

### Family Law Treatment Court

A mother of a five year old girl was referred to the Family Law Treatment Court (FLTC) program by a prior graduate. The FLTC coordinator conducted an intake on the mother who disclosed that she had a very unhealthy relationship with alcohol and prescription medication, such as codeine and Xanax. The mother was very forthcoming about her recovery and was currently living at a Transitional Housing Unit in Mariposa. The mother stated she was also receiving mental health treatment and had concerns about her medication intervening with her drug testing. She was hesitant about testing two times a week but understood that in order to be clean and sober she needed to start testing immediately. The mother had joint custody of her child but had recently relapsed in front of her child and lost visitation rights.

Once in FLTC, the mother was referred for substance abuse treatment services for an outpatient assessment and she was given FIRST 5 resources such as information on Calming Kits and COVID referrals. The mother utilized the resources and fee waiver to waive her testing fee. After 120 days the mother was eligible for a 120-day review and was granted unsupervised visitation. The mother was also compliant with the program and she never missed a drug/alcohol test.

The mother participated in the Triple P Parenting class and the POWER 12 Steps Women's group. The mother took the parenting class not only because she was ordered to take a parenting class but because she wanted to be able to communicate with her daughter better. The mother graduated in January 2021 and near her graduation, she was granted joint custody again.

"FLTC has given me structure during my first year of sobriety. I found it encouraging and a great way to show accountability to family court. I am grateful that there is this service available to those who can benefit. I found a lot of healing working with my sponsor to complete the steps. The meetings were a safe place to go to connect and find solutions to dealing with life on life's terms. I will continue service work to give back to the program that helped me so much. Thank you."



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The participant enrolled in Family Law Treatment Court (FLTC) in May 2019 after being referred from an emergency screening with Family Court Services. When the participant began FLTC, he had professional supervised visits only with his five children and he had a high-conflict relationship with his children's mother. This was his first time in any type of recovery program. The participant was court ordered to take co-parenting classes, parenting without violence, DUI classes, and adhere to all FLTC requirements.

The participant was connected to the Court Care Coordinator, FIRST 5 Family Resource Center, Positive Parenting workshops, and developmental and behavioral health screening for children. At intake the client was given the book from FIRST 5 as well as an Alcoholics Anonymous book and was later given a referral to a men's AA 12-week program. He later admitted that he had a problem with alcohol and was a binge drinker, not just a social drinker. After four months in FLTC, the participant graduated from the program, has a better relationship with his children and their mom, and now is permitted to have unsupervised visits with his kids.

The participant indicated that the parenting class has had an impact on his communication with his ex and he has learned to listen to his kids better. He is also now able to see that each individual child may have particular needs that they expect to have met. He states that he has spoken to other young dads like him and they now have a good support system around them where they can share their struggles/concerns in regard to their children.

"I came into the program clueless about what active recovery meant. This program has allowed me to be accountable for my sobriety and when life becomes tough, I've learned to respond and not react to my old behaviors. When I started the program, I had a no contact order with my children's mom and all five of my children. I now have a good standing relationship with my children's mom and get to see all my kids unsupervised and sometimes overnight. I have almost 18 months of sobriety and this program has played a big role in my recovery. I chose to stay clean and sober and remain active in my sponsorship of others."



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The participant enrolled in Family Law Treatment Court in February 2018, after being referred by a previous graduate from the program. The participant was also a previous client who had withdrawn from the program two years prior. She had received a DUI while working as a 911 dispatcher and decided it was time to re-commit to participation in the FLTC program. The participant admitted to having an addiction to alcohol and prescription medication. She expressed interest in the program to gain healthy coping skills and change her lifestyle to have a better relationship with her children.

The participant understood her need to commit to sobriety for a better quality of life, because her addiction was impacting her career and relationship with her two children. She was tested randomly 2 times per week for drugs and alcohol, and completed outpatient with the Kaiser Chemical Dependency Recovery Program (CDRP). The client did not have any missed or positive tests for the duration of her involvement in the program. She received stars while in program, which served as positive reinforcement to encourage her to remain compliant with all FLTC requirements.

She stated that participating in programs like Promises of Women Embracing Recovery (P.O.W.E.R) allowed her to create a support network for herself because she was able to meet others who have experienced similar obstacles on their journey to recovery. The participant originally had professional supervised visits that later led to overnight unsupervised visits with her children. Maintaining sobriety (with a few minor setbacks) allowed the client to be granted joint legal and physical custody of her two boys.

"FLTC helped me by supporting me on my journey of recovery. Whenever anything popped up in my life, Noemi was available for guidance. She is kind, empathetic, and very good at her job. I am grateful for the opportunity to be in this program because it has allowed me more unsupervised time with my boys, (13 and 7). I am very active in their lives with school and medical and my relationship with them couldn't be any better. The minor's counsel attorney is leaning towards giving me the 50/50 custody."

