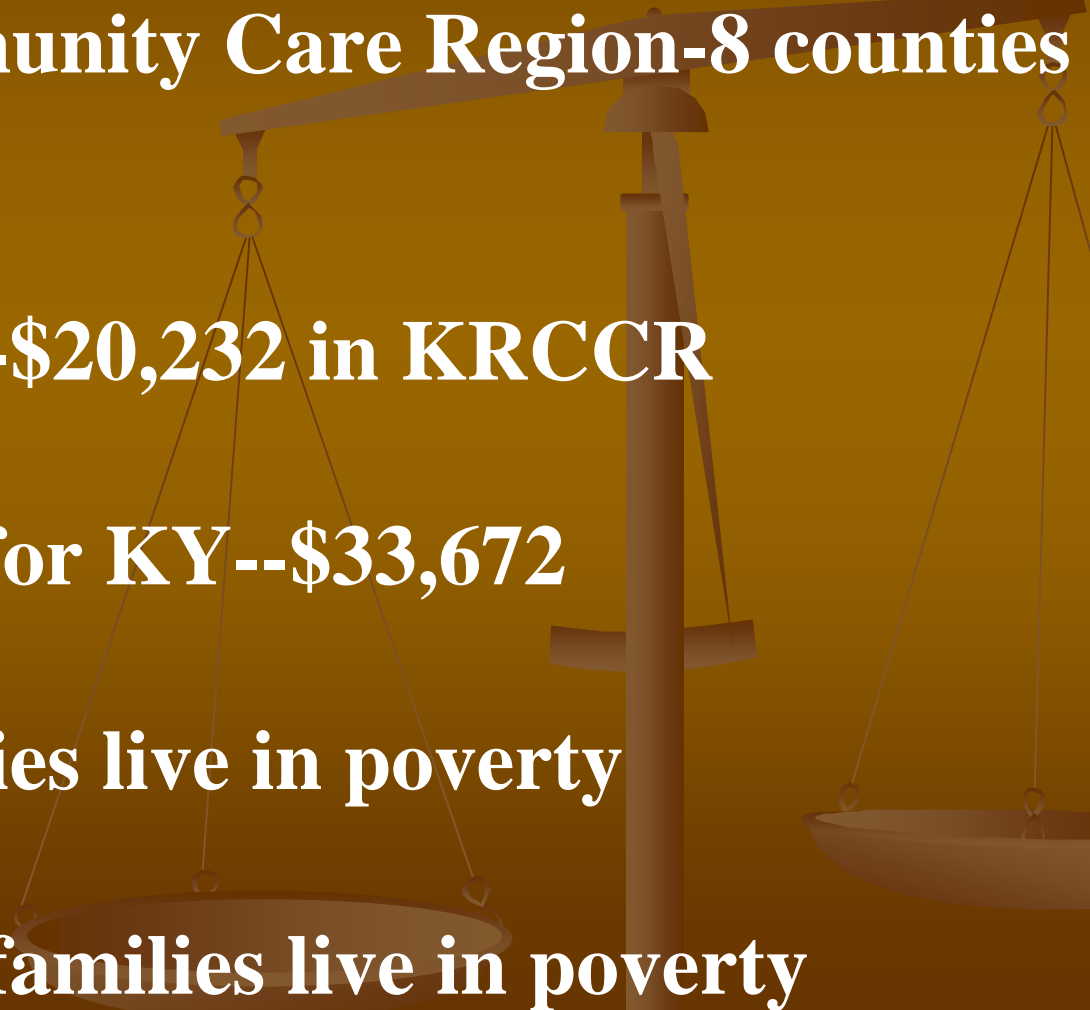
Kentucky River Community Care, Inc.



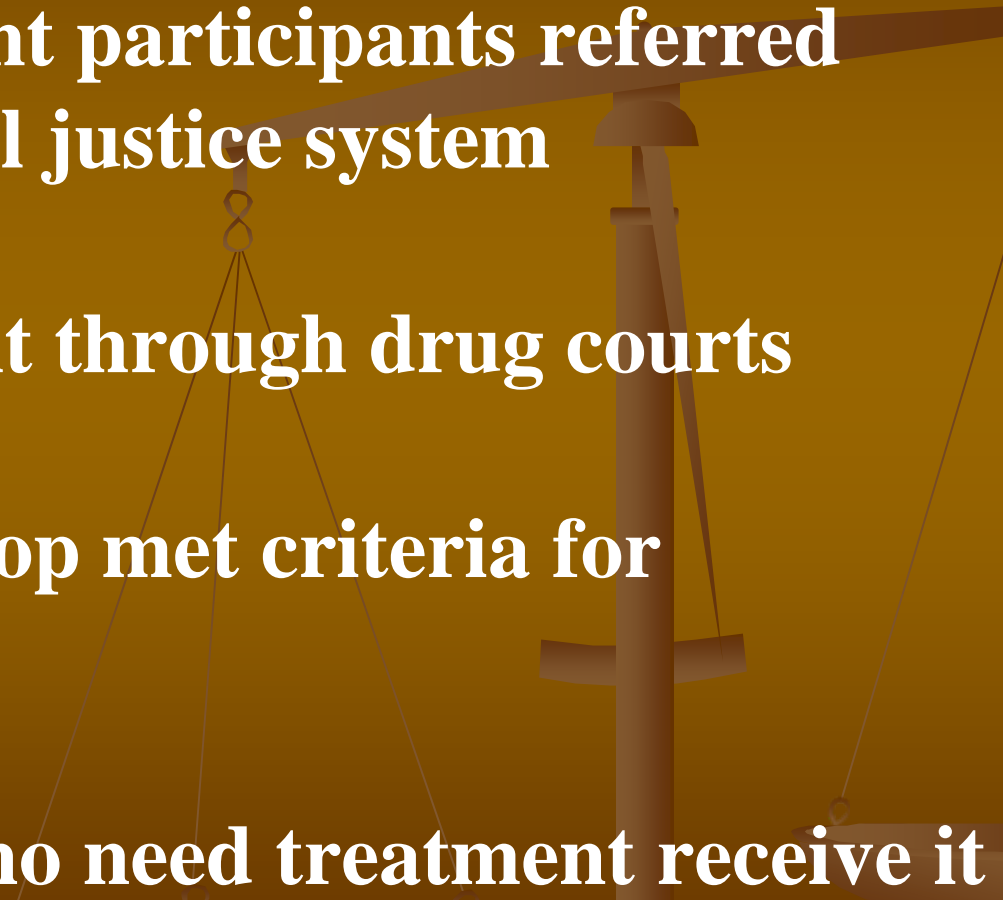
Prescription Drug Abuse Facts About Kentucky

- **KY leads nation using Rx meds for non-medical uses**
 - **Overdoses #2 cause of death (after car crashes)**
 - **1 in 5 teens has abused pain medicine**
 - **1 in 5 teens abuse stimulants & tranquilizers**
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Demographics

- **KY River Community Care Region-8 counties in eastern KY**
 - **Median income--\$20,232 in KRCCR**
 - **Median income for KY--\$33,672**
 - **12.7% KY families live in poverty**
 - **43.4% KRCCR families live in poverty**
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Demographics—Cont.

- 78% of treatment participants referred through criminal justice system
 - 5% in treatment through drug courts
 - 9% of general pop met criteria for treatment
 - 9% of people who need treatment receive it
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Drug Court

- **80% of defendants—addicted or dependent**
- **2 of 3 on Rx medication**
- **Little or no treatment in prison or jails**



Complexity of the Problem

Prescription drug distributors
include:

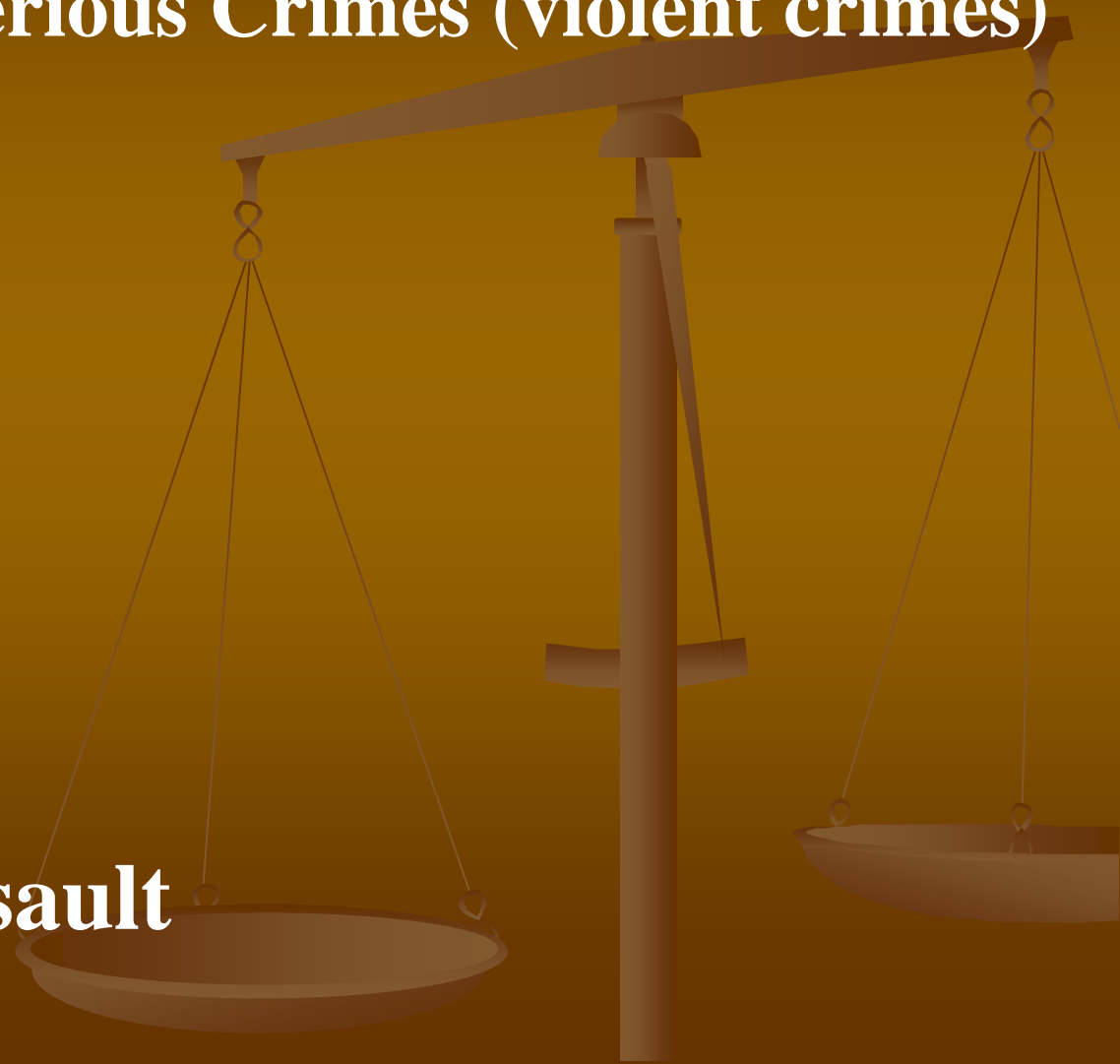
- Doctors
- Dentists
- Parents
- Grandparents
- Aunts & Uncles
- Etc.



Effectiveness

Part I Crimes—Serious Crimes (violent crimes)

- **Murder**
- **Forcible Rape**
- **Robbery**
- **Aggravated Assault**



Effectiveness-cont.

Part II Crimes—Less Serious Crimes (Non-violent)

- Sex Offenses (Except Rape & Prostitution)
 - Narcotic Drug Laws
 - Gambling
 - Offenses Against Family
 - Driving Under the Influence
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Effectiveness—2006

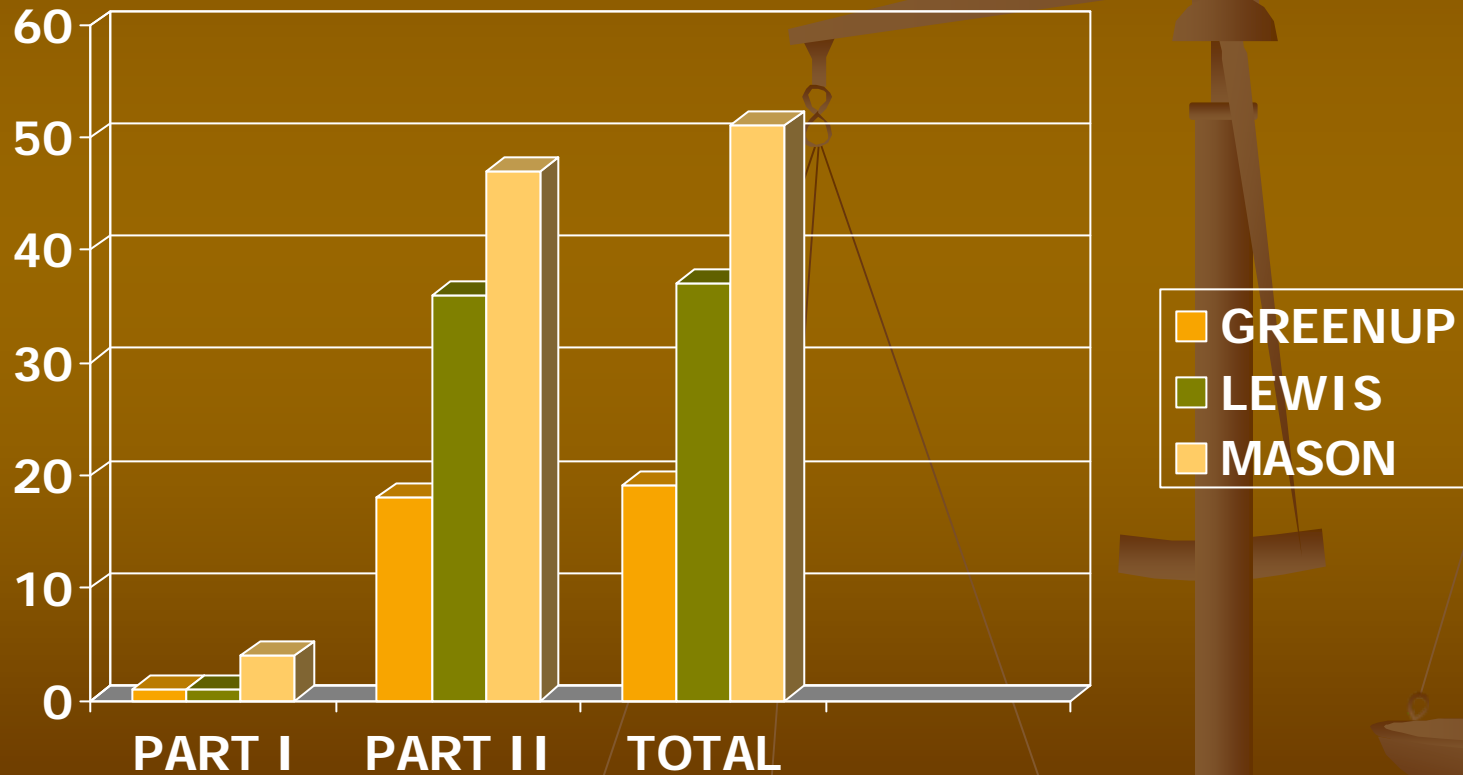
Number of crimes per 1000

COUNTY	PART I	PART II	TOTAL
GREENUP	1	18	19
LEWIS	1	36	37
MASON	4	47	51

*Information of Kentucky State Police statistics

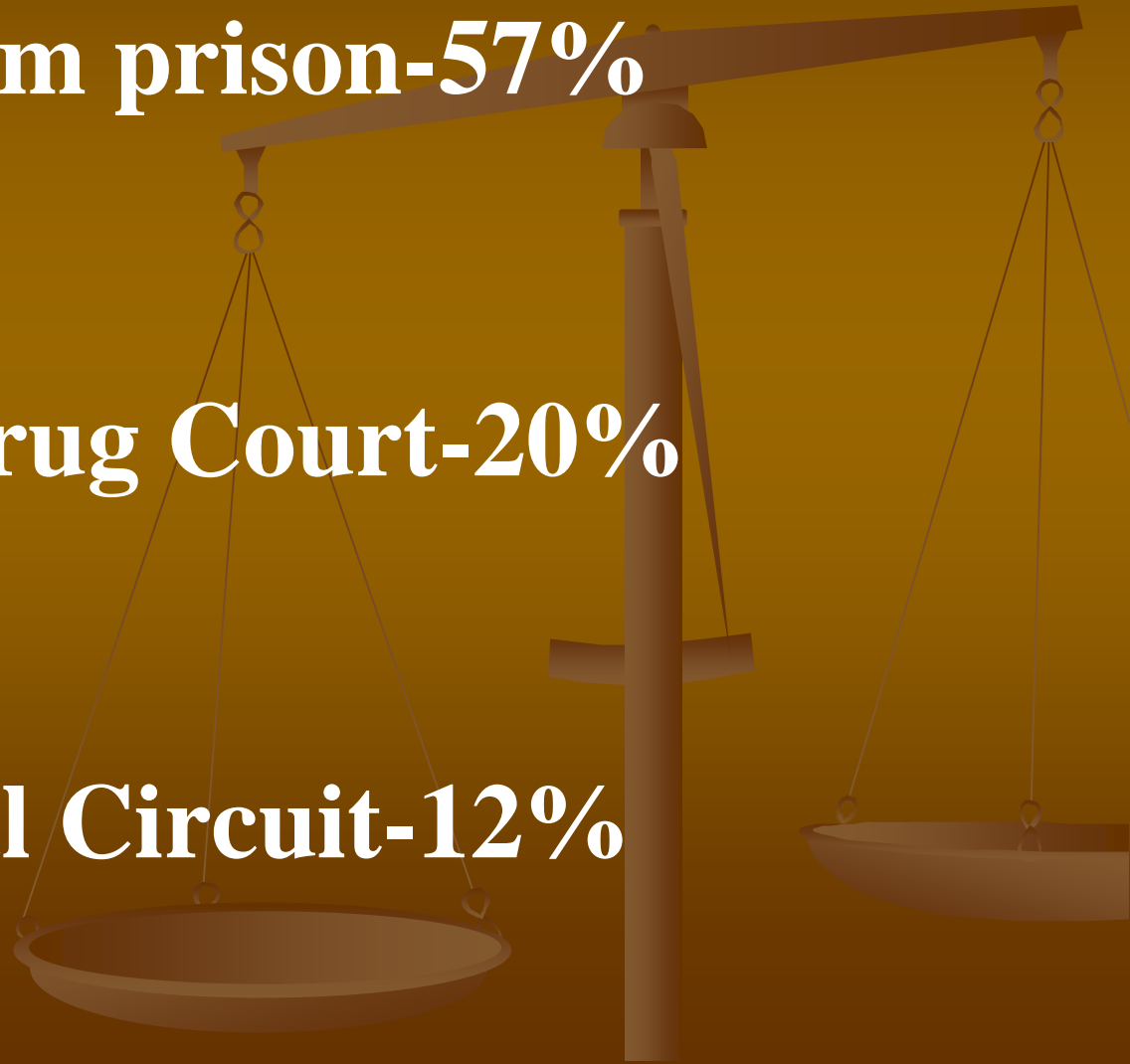
EFFECTIVENESS--2006

NO. OF CRIMES PER 1000 PEOPLE

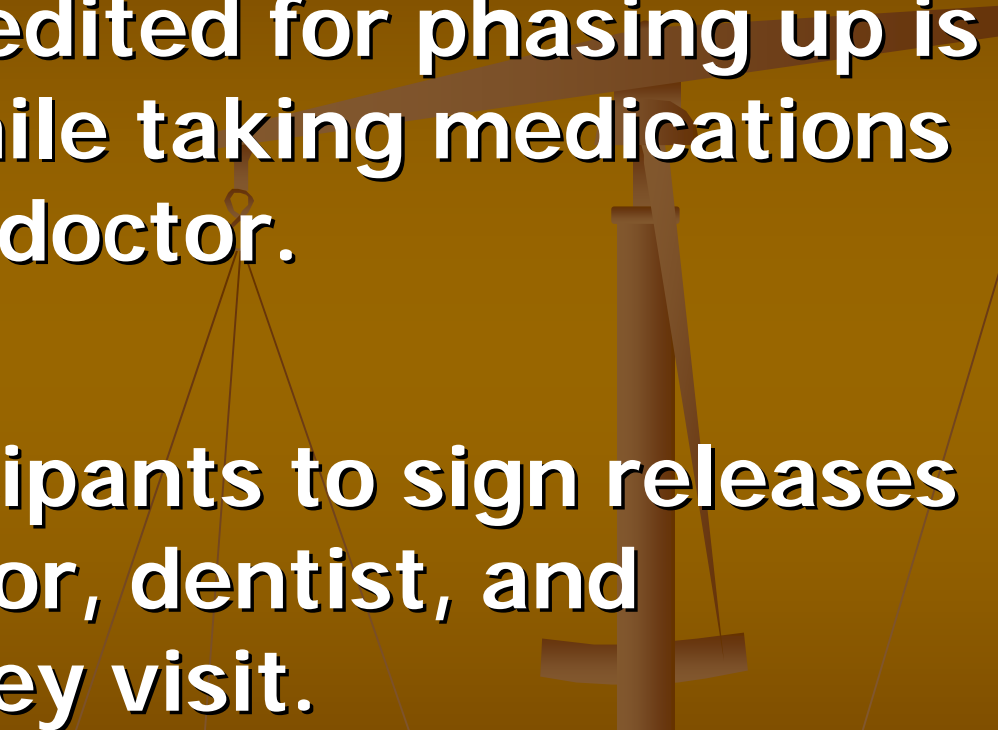


Drug Court Recidivism

- Released from prison-57%
(2 years)
- Kentucky Drug Court-20%
(2 years)
- 20TH Judicial Circuit-12%
(4 years)

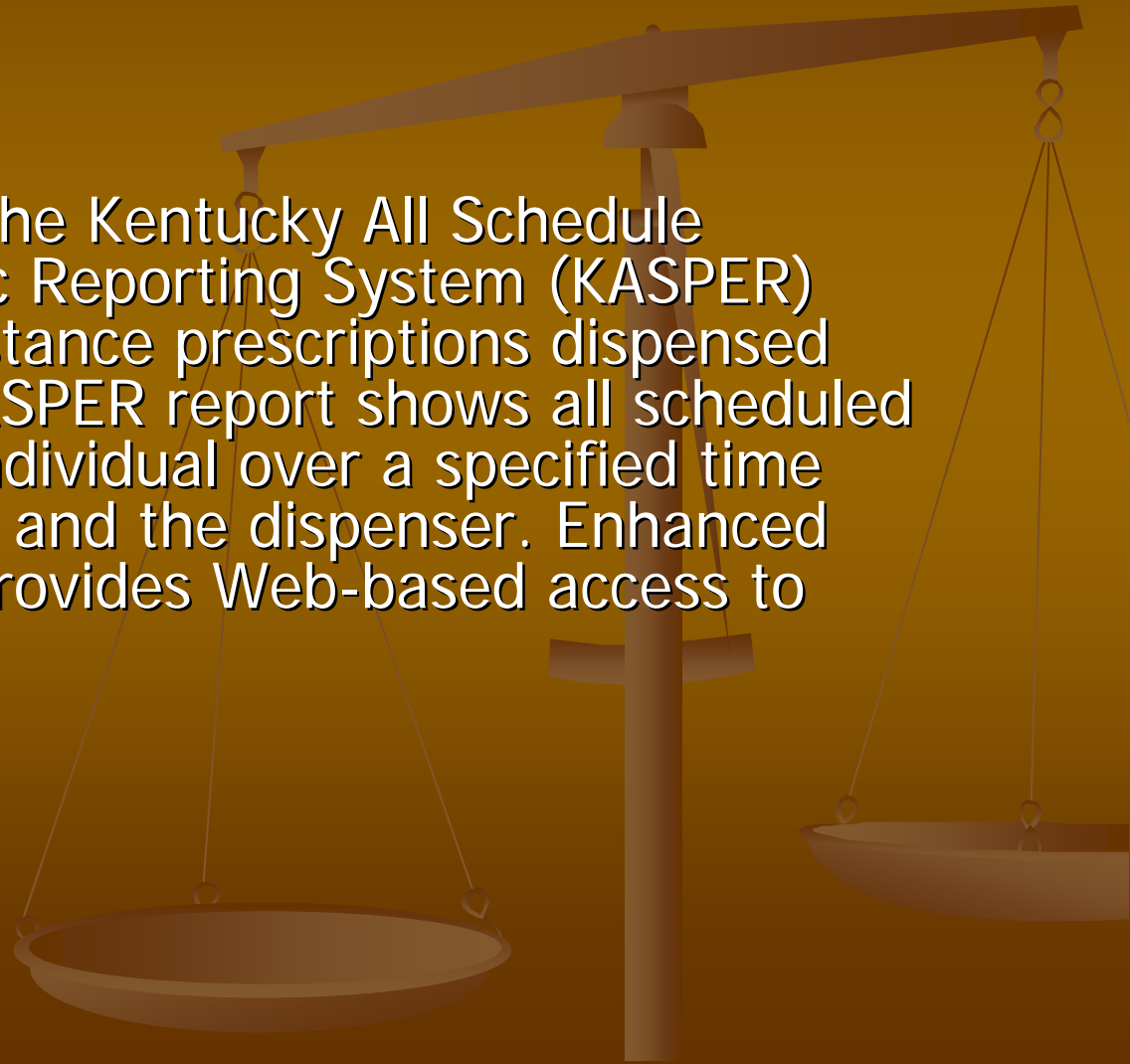


Suggestions

- Time spent credited for phasing up is suspended while taking medications prescribed by doctor.
 - Require participants to sign releases for every doctor, dentist, and pharmacist they visit.
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Suggestions—KASPER

- **Get a KASPER**
- **What is KASPER?** The Kentucky All Schedule Prescription Electronic Reporting System (KASPER) tracks controlled substance prescriptions dispensed within the state. A KASPER report shows all scheduled prescriptions for an individual over a specified time period, the prescriber and the dispenser. Enhanced KASPER (eKASPER) provides Web-based access to KASPER data.



KASPER—cont.

KASPER is a reporting system designed to be

- **A source of information for practitioners and pharmacists.**
- **An investigative tool for law enforcement.**

KASPER is not intended to

- **Prevent people from obtaining needed drugs.**
- **Decrease the number of doses dispensed.**

<http://chfs/ky.gov/os/oig/KASPER.htm>

Suggested Form

Julie Ilhardt, CADC, LPCC, NCC
Recovery Coordinator/Program Supervisor
Greenup/Lewis Drug Courts
405 Elizabeth Street
Greenup, KY 41144
Office 606-473-0769
Cell 502-545-2840
Fax 606-473-0286
Lewis County Office
94 Second Street
Vanceburg, KY 41179
Phone (606) 796-0783
Fax (606)796-0905

TODAY'S DATE _____

NAME OF FACILITY _____

I _____, *am a participant in the*

GREENUP/LEWIS COUNTY DRUG COURT PROGRAM. *The program is a court monitored recovery program for addicts. I am subject to frequent and random drug testing and would respectfully request that you take this into consideration and offer non-narcotic medications, if possible, when drugs are necessary for my medical treatment.*

Physician (please print) _____

Physician (signature) _____

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call our offices and talk to my case specialists or me.

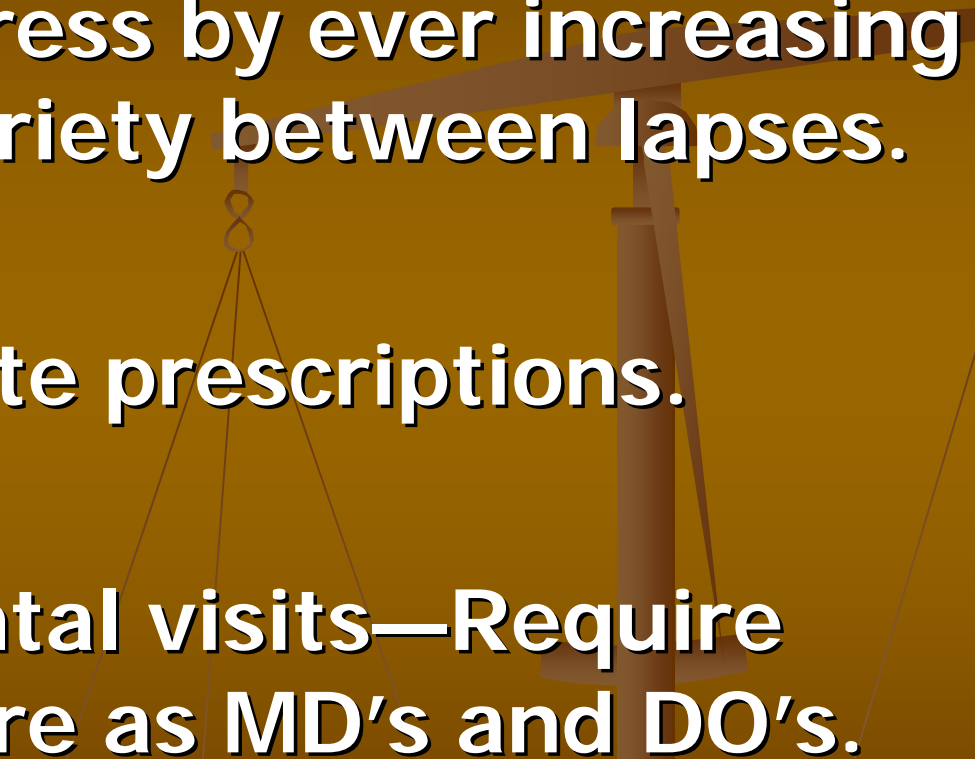
If this patient fails to present this form to the nurse and physician prior to receiving medication or a prescription for medication, please check this box IF box is checked, please FAX to me.

Please List the Prescriptions prescribed today:

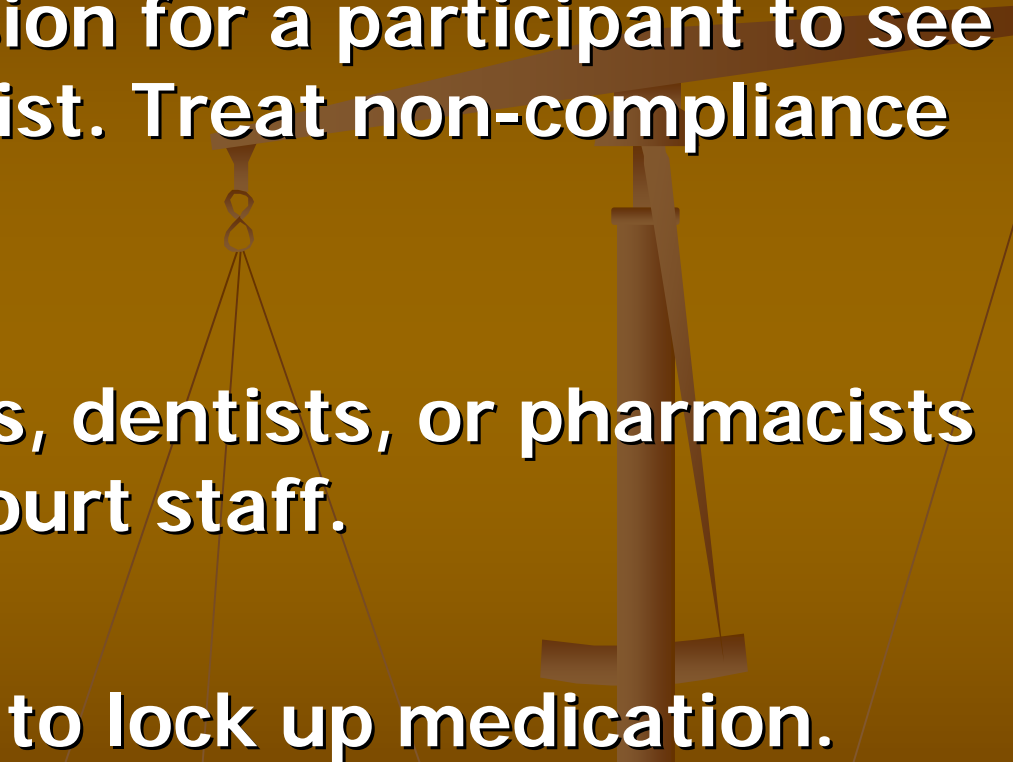
*Sincerely,
Julie Ilhardt*

Prescribed medication _____

Suggestions—cont.

- Measure progress by ever increasing periods of sobriety between lapses.
 - No out-of- state prescriptions.
 - Beware of dental visits—Require same disclosure as MD's and DO's.
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Suggestions—cont.

- **Require permission for a participant to see a doctor or dentist. Treat non-compliance with a sanction.**
 - **Ask local doctors, dentists, or pharmacists to be on Drug Court staff.**
 - **Educate seniors to lock up medication.**
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Conclusion

- Drug Court Model applied to prescription medication abuse can be very effective, but adjustments must be made to adapt to changing conditions.
 - Be creative to solve problems.
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