

# Planning and Evaluation for Floyd County Veterans Treatment Court

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## The Problem



**675** Floyd County arrests for drugs and narcotics in 2018.

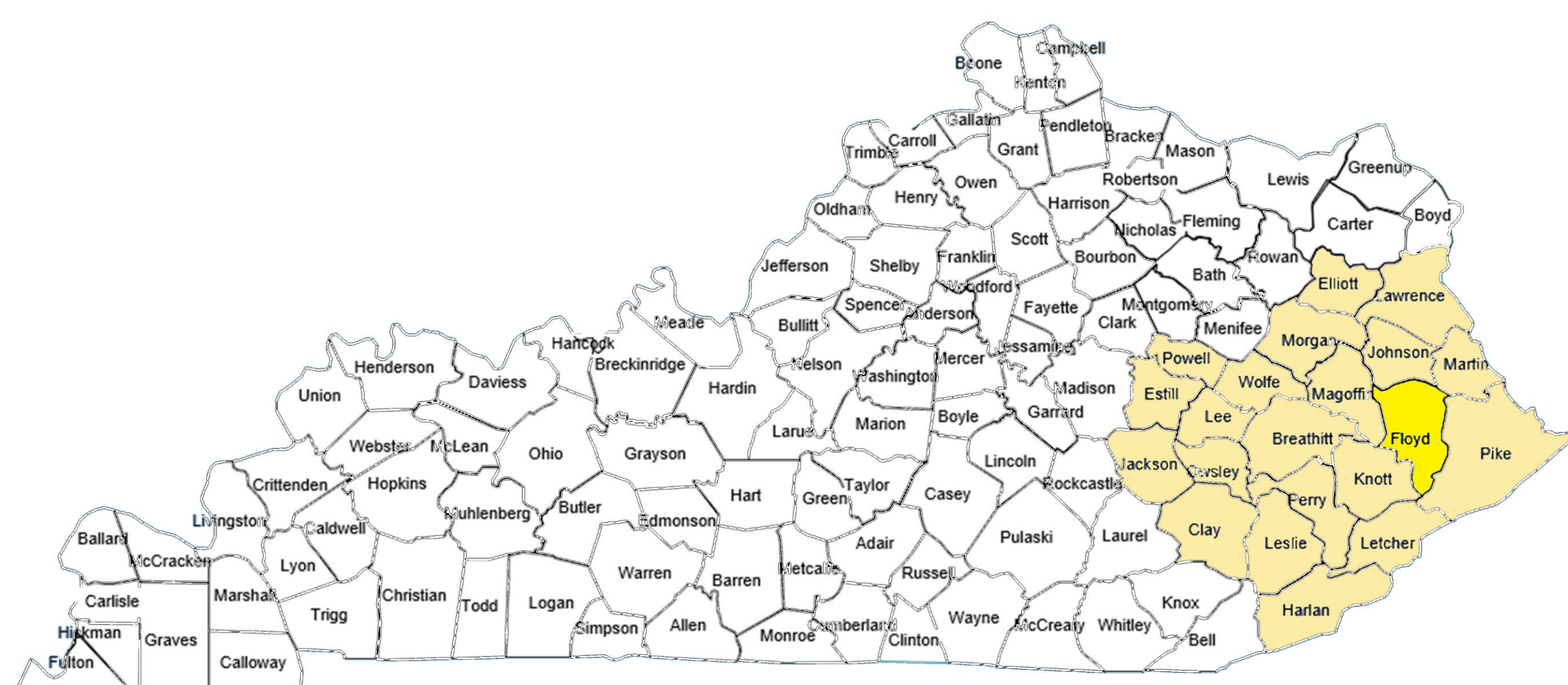
**1647** Floyd County veterans.



## Goals of Floyd County Veterans Treatment Court (FCVTC)

- ❖ To implement the FCVTC program and hire a case manager to increase program capacity to serve **9** high risk/needs felony participants annually (**36** over **4** years).
- ❖ To provide treatment and wraparound services and to develop an effective, comprehensive system of care to help individuals increase abstinence and decrease recidivism.
- ❖ To ensure the project implementation and evaluation adhere to objectives and facilitate continuous quality improvement.

Floyd County Veterans Treatment Court Proposal Catchment Area



## The Ten Key Components of Veterans Treatment Courts

1. Veterans Treatment Courts integrate alcohol, drug treatment, and mental health services with justice system case processing.
2. Using a non-adversarial approach, prosecution and defense counsel promote public safety while protecting participants' due process rights.
3. Eligible participants are identified early and promptly placed in the Veterans Treatment Court program.
4. Veterans Treatment Courts provide access to a continuum of alcohol, drug, mental health and other related treatment and rehabilitation services.
5. Abstinence is monitored by frequent alcohol and other drug testing.
6. A coordinated strategy governs Veterans Treatment Courts' responses to participants' compliance.
7. Ongoing judicial interaction with each Veteran is essential.
8. Monitoring and evaluation measure the achievement of program goals and gauge effectiveness.
9. Continuing interdisciplinary education promotes effective Veterans Treatment Court planning, implementation, and operations.
10. Forging partnerships among Veterans Treatment Court, Veterans Administration, public agencies, and community-based organizations generates local support and enhances Veteran Treatment Court effectiveness.

## Literature Review

The Floyd County Veterans Treatment Court Evaluation began with a comprehensive literature review of recent peer reviewed articles using the Morehead State University Camden-Carroll Library online database. Fourteen peer reviewed articles were selected based on their relevance to Veterans Treatment Court.

## Findings



**4% to 26%** of arrestee populations are veterans.

(Douds and Hummer, 2019, p 324)



**1 in 5** veterans suffer from a mental health disorder. (Frederick, 2014, p. 212)



Over **700,000** veterans in US corrections system. (Ahlin and Douds, 2015, p. 84)



Veterans suffer from greater rates of substance abuse than non-veterans. (Douds and Hummer, 2019, p 324)



VTCs are not serving enough of the veterans who most need their help. (Erickson, 2016, p. 222)



Individuals who were employed at the time of their specialty court enrollment were more likely to successfully complete the treatment program. (Johnson et. al., 2015, p 167)



Veterans who complete veteran treatment court benefit from:

- 1 improved mental health
- 2 decreased PTSD symptoms
- 3 decreased depression and anxiety
- 4 improved quality of life

(Douds and Hummer, 2019, p. 326)