



National Evaluation of Family Treatment Courts

Study Information and Frequently Asked Questions

Contact Information

NEFTC Helpdesk

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Study Website:

www.npcresearch.com/project/national-evaluation-of-family-treatment-courts-neftc



NATIONAL EVALUATION OF FAMILY TREATMENT COURTS

FAQ

What is this study about?

Thank you for your interest in the National Evaluation of Family Treatment Courts (NEFTC) funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and managed by the National Institute of Justice, of the U.S. Department of Justice.



NPC Research (NPC), an independent research and evaluation firm based in Portland, Oregon, is implementing the NEFTC. This evaluation is the first nationwide study of Family Treatment Courts (FTC). The study begins with an online assessment of practices and procedures in every FTC in the United States. The second phase of the evaluation (beginning January 2021) includes a comprehensive outcome and cost study of up to five FTCs from across the country.

The following questions and responses have been developed in anticipation of some of the concerns that are commonly raised by respondents. NPC will update this document based on the questions and feedback we receive from respondents.

What if my program has shut down or changed practices since the COVID-19 outbreak?

We recognize that the pandemic has had a tremendous impact on families and the programs that serve them. Please respond to the survey based on your operations PRIOR to any closures or changes to your practices or the practices of your partners--roughly March 1st 2020.

How will participating in the survey benefit my program?

You will receive a tailored report summarizing your assessment results and recommendations for improving your program's alignment with best practice standards. You will be invited to participate in a webinar for interpreting and applying your best practices report. You will be considered as one of up to five sites to be invited to participate in an outcome study at no-cost to your site. You will contribute to the body of knowledge informing policy and practice for family treatment courts across the country.

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When will the survey close?

Although we originally expected to end the survey mid-summer, we have extended the collection at least through the end of 2020. Please contact Dr. Rodi or the FTC Help Desk if you have additional questions about the outcome and cost studies.

What is the purpose of this assessment?

This study is critical to the justice, child welfare, and substance use treatment systems and the families you serve. The NEFTC will inform the field regarding community needs and best practices in implementing, expanding, and evaluating FTCs and support you in your efforts to improve and sustain FTCs in your community. If you participate, you will receive a best practice assessment report and be invited to participate in an expert-facilitated Webinar to interpret your results and use the information for program improvement.

My FTC recently completed this assessment. Do we have to fill it out again?

Yes. NPC has worked closely with Children and Family Futures (CFF) and NADCP to align the assessment with the recently released Family Treatment Court Best Practice Standards. We are requesting that all FTCs complete this newer version so that we can provide you with the most up-to-date research for your individualized reports.

What do I do if I lost my email/link to the survey?

Please contact the helpdesk to have the link re-sent to you.

Phone: 503.680.6085 Email: FTCSurveyHelp@npcresearch.com



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I coordinate more than one FTC program, can I use the same link for each FTC?

No. Each link to the survey is specific to one FTC. If you manage more than one FTC you should receive a separate link for each FTC. If you did not receive enough links, please contact us and we will provide you with additional links. Do not forward your link to other courts, as their responses may overwrite yours.

I am a coordinator/judge/primary point of contact for an FTC and heard about this study from another court, but did not receive an email invitation. How can I participate?

If you are the primary point of contact for your FTC and did not receive an email invitation to participate in the study, please contact us. We worked with statewide coordinators to compile the contact information, but it is possible we have outdated information or a typo in an email address. Please help us by reaching out!

Do I have to answer all of the question in one sitting or can I save and continue later?

If you are unable to complete the survey in one sitting, the unique survey link you received may be used to re-access your survey. Alternatively, you may click on “Save and continue later” at the bottom of the page you are working on. At that point, you will be asked for an email address in order for the system to save your progress, then you will receive an email from SurveyGizmo containing the link you should use in order to continue working on your assessment. Either link will bring you back to your survey-in-progress.

The “Next” button, located at the bottom of each page, moves you to the next page of the assessment. On some pages, you may need to scroll down in order to see it. Once you reach the end of the assessment, click “Submit.”

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How long will it take to complete the assessment?

Completing the survey (entering the data) should take less than one hour. Collecting the information necessary to complete the survey may take one or more additional hours.

Please fill out just ONE assessment per docket. If you serve as the coordinator for more than one program, then you should receive a unique survey link for each docket and respond accordingly.

The survey should **NOT** be filled out by individual team members. We would like you to fill out the assessment collaboratively with your team and highly recommend you go over the assessment as a group (e.g., in a team meeting) or in some way checking on answers with your team members.

We suggest that the most efficient way to fill it out is for the person completing the assessment to answer as many questions as they can on the PDF, then take the PDF to the team to verify those answers and respond to the remaining questions with team member input. Teams often find this process to be beneficial as each team member generally learns something about how the program operates that they didn't know before. You can print out and use the PDF version to review and complete with your team. However, the assessment needs to be entered online. It takes about an hour to enter the answers once information is gathered. **Please answer every question even if the answer is “not applicable.”**

Although the assessment is long, please don't be daunted by the length of the PDF document. Because of the way it is formatted, there are just a few questions on each page so it looks even longer than it really is. For the majority of assessment questions, team members should know the answers off the top of their heads. For example, who is on the team? Who attends staffing? Who attends court sessions? How often do you meet for staffings? However, there are a few questions that may require you to look up answers. For example, how many people have entered your program since it began? For this type of question maybe the coordinator (or other appropriate person) could look up those numbers first to share with the team.

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Why aren't all of the questions from the PDF on the online assessment?

The PDF includes all of the possible survey questions. Your online responses to previous questions may reduce the number of additional questions you need to answer.

What do I do if I don't see a response option that is applicable to our program?

If you do not understand the question, please contact us at 503.680.6085 or FTCSurveyHelp@npcresearch.com. If the response options do not match your program, use the open-ended response options to provide the response you feel would most accurately reflect your program.

Can I download a report based on my responses?

No, but NPC will send you a report summarizing your responses with recommendations for issues you may want to consider addressing. NPC will also host a webinar to help you interpret and use the findings to improve your program.

When will I get the report back for my program?

Depending on when completed assessments are submitted by each program, FTCs can expect to receive their assessment results within 1 to 3 months after submission.

Can State Treatment Court Coordinators/Administrators receive a copy of the individual assessment results?

FTCs can provide their results to state coordinators or give permission to NPC Research to provide their results.

Thank you!

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