



Sedgwick County...
working for you

Work Release and Other Jail Alternative Programs

What is the work release program?

Work release is an alternative program to jail designed for non-violent offenders that provides supervised living arrangements with the opportunity for inmates to maintain jobs in the community while serving a court-ordered jail sentence.

Where is the Sedgwick County Work Release Center and how many people are housed there?

Located at 701 W. Harry, the Sedgwick County Work Release Center opened in 1988 with 102 beds. In 2003, 43 beds were added, and in 2005, an additional 12 beds were added bringing the current capacity to 157 beds.

Who is eligible for work release?

Not everyone is eligible for the work release program. Inmates eligible for work release must:

- Be a non-violent misdemeanor offender or approved felony offender
- Obtain a written court order signed by a judge
- Agree to abide by the rules of the work release program and rules of the facility
- Have and maintain current employment or ability to find employment within two weeks

Who is excluded from work release?

Inmates who have one of the following are NOT eligible for the work release program:

- Active warrant from any local, state, or federal law enforcement agency
- Previous escape charges
- Previous unsuccessful work release history
- Active charge of crime against person(s)
- Any disciplinary history
- Extensive mental health problems
- Illegal residency

Historically, who has been assigned to the work release program?

Sex

- Male - 90 percent
- Female - 10 percent

Charges

- Felony - 60 percent
- Misdemeanor - 40 percent

System Status

- Pretrial - 20 percent
- Serving a commitment - 80 percent

December 2010 Snapshot:

- Felony commitment - 50 percent (88 percent DUI)
- Misdemeanor commitment - 7 percent
- Domestic court commitment - 4 percent
- Municipal court commitment - 18 percent (13 percent DUI)
- Other - 3 percent

Most common charges:

- DUI
- DWS/Revoked
- Domestic Battery
- Theft

What other alternative programs exist?

The 18th Judicial District Drug Court

This program targets high-risk felony offenders who have been and is designed to achieve a reduction in recidivism and increase the offenders' likelihood of successful rehabilitation through timely, continuous and intense judicially supervised treatment; mandatory, periodic drug testing; and the use of appropriate sanction and other rehabilitation services. In 2010, the Drug Court averaged 90 clients per month, with 104 clients served in the month of December.



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Alternative programs continued...

Day Reporting Center

This program targets misdemeanors, low-level felons, and DUI offenders. The Day Reporting Program is a non-residential program that provides the judiciary with a sentencing alternative to incarceration. Individuals are court-ordered into appropriate treatment and supervision programs. The Day Reporting Center served an average of 285 clients monthly in 2010.

Sedgwick County Offender Assessment Program

This program targets non-violent offenders whose mental illness is at the core of their arresting behavior, and redirects them away from incarceration and into community-based mental health treatment. SCOAP served 135 consumers in 2010.

Crisis Intervention Team

In collaboration with the Sedgwick County Offender Assessment Program, the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) has been established as a pre-arrest diversion program. CIT-trained officers who encounter a person exhibiting signs and symptoms of a mental health disorder are trained to respond appropriately and to refer the individual to local service providers, diverting those individuals to community resources instead of booking them into jail. Over 200 law enforcement officers from the Sheriff's Department, City of Wichita, and various small cities throughout Sedgwick County have graduated CIT training.

City of Wichita Mental Health Court

Participants are identified through a variety of sources, such as law enforcement officers, jail staff and attorneys. The emphasis of the court is on recovery thereby enabling the participant to stop cycling through the justice system. In 2010, the Wichita Mental Health Court served an average of 81 participants each month.

Pretrial Services

Inmates are assigned to the pretrial program as a condition of bond as ordered by a district or municipal court in Sedgwick County. Electronic monitoring is provided, as needed, to improve supervision and ensure clients abide by the conditions of their release and appear before the court as ordered. In 2010, Pretrial services served an average of 277 clients each month.

District Attorney Diversion

The District Attorney's Office offers diversion programs that enable qualified offenders charged with certain crimes to avoid conviction while being held accountable for their actions. The district attorney offers drug, criminal, and DUI diversion programs and served an monthly average of 441 individuals in 2010.

City of Wichita DUI Diversion

The City of Wichita offers a DUI diversion program for qualified individuals charged with driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs or certain alcohol related charges. In 2010, the City of Wichita had an average of 236 participants in the DUI Diversion program each month.

City of Wichita Drug Court

The City of Wichita Drug Court offers probation and diversion options for individuals charged with a crime involving possession of a controlled substance/drug paraphernalia. Individuals who violate probation on certain charges are also eligible for the City of Wichita Drug Court Program. The 2010 monthly average participants in the City of Wichita Drug Court was 237.

Probation

The City of Wichita and the 18th Judicial District offer probation as a sentencing option for judges. A judge can court order an individual to report to a probations officer for a period of time in lieu of serving time in jail. In 2010, the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County's Probation programs served (respectively) an average of 1,364 and 2,506 clients monthly.



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Metatomix

What is Metatomix?

Metatomix is the software being used by Sedgwick County to integrate multiple databases and create a search tool that provides authorized individuals the capability to view historical and current information from many agencies about individuals passing through the criminal justice system.

The tool will hasten the average person's journey through the criminal justice system by increasing the accuracy of stored information, speeding the creation of reports, removing obstacles to clerical functions and providing each agency with more, and more timely, information.

- Metatomix cost about \$500,000, which came from year-end savings in 2008. The database is managed by the Sedgwick County IT department.
- Metatomix can be expanded to include databases from local cities, other counties, the state, federal agencies and other organizations; these databases can include data, document images, pictures and video.
- Agencies currently sign on to as many as seven database systems and reproduce information to create reports; this tool will cut the time it takes to produce the reports by as much as 75 percent.
- Metatomix will improve information accuracy by revealing inconsistencies between existing databases.

Questions?

Contact Sedgwick County Public Safety at
(316) 660-4955 or
visit the Sedgwick County website at
www.sedgwickcounty.org.