



PARENT VOICE

Did You Know?- Family Drug Treatment Court

“I remember sitting in the lobby waiting for my SOP (Standard Outpatient) Drug Treatment Program to start and I overheard these women talking about DTC and this woman had got her children returned into her custody after nodding off behind the wheel with her children in the vehicle. I wanted to know more. I wanted to find out who this girl was and what Family Drug Court was. I found out that woman was a recovery coach working at Terro’s and that she was reunited with her children with help of a program called Drug Treatment Court. I immediately was trying to figure out how would I qualify for that program and how do I get what she had. If she could do it, then I knew I could. My attorney advised me that we needed to ask the judge for a referral. At that point I was hopeless, in severance and afraid of losing my kids and combative with anyone that touched my case. I had no drugs in my system and I had to feel everything that was happening in my life.

The day I sat in front of presiding Judge McNally changed my life, I’ll never forget her. She looked at me like a person and treated me like a human. She wore a robe and was in power and she was interested on how she could help me? From that day on I felt empowered. I was a star every court hearing I attended. I made all my calls, attended all of my classes and most importantly never missed a test. Anytime there was a barrier in my case, Drug Treatment Court was there for me and was able to help me find a resolution. I felt like I had the secret ingredient to getting my kids back. Seven months after joining Drug Treatment Court, I graduated. I continue to maintain my sobriety and work on my recovery every day. Currently, I am employed through Maricopa County Superior Court Juvenile Department as a recovery Support Specialist (RSS). I share my story to give hope to other families that have DCS involvement as well as use my voice to represent the parents.”
-Crystal Garduno, Graduated Family Treatment Court 2016

The program Crystal is referring to is known as Family Drug Treatment Court (FTC) run through the Maricopa County Cradle to Crayons Child Welfare Center. Family Treatment Court is designed for parents with an open Juvenile Court Dependency with a history of substance abuse and would like additional support with sobriety. FTC is intended to encourage sobriety for parents and for those who are involved. The program has a reunification success rate of 94%. “Family Drug Court Mission is to assist parents in the Child Welfare system with maintaining Sobriety, promote family reunification and improve child wellbeing”.

[Family Treatment Court](#)



Inside this issue

Did You Know?	2
Public Interest Story.....	2
Resources	3
Parent Bio	3

Special points of interest

- Family Drug Treatment Court
- Hushabye Nursery and Medical Assisted Substance Abuse Treatment
- Thrive
- Bio-Jeremiah Caldwell-TERROS



Family Drug Treatment Court Continued

Parents must meet the following criteria to be eligible:

- * An open dependency.
- * Willing to participate in substance use treatment.
- * Must not have a severance trial scheduled within a month of observing.
- * Must not have pending criminal case connected to a dependency

Family Treatment Court has made an impact with those who are involved, bringing parents to success. Family Drug treatment Court and staff involved have really touched many lives. This impact is exemplified in Lindsey Shines feature, as she expresses her

experiences and how FTC changed her life.

“One day, after having a bad day in court, my attorney mentioned a program called Family Treatment Court. He told me it might help. That was such a huge understatement!

I knew there was a problem, but felt lost inside. My case plan was severance and adoption, so by the time I got there things felt pretty hopeless. But they showed me how to utilize my substance abuse treatment, advocate for myself appropriately, and spoke about my case in a language I could finally understand. Along the way I also was supported by an amazing Parent Ally named

“I’m Living a life with my family, which I never would have imagined, and we’re not going anywhere!” Lindsey Shine



Arizona Department of Child Safety

Parent Advisory Collaborative PAC
3003 N Central Ave
Phoenix, AZ 85012

Website:
<https://dcs.az.gov/services/office-prevention>

Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/AzCommunityResourcePage/>

Editors:
Jeremiah Caldwell
Felix Fornino
Crystal Garduno
Lindsey Shine
Renee Torres

Crystal Garduno. I won't lie, it was a lot of hard work, and no one waved a magic wand to fix me, but having their support empowered me to take ownership of my case and put me back in the driver's seat. I was sober through the adoption of my newborn baby and the loss of my partner of almost 5 years. A few months after I graduated, my kids came back home. That one conversation with my attorney altered my life forever. These days, I have a job as a Parent Ally, and have the honor of providing support and guidance to other families who are involved in dependencies. I'm living a life with my family, which I never would have imagined, and we're not going anywhere!-*Lindsey Shine Mother of three, Graduated Family Treatment Court 2017*

Family Drug Treatment Court can be a great support for those navigating through the Child Welfare System for Maricopa County courts. For Additional information, please contact Cradle to Crayons Child Welfare Centers Phone (602)506-5094.

Source: [Lindsey Shine](#), [Crystal Garduno](#), and [Family Treatment Court Pamphlet and Cards- Maricopa County Cradle to Cray-](#)

