

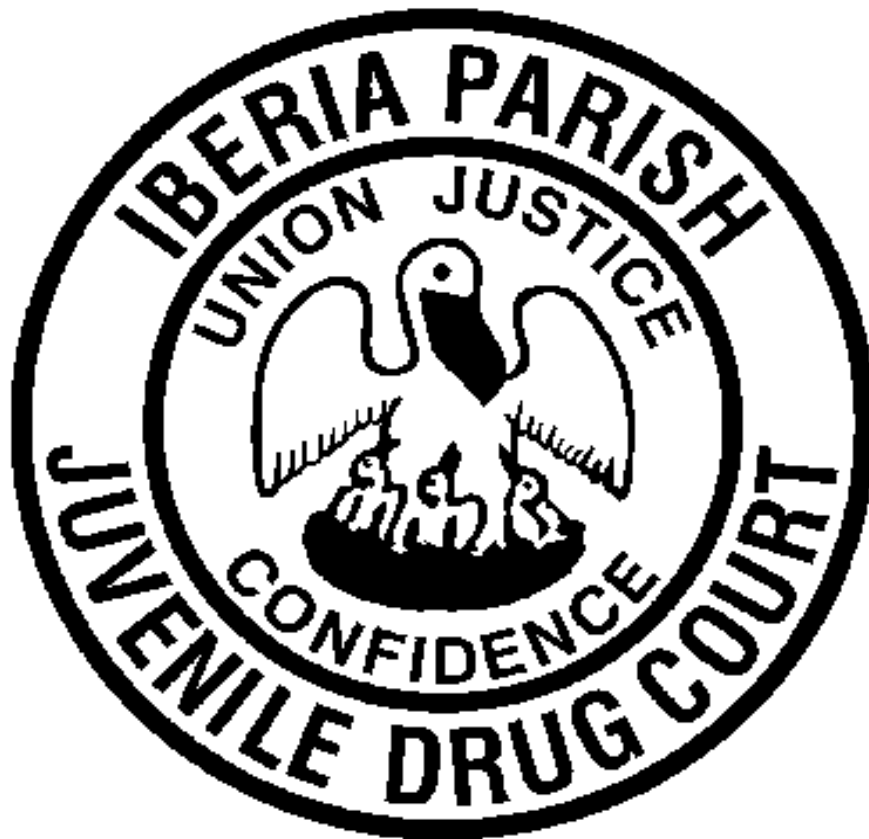
Iberia Parish Family – Focused Juvenile Drug Court

215 West St. Peter Street

New Iberia, LA 70560

Phone: 337-560-9795 Fax: 337-560-4661

Website: www.drugcourt.com



Client Handbook

Iberia Parish Family Focused Juvenile Drug Court

Program Definition

Iberia Parish Family Focused Juvenile Drug Court Program was developed by the adolescent and family treatment team at Fairview Outpatient Treatment Facility in response to the need for a family therapy model which addressed the unique characteristics of a juvenile drug court program.

Realizing that the family plays an essential role in the development of adolescents, Iberia Parish Family Focused Juvenile Drug Court focuses on the family system rather than individual dynamics. That is, most of the family intervention specialist's focus is on the family unit, rather than the targeted juvenile. As a result, this model is *Family-Intensive*.

All families in the Iberia Parish Family Focused Juvenile Drug Court have chosen to enter the program in lieu of their son or daughter going to jail for some juvenile offense. Some families enter the program eager to receive assistance; others view the program as an inconvenience and an invasion of their privacy. These families typically view drug court as the lesser of two evils. With this in mind, it is no wonder that there exists a great deal of resistance and hostility from not only the adolescents, but from their parents, who often plea innocent and blame their children for having to participate in the program. This in turn places even more pressure on an already overwhelmed adolescent manifesting themselves in even more negative behaviors.

This cycle of blame and resentment has played a large part in the circumstances that present themselves when the family has reached this point. For this reason, family intervention specialists in this model focus on process rather than the content dynamics. In other words, the concentration is on *how* the family communicates rather than *what* they are communicating. This is the key in getting families to become healthier in their interactions with each other's outside their family system. Structured family therapy is utilized as it emphasizes organizational issues. Short term, interpersonal goals designed to reduce negatives in the family system are established with full input from all family members. Typical goals include correcting dysfunctional roles by putting parents in charge of their children and identifying subsystems that exist within the family. Other goals attempt to alter the faulty family structure by modifying the way each member relates to the other. These goals are kept simple and are stated in plain language that even the youngest family member can understand. Goals focus on the present and use direct, indirect and paradoxical directives. At no time is a goal established that might set the family up for failure.

No model of family therapy can encompass all the problems a family will face as it grows and changes. This model is designed to provide each family with a repertoire of tools and coping skills it can use to best handle a given situation. There will be set backs, arguments, parent-child tug of wars, etc. These are inevitable and exist in even the healthiest of households. This model focuses on altering the family only as much as needed to allow it to maintain itself without the use of the presenting problem. In this sense, the model is labeled *Realistically Structured Therapy*.

Program Outline

Four Phased Program

The first three phases last a minimum of six months and consist of highly intensive counseling:

1. Home-based counseling with Family Intervention Specialist
2. Psycho educational Groups (primarily substance abuse education)
3. Recreational Group
4. Intensive Drug Testing (Adolescents and Parents)
5. Family Group Sessions
6. Individual therapy sessions with adolescents and/or family members

The Fourth, or *Transition*, Phase last approximately six months and consists of monitoring and less frequent drug testing and home visits. (*Similar to Aftercare*)

Core Functions, Goals, and Services of Each Phase

Phase I - Assessment and Goal Setting

1. Minimum of 2 months
2. Produce a clearly documented plan of clinical service delivery
3. Complete a comprehensive assessment of family
4. Provide clearly defined expectations of family participation in the program
5. Develop clear and realistic short term treatment goals
6. Weekly parent education group
7. Weekly psycho-education group
8. Weekly status hearings
9. Three drug screens per week (minimum)
10. Adolescent individuals weekly
11. Three family individuals must be completed while in Phase I

Phase II - Structural and Behavioral Changes

1. Minimum of 4 months
2. Using proven family therapy techniques, achieve identified short-term goals.
3. Implement a restructured family system and practice behavioral changes.
4. Reestablish responsibility specific to roles of parents and adolescents.
5. Teach and establish communication and coping skills within the family.
6. Identify, address, and educate family on relapse prevention techniques.
7. Weekly parent education group
8. Weekly psycho-education group
9. Bi-weekly status hearings
10. Three drug screens per week (minimum)
11. Adolescent individuals weekly
12. Family member individuals as needed

Phase III - Application of Learned Techniques

1. Minimum of 3 months
2. Assess family's ability to generalize learned behaviors into home, school, and community arenas. Complete comprehensive assessment of educational and vocational needs of the family.
3. Establish clearly developed long-term goals.
4. Begin to transition locus of control back to the family.
5. Slowly reduce intensity and duration of direct treatment services to the family.
6. Weekly educational group
7. Tri-weekly status hearing
8. Two drug screens per week (minimum)
9. Adolescent/Family individuals as needed.

Phase IV - Transition

1. Minimum of 6 months
2. Process of structured ongoing monitoring of family and adolescent functioning.
3. Allows for individualized short term intensive treatment services as needed.
4. Provides support of independent family functioning with continuous court supervision.
5. Support family in continued use of skills developed during treatment process
6. Provide support and supervision to families utilizing learned techniques and behaviors
7. Achieve previously developed long term goals
8. Reduce and eventually terminate treatment services to family
9. Educational group bi-weekly
10. Random visits from Compliance Officer (at least once bi-weekly)
11. Case manager monitors school/employment weekly
12. Random drug screens at least once a week.
13. Individual sessions as needed

For families with identified substance abuse problems, a treatment plan will be agreed upon with the Court indicating the need for:

1. Outpatient substance abuse treatment available through New Iberia Adult Drug Court or Iberia Parish Drug and Alcohol Clinic
2. Inpatient treatment available through a state-funded treatment center for adult male and female family members

Adolescent clients who are unable to remain in outpatient treatment due to continued substance abuse will be referred to Gateway Treatment Center or Springs of Recovery Treatment Center for inpatient hospitalization, and will be reentered into the Iberia Parish Family-Focused Juvenile Drug Court Program upon release.

Graduation / Program Completion

Upon completion of all elements of treatment, payment of all applicable fees, the completion of a written Relapse prevention plan and at least three (3) months of continuous abstinence / sobriety, clients will be considered for graduation from the program. Other conditions may be imposed by court on a case by case basis.

Client Relations

Equal Opportunity

You have the right to receive treatment services without discrimination as to sex, race, creed, color, religion, national origin, sexual preference, marital status or disability.

Safety

Safety is everybody's responsibility. The clinic joins with you in a desire to prevent tragedy, pain, and economic loss due to accidents. Safety rules are posted on clinic bulletin boards for your convenience.

Confidentiality

You have the right to confidentiality. The staff without your written consent may release no information. Confidentiality is also essential in group therapy. Anything that is discussed in group must remain within the confines of the group. No information pertaining to any client should be discussed outside of group.

Financial Obligations

Your family may be required to pay all or partial costs for treatment in the Iberia Parish Family Focused Juvenile Drug Court Program after consideration of your financial circumstances. Fees are assessed on a sliding scale set forth by the Department of Health and Hospitals. Any changes in your income must be reported to the clinic within 30 days so that your fees may be reassessed; failure to do so may result in sanctions from the court. Any Juvenile Drug Court participant with court-related financial obligations (i.e. Child support, restitution, legal aid funds, crimes victim funds) will make court-approved payments on a regular schedule and provide staff with documentation of payments. Unless the Court orders a specific amount, amounts and payment schedules are to be established by the court and documented for the presiding Judge's approval. If you cannot make the payment, discuss your situation with your probation officer and if possible, other arrangements will be made. Failure to make timely payments may result in delaying your phase advancement or completion of the program. You are required to pay for your drug testing at the clinic. **This fee cannot be waived.** It is in addition to your treatment fees, if any are assessed.

Group and Individual Therapy

Your treatment in the program will consist of both regularly scheduled groups and individual therapy with your counselor. You will be required to participate in the sessions. Non-participation will be grounds for sanctions given by the presiding Judge. Some of your treatment will be conducted in group therapy. Group therapy will allow you to work out your problems in the presence of others. By participating in group therapy, you will find that others share your feelings and concerns. You will receive support and awareness that you are not alone in your struggles. Individual therapy will be scheduled for you with your counselor to discuss issues that may be too difficult for you to discuss in a group setting.

Family Therapy

You and your family members will be court ordered to participate in regularly scheduled, home-based family group counseling sessions with your Family Intervention Specialist assigned at the time of admission into the program. These counseling services will be provided at the facility and in the families' homes.

These sessions will include educational lectures and discussions, role-playing, and traditional group therapy. The same rules of confidentiality apply to the family sessions as to your regular group sessions. These individual family visits will allow you and your family to discuss issues that may be difficult to handle in a group setting. It also allows the court to monitor living arrangements and home environment.

The family program is a vitally important component to the Iberia Parish Family Focused Juvenile Drug Court Program. When someone in the family is a substance abuser, it affects the entire family system, including the non-using members. The focus of this service is to provide family counseling which is integrated with the individual and group counseling service provided at the primary counseling service facility (Iberia Parish Family Focused Juvenile Drug Court). An integrated treatment plan will be developed with emphasis on family stability aimed at the reduction of delinquent behaviors and the maintenance of a substance-free lifestyle. The frequency of the family contact will be adjusted according to the needs of the family in the treatment process. Family members are required to attend all sessions and submit to random drug testing. Failure to do so can result in sanctions from the judge for the family members.

Drug Screening

You are required to provide a urine sample on a regular basis to monitor progress. Come to the facility prepared to provide a urine sample.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Call **1-866-865-3004**Everyday and the voice message will tell you the colors of the day and the time for testing.
2. If your color is announced you will report to the Adult Drug Court building, located at 211-B St. Peter Street, between the times given.
3. The parent/guardian is responsible for making sure the child gets to the Juvenile Drug Court building within the allotted time. If the child does not arrive on time it will count as a "**Missed UA**", which is a positive and a sanction will be given.
4. If a child is working it will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian to tell the employer that the urine screen is court ordered and mandatory for the child. The child will be given an allotted amount of time. Please consult with your counselor to make special arrangements.

THE INABILITY OR REFUSAL OF A CLIENT OR PARENT TO PROVIDE A SAMPLE WILL BE REPORTED AS A STALL, TREATED AS A POSITIVE, AND SUBJECT TO SANCTIONS BY THE JUDGE.

**After the designated scheduled times,
the staff will not accept samples.**

A same-sexed staff member will supervise specimens. **A client who challenges urinalysis results may pay for a confirmation test by a certified lab.** At times, you will also be required to submit to other recognized drugs of abuse monitoring techniques such as a sweat patch or hair test. Urinalysis results and/or other monitoring techniques will be documented and made available to the court. Once again, any positive urine screens or stalls can be grounds for legal sanctions given by the presiding judge.

You are required to pay for your drug screens weekly. The fees for urine screens are \$15.00 for Phase I, Phase II, and Phase III clients, and \$5.00 for Phase IV clients. Random parent U/A fees are included in above schedule of fees.

Status Hearings

You and your family are required to attend regularly scheduled status hearings to notify the presiding judge of your progress. Your family intervention specialist, the program director, probation officer, compliance officer, case manager, assistant district attorney, and your public defender complete a status report in conjunction with each scheduled court date. Rewards and praise are given for progress. Sanctions may be imposed by the presiding judge for non-compliance.

Sanctions and Incentives

Sanction means that you have failed to follow through with your responsibilities and a sanction is the consequence. There is a wide range of sanctions available that the presiding judge may impose. Sanctions range from a verbal reprimand to dismissal from the program.

Incentives are rewards for responsible and positive behavior. These rewards could range from public praise in court from the presiding judge to advancement to the next treatment phase. **You decide what you will receive based on the decisions you make and the actions you take.** There is a direct relationship between what you do and what you get from the program.

Physical/Labwork

Physicals are required within twenty-one days of admission in the program. A personal physician may give physicals or a physician contracted to the treatment clinic.

VDRL testing, which tests for sexually transmitted diseases, and the PPD skin test, which tests for tuberculosis, are required within twenty-one days of admission into the program. Either a physician contracted to the treatment clinic, a public health clinic, or personal physicians may administer these tests. **The PPD skin test must be read at 48 hours and 72 hours after administration. Failure to have the PPD skin test read may result in termination of treatment and dismissal from the program.**

Anyone having a positive result for either of the tests will be referred to the nearest public health clinic or to his/her personal physician. Anyone having symptoms of tuberculosis (eg. Fatigue, weight loss, feeling ill, fever, night sweats, cough, chest pain, and/or coughing up blood) will be exempt from group until a chest examination has

been completed and all results are negative. All testing and results are kept strictly confidential.

HIV/AIDS Education

Iberia Parish Family Focused Juvenile Drug Court provides HIV/AIDS education to all new clients. Clients are given the option of having an HIV/AIDS test taken. Clients are required to sign the Informed Consent and Agreement to HIV testing before the test is administered. A physician contracted by the treatment clinic will administer the test. Any reactive (positive) test results are referred to the public clinic for confirmation testing. The case manager will make referrals to support groups for anyone testing positive. All testing and results are kept strictly confidential.

Proof of Income

You will be responsible for providing proof of income within three days of admission. This is to assess whether you will have to pay a fee for treatment in addition to the fee charged for urine drug testing. This clinic operates according to the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals sliding scale fee structure, which sets fees, based on ability to pay. If you do not provide income verification, you will be charged full price.

Case Management

The case manager will work in cooperation with the client to meet his/her identified needs. Such assistance may be educational, employment, financial, housing, etc.. If not attending school, you are required to seek employment and will be required to have obtained or be in the pursuit of a GED or trade school certificate to graduate from the program.

Rules and Responsibilities

Due to the diverse population in Iberia Parish Family Focused Drug Court, it necessary that certain specific rules are made and adhered to by clients. All clients and their family members must adhere to the rules and regulations set forth below. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to discharge or denial of privileges. All rules are subject to additions and changes at any time without prior notice.

Confidentiality

Confidentiality is essential in group therapy. Anything that is discussed in group must remain within the confines of the group. There is to be no discussion of names or personal information of other clients outside of this facility. "Who you see here, what you hear here, when you leave here, let it stay here."

Dress Code

Clients have a responsibility to dress and appear in the clinic and at court according to standards of propriety, safety and health.

1. Clients will be fully attired at all times. Tank tops or undershirts (as outer garments) are not acceptable.
2. Shirts must be worn at all times on clinic property. Shirts with squaretails must be long enough to cover the stomach. NO bare midriffs will be allowed for young women/men.
3. Excessively loose fitting/excessively tight fitting pants, shorts, skirts or jeans are unacceptable attire. Pants must be worn at waist level, not around the hips. Underpants and boxers should never be visible. Shorts and skirts must be no more than 5 inches above the knee.
4. Footwear with soles must be worn. No slippers or flip-flops.
5. No clothing displaying alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, nude pictures, obscenities, or any other controversial materials. (This rule is at the discretion of the staff and Iberia Parish Family Focused Juvenile Drug Court reserves the right to make a decision concerning what is to be considered inappropriate)
6. No hats, caps, bandannas, sweatbands, or other headgear will be permitted in the building at any time. No sunglasses will be worn indoors.
7. Earrings in the nostrils, navel and other areas other than the ear are not allowed.
8. Women must wear appropriate underwear, such as bras.

Tardiness and Absenteeism

It is your responsibility to be on time for all treatment sessions. You are not allowed to leave the clinic during treatment sessions. Breaks are to be taken on the patio section or other designated area only. Roll call will be conducted after each break. You will not be allowed to enter scheduled sessions if you are late, thus acquiring an unexcused absence. The only absences that will be excused are doctor's appointments and school/work. To excuse an absence, there must be written verification on medical or school/company letterhead. No handwritten notes will be accepted. All absences, excused and unexcused, will be reported to the presiding judge and sanctions may be imposed.

Curfew

All clients will adhere to the established curfew as a condition of probation. Failure to adhere to your established curfew is a probation violation and is subject to sanctions from the presiding judge.

Conduct

You are asked to take both the time and effort to be polite to everyone. You should show respect to staff and peers at all times. Maintaining appropriate behavior and language is indicative of the progress you are making toward your recovery. Inappropriate sexual behavior, swearing, or harassment toward staff will not be tolerated. Any sexual contact among peers is grounds for dismissal from the program. **No physical violence or threats of violence will be tolerated toward staff and/or other clients. No interaction with adult clients will be allowed.** If you are addressed regarding this issue, you will be asked to appear before the judge prior to coming back to the facility. If a problem persists, you may be discharged from the program.

Smoking Policy

This facility prohibits smoking. Smoking is allowed outside by adults only. Cigarette butts are to be disposed of in ashtrays only. **It is against the law for anyone under the age of 18 to possess or use tobacco products.** This includes smoking, chewing, snuff, etc. There will be no substance use or possession while at the clinic. **Any staff member may confiscate tobacco products at any time!**

Personal Telephone Calls

Cell phones are not allowed in court or group sessions. Pagers must be turned off until treatment sessions are completed. You will not be able to return phone calls from pagers while at this facility. No exceptions will be made. Emergency calls for you should be made to the clinic on the business line.

Food and Beverages

Snacks and beverages are allowed outside of the facility, in designated area, only. All trash should be disposed of in the garbage cans provided. If you continue to bring food into the clinic area (halls, group rooms, etc.) you will be asked to leave and report to court for non-compliance.

Prescription Medication

Any medication prescribed by a physician or taken over the counter need to be reported to your counselor or treatment staff. Mood altering prescriptions are prohibited unless approved by the staff and Medical Director. All medications will not automatically be accepted. Failure to comply with proper procedure or a positive screen may result in sanctions by the judge. Please provide the clinic with a copy of all prescriptions prior to filling for patient records.

Treatment Contract

1. I understand that I will be at the clinic at the required stated time on my schedule. I will arrive 5-10 minutes prior to the scheduled session if possible. I will remain at the clinic for the duration of the treatment session.
2. I understand that I will participate actively in all treatment sessions. I will take care of any necessary business during breaks.
3. I understand that I will schedule any outside personal appointments at time that will not conflict with scheduled treatment sessions. Any missed session will be added to the end of my treatment. Documentation is required on letterhead from doctors or other appointment visits that indicate my attendance by date and time. Failure to provide documentation is considered an unexcused absence and will be reported to the court.
4. I understand that I will notify the staff of my status when I cannot be in treatment. I will call ahead of time if I will be missing treatment and be prepared to provide urinalysis within 24 hours if I miss the session. I am aware of a future

appointment that will require my absence; I will notify my counselor prior to the start of class.

5. I understand that I will provide a urine sample as requested by staff. Failure to provide sample will be considered a stall and treated as if it were positive for drugs.
6. I understand that I will keep all appointments given to me by Iberia Parish Juvenile Drug Court Treatment Clinic, the court or my probation officer. I will be at my appointment five minutes before the appointment starts.
7. I understand that I will take **no medication**, either over-the-counter or prescription, without the approval in advance from my drug court counselor. I am responsible for keeping my counselor informed of all my prescription medications and any changes to these prescriptions.
8. I understand that I will keep my counselor informed of any change in address, telephone number, school programs or any issue, which addresses a problem area in my treatment plan.
9. I understand that I will assist the staff in formulating my treatment plan. I will sign the consent forms necessary for the staff to communicate with the individuals and agencies that can assist me in recovery.
10. I understand that sanctions may be imposed by judge for failure to comply with the treatment program. I understand that my failure to comply can result in additional conditions and requirements, which will be made part of my treatment plan. I agree to comply with the additional requirements in order to continue in the program.
11. I understand that if I am found to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol when I arrive for a treatment session, I will not be allowed to stay and participate. I agree to surrender my keys to my automobile, if I am driving, to the staff for my safety, as well as others. I will call my parents or guardian to drive me home. I understand this will be reported to the court.
12. I understand that if I insist on driving, the staff will be obligated to notify the sheriff's office of an impaired driver on the road and a description of the vehicle will be given.
13. I understand that all or any portion of this contract may be amended as deemed necessary by treatment staff. I agree to comply with any new or amended rules and regulations.
14. I will be proud of my sobriety and recovery

Family Sessions Agreement

- I agree to be present to each weekly or bi-weekly family home session and be on time.
- I agree to phone the facility at least a half-hour prior to the scheduled time should there be any reason that no one will be home, the home visits needs to be cancelled or if the visit need to be rescheduled for any reason.
- Any cancelled home visits will be attempted to be rescheduled within the week, either by another home, an individual session, or a phone meeting with the counselor.
- No-shows or unexcused cancelled home visits will be reported to judge.
- I agree to eat and/or drink before or after the family session, and to avoid eating during the session.
- I agree to use the restroom before the family group, so I will not need to interrupt the session.
- I agree to be respectful of others in the session by listening, not being critical, controlling, to avoid name-calling, using swear words or engaging in violence of any kind.
- I agree to turn off the T.V., radio and phone during the 45-minute family group session.
- I agree to arrange for non-family members to not be present at the time scheduled home visits. The immediate family, or family members living in the household, should be consistently present at each meeting.
- Excuses will be expected, and may be asked for in writing for family members missing home visits. Unexcused missed home visits by any family member will be reported to the judge.

Program Hours

Iberia Juvenile Drug Court is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

After hours, you may leave a message on the answering machine and someone will return you call as soon as possible. If you need immediate drug court assistance, you may contact your counselor.

In event that you find yourself in a crisis situation when the center is closed, you may contact the New Iberia Mental Health at 337-373-0002.

Iberia Juvenile Drug Court is closed on the following Parish-observed holidays:

- New Year's Eve
- New Year's Day
- Martin Luther King Day
- Mardi Gras Day
- President's Day
- Good Friday
- Memorial Day
- 4th of July

- ❑ Labor Day
- ❑ Thanksgiving
- ❑ Day following Thanksgiving
- ❑ Christmas Eve
- ❑ Christmas Day

Important Telephone Number

Iberia Juvenile Drug Court Mike Vidallier, <i>Program Director</i>	337-560-1666
Judge Gerard Wattigny	337-369-4410
District Attorney's Office	337-369-4420
D.A. Probation (Sharon Broussard)	337-369-4444

Iberia Parish Family-Family Focused Juvenile Drug Court Staff members:

Weekly Schedule

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4:30	Ed. Group Phase I		Support Group for all Phases and <u>Parent Group</u> begin		
5:30	Ed. Group Ends		Group Ends		
6:00			STATUS		

*****Drug screens are taken everyday from 4:00pm – 5:00pm at the clinic. *****