**Shoreline and North King Co Human Services Providers:**

**Community Court and Resource Center coming to Shoreline in January 2020!**

**What is Community Court?**

Community Court is an alternative problem-solving court that seeks to go beyond punitive actions to identify and address the underlying challenges of court participants that may contribute to further criminal activity. The court addresses things like theft, shoplifting, trespassing, and other low-level offenses. Traditionally, punitive action is taken against crimes like these, which don’t address why the crime is happening. Community Court participants are ordered to inquire and/or sign up for services such as drug/alcohol and mental health treatment, financial/housing assistance and employment services. This approach allows people to get services that address the underlying issues. Participants are also often required to perform community service, which fosters community engagement.

**Weekly Resource Center:**

Community Court will be held at the Shoreline City Hall (17500 Midvale Ave Shoreline) in the Council Chamber on Tuesdays from 1:30-3:30. At the same time, we will facilitate a resource center in the city hall lobby for participants and the public to connect to service providers.

**The resource center is open to both the public and our court participants.**

*In Redmond and Burien community courts, more people drop in to talk to providers from the general public than court participants.*

**We need your help to make this happen!**

This can be an opportunity for your organization to connect to both new and existing clients. As you know, accessing services can be problematic, particularly for people with transportation limitations. Having a resource center centrally located and available every week where clients can check in, make appointments, and connect with providers helps empower these folks to help themselves. You can also refer or accompany current clients to look into services outside your scope here.

On **November 5th, 2019 at 2:00 pm** we will hold an information session about community court and resource center for interested providers. At this meeting, we will answer any questions and we will begin building a schedule. Although the resource center will operate on every Tuesday that we hold court, providers are welcome to come once or twice per month rather than every week.

**If you are interested in being a part of the program and/or attending this meeting, please contact:**

**Ericka Cooley, Redmond/Shoreline Community Court Coordinator**

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