Family Preservation Court

Mission Statement

The Family Preservation Court (FPC)is dedicated to enhancing community well-being by prioritizing the safety and health of families involved in the dependency system. Through a collaborative approach that emphasizes dignity and respect, the Court works to empower families by providing coordinated service referrals, fostering accountability, and supporting positive behavioral changes. Our goal is to encourage a commitment to a lifestyle of recovery and lasting family stability.

Want to join?

Speak with your attorney or Child Welfare worker about a referral to FPC.
OR
Send your contact information to
collaborativecourt@santacruzcourt.org

Santa Cruz Superior Court
Collaborative Courts
701 Ocean St. Room C-112
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Phone: 831- 420-2352
Fax: 831-420-2360
collaborativecourt@santacruzcourt.org
http://www.santacruzcourt.org

Family Preservation Court
FPC is a part of Sant Cruz County Collaborative Justice System.
Sessions are currently held
1st and 3rd week of the month
in Watsonville, Department A:
Wednesday's
Starting at 2:00pm

Commissioner Gregory Peinado presides over this court program.

Family Preservation Court

Superior Court of California, County of Santa Cruz

Family Preservation Court (FPC) Benefits and Key Highlights

- **Voluntary Participation**: FPC is a voluntary program for families with substance use disorders with an open dependency case and Non-Minor Dependents in Child Welfare.
- **Focus on reunification:** The program aims to preserve and reunify families by addressing the root causes of court involvement.
- **Enhanced Access to Services:** Participants gain increased access to a range of treatment and services, including support for substance use, mental health, parent-child Relationships, and trauma.
- **Accountability and support:** The program promotes accountability through supervised services and treatment, supporting participants in achieving reunification and long-term stability while enhancing public safety.

Collaborative Team Approach:

FPC operates with a strength-based team including:

- You
- Commissioner Gregory Peinado
- County Substance Use Disorder Staff
- Child Welfare Staff
- Treatment providers and community partners such as Sobriety Works, Janus, Parents Center, parent mentors and Leaps and Bounds.

The Purpose Behind Family Preservation Court

For more than 10 years, FPC has successfully addressed dependency cases involving substance use and behavioral health issues of families involved with Child Welfare.

Program Phases

The Family Preservation Court program is structured in three phases, where the intensity of treatment services, alcohol, and drug testing, and court appearances gradually decrease as participants advance. The duration of each phase varies on the completion of individual goals.

Program Phase System: Program Phases:

Phase 1 (1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month):
Identify your treatment needs, review your FCS case plan, and begin the Leaps and Bounds program if your child is under 5 years old.

Phase 2 (Monthly Attendance):
Engage in intensive treatment services.

Phase 3 (Every 6 Weeks):
Transition to continuing care as you advance through the program.

Testimonial from Family Preservation Court Participants.

"FPC has allowed me to open up and share life experiences, hear others, and learn from each other."

"The FPC team advocates on your behalf for resources or with other available programs in the community to help get you where you need to be in your recovery."

"FPC has helped me to be accountable, they see me as an individual and human being who seeks healing from childhood trauma and drug addiction."

"Family Preservation Court gave me the tools and support I needed to rebuild my life and stay connected with my children."

"The FPC program helped me regain control of my life and provided a path to keep my family together."

"I feel very supported by the team in FPC."