ASSERT / Littleton Mental Health Court
Program Flow Chart

REFERRAL

If you come into contact with an individual who has been arrested and has charges pending out of the 2nd Circuit Court – District Division -Littleton and know or suspect that he/she has a mental illness then a referral can be made to ASSERT/Littleton Mental Health Court by completing a one page referral form and submitting to the Grafton County Mental Health Court Coordinator, Shelly Golden, via e-mail at sgolden@co.grafton.nh.us, or faxed to 787-2026. Also, to discuss the potential for a referral or if you have questions about the ASSERT Program please call Shelly Golden at (phone) 787-2291

ASSESS ELIGIBILITY

The Coordinator reviews the referral form and discovery/criminal history to determine eligibility:

Individuals may be eligible if they are **18 years of age or older**, have been **charged with a Class A**, non-violent **criminal offense** (select violent offenses may not exclude an individual from participation in the Program and will be reviewed on a case by case basis after thorough evaluation of the nature of the violence and appropriateness of the Program is conducted), and has a **diagnosed or suspected mental illness** that contributed to the behavior resulting in the charged offense. The defendant **must not have any prior or present charges involving sexual offenses**. Prior criminal record may impact eligibility. The participant **must have charges pending from the 2nd Circuit Court- District Division- Littleton, and live in the Northern Human Services White Mountain Mental Health catchment area to participate in ASSERT**

ATTORNEY AGREEMENT

Prosecuting and defense attorney agree to pursue the option of MHC

APPLICATION DOCUMENTS COMPLETED

The following documents are to be completed with the applicant's defense attorney: Referral with Discovery/Criminal History, Application, ROI (release of info) forms (ASSERT Release, NHS/WMMH ROI to be completed (1) for each treatment provider worked with as an adult including inpatient facilities, and (1) for current Primary Care Physician, and for any family members/guardians that the applicant would like us to have contact with), review of Handbook and Receipt of Handbook Signature Page, Genesis Referral Page and then please submit to the MHC Coordinator via mail, scan/e-mail, or fax (contact info at top of page)

INTAKE MEETING/EVALUATION

The MHC Coordinator sends all application documents to NHS/White Mountain Mental Health and the applicant receives assistance in setting up a mental health evaluation appointment

PROCESS OF ACCEPTING/DENYING AN APPLICATION

Upon the completion of the mental health evaluation the MHC Team members review the evaluation and all other application documents to determine the final status of an application; accept or deny, based on the recommendations given by the evaluator and careful review of all participant information

ACCEPTED INTO MHC

After an applicant is accepted into ASSERT and all attorneys and prosecutors involved agree upon the terms of acceptance: Track 1 (pre-sentence) or Track 2 (post-sentence), new participants will enter ASSERT before the date of the next ASSERT court session (last Tuesday of every month at 3pm) at the Littleton Circuit Court, complete the remaining ASSERT documents and sign an ASSERT Contract before the court with his/her attorney. Participation in ASSERT typically includes Counseling/Case Management, Psychotropic Medication, Substance Abuse Treatment/Drug testing, Education/Vocational Rehabilitation, Attendance at Monthly Court Hearings, and Program participation in ASSERT for at least one year

WHEN AN APPLICATION IS DENIED

The MHC Coordinator contacts the applicant's defense attorney and the prosecuting attorney and explains why the individual's application was not accepted. White Mountain Mental Health reaches out to the applicant to be sure the applicant understands that they are not eligible to participate in MHC but this does not necessarily make them ineligible for services at White Mountain Mental Health