

Goals of MICAP

- ❖ Reduce stigma of a criminal record for persons with mental illness
- ❖ Improve the overall quality of life and increase the productivity of defendants with mental illness
- ❖ Reduce the time and costs of incarceration and psychiatric hospitalization
- ❖ Reduce police contacts
- ❖ Redirecting defendants with mental illness away from the *traditional court system to community based treatment*

Key elements of MICAP

- ▶ Specialized court docket employing a problem solving, non-adversarial approach
- ▶ Community based treatment plans designed by court and mental health professionals
- ▶ Compliance with treatment plan is closely monitored. Sanctions are imposed for non-compliance and incentives are given to reward compliance

MICAP Program Staff

Judge Bruce Kelsey

Karen Considine, Probation Supervisor

Cheryl Kayton, Probation Officer

Deena Kuranda, Probation Officer

Jean Solon, Program Manager

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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MICAP

The Mental Illness Court Alternative Program



**18TH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT COURT
DUPAGE COUNTY**

**503 N. COUNTY FARM ROAD
WHEATON, IL 60187**

Adult Probation Department

630-407-8794

Program Overview

- MICAP is the Mental Illness Court Alternative Program. The program is intended for persons whose mental illness symptoms contributed to the commission of a crime.
- The concept is to provide treatment in lieu of punishment.
- Duration of the program is 12-30 months, and is determined by the nature of the offense, treatment needs and compliance.
- After successful completion of the program, the criminal charges may be reduced or dismissed.

Eligibility Criteria

- Applicant must be age 18 and above, and be a DuPage county resident.
- Sex offenses and DUI charges are ineligible for MICAP.
- Applicant must be diagnosed with an Axis I major mental illness.
- Victim must consent when appropriate.
- Applicant must have a desire and willingness to participate in the program.

The Referral Process

- Defense attorney must file a MICAP application and complete an application packet according to procedures posted in each courtroom.
- Assistant State's Attorney reviews the criminal history, offense report and application packet to determine initial eligibility.
- If appropriate, a Probation Officer and Mental Health Clinician meet with the candidate to complete a criminal risk assessment, a mental health treatment needs assessment, and to assess the motivation and willingness of the applicant to participate in the program.
- If all criteria are met, and applicant appears motivated for treatment, they will be accepted to the program. A treatment plan will then be developed with the participant and MICAP team.

Treatment Plan

- Participants must comply with a treatment plan. The individualized treatment plan is based upon: clinical symptoms, criminal risk factors, strengths and goals of the participant, and may include:
 - Meeting with psychiatrist and compliance with psychiatric medication
 - Regular visits with mental health clinician and probation officer
 - Regular court appearances
 - Treatment for co-occurring substance abuse/addiction if needed
 - Other interventions may include: anger management counseling, employment coaching, assistance with benefit application, individual therapy, other disorder-specific treatment as needed