

# OPTIONS WITH THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM DUE TO DRUG/ALCOHOL USE



**Diversions** in the criminal justice system is a program in which a person who has been accused of a crime is directed into a treatment or care program as an alternative to criminal prosecution and incarceration. Successful completion of program requirements often will lead to a dismissal or reduction in the charges.

**To find out if you or someone you know is a candidate for one of these programs, ask your lawyer or call Portage County Adult Probation at 330.297.3861.**

## INTERVENTION IN LIEU OF (INSTEAD OF) CONVICTION

A 12 month program available in the Common Pleas and Municipal Courts. Before pleading guilty and prior to sentencing, request intervention in lieu of conviction.

If accepted, the individual will:

- Be placed under probation supervision for one year
- Abstain from alcohol and illegal drugs
- Participate in treatment & recovery support services
- Submit to random drug testing

*Upon successful completion, the court will dismiss charges against the individual.*

## DRUG COURT (HOPE Program)

*A 16-month program available in the Common Pleas Court. After pleading guilty, the individual charged is placed on probation for a minimum of 16 months.*

*The person must be diagnosed with a moderate or severe Substance Use Disorder.*

*There are two tracks in the HOPE Program: Intervention in Lieu and Post-Conviction. The Intervention in Lieu offered in HOPE Court is different from the non-drug court one as it includes more intensive monitoring, more supports, and is 16 months long instead of 12 months.*

*The individual will:*

- Participate in intensive substance abuse treatment
- Submit to weekly random drug testing
- Attend weekly meetings with HOPE Court Judge
- Have access to educational, employment, vocational support, and social service agencies

*The charges will be dismissed and eligible for sealing upon program completion with the Intervention in Lieu track.*



**TREATMENT WORKS  
PEOPLE RECOVER**

Portage County - We're here for you 24/7!  
Crisis Helpline: 330.678.HELP  
Addiction Helpline: 330.678.3006