



**FAYETTE MENTAL HEALTH DIVERSION COURT
2025 – A RECORD YEAR**

Beating The Odds With A Great Return On Investment

Connie Milligan, Clinical Director, Fayette Mental Health Court

John Tackett, Fayette County District Court Judge

Social Services and Public Safety Committee

February 17, 2026

STABLE HOUSING

Average of 50% Enter Program
UNHOUSED

97% MAINTAIN STABLE HOUSING
AFTER 1 YEAR

The RATE OF POVERTY On Entry
Is More Than 6 Times Greater Than
Fayette County Residents As A
Whole

INTERSECTION OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION

90% of incoming participants:

**Severe Mental Illness
and
Substance Use Disorder**

**32% of Those with SUDs:
MORE THAN ONE SUBSTANCE**

Success after a year in the program
MAINTAINING SOBRIETY

60% have
maintained
complete sobriety
at 1 year in the
program

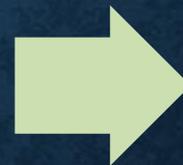
Compare to the
national average of
20% (National
Institute on Drug
Abuse, 2023)



RECIDIVISM
Before
Program
54%



FMHC
RECIDIVISM
After
Program
17%



ALUMNI
PROGRAM
RECIDIVISM
Rate 7%

ALUMNI PROGRAM

**PARTICIPANTS
SERVED:
25**

TWICE-WEEKLY GROUPS

Continuation of engagement with peers,
socialization, meetings and community
navigation services

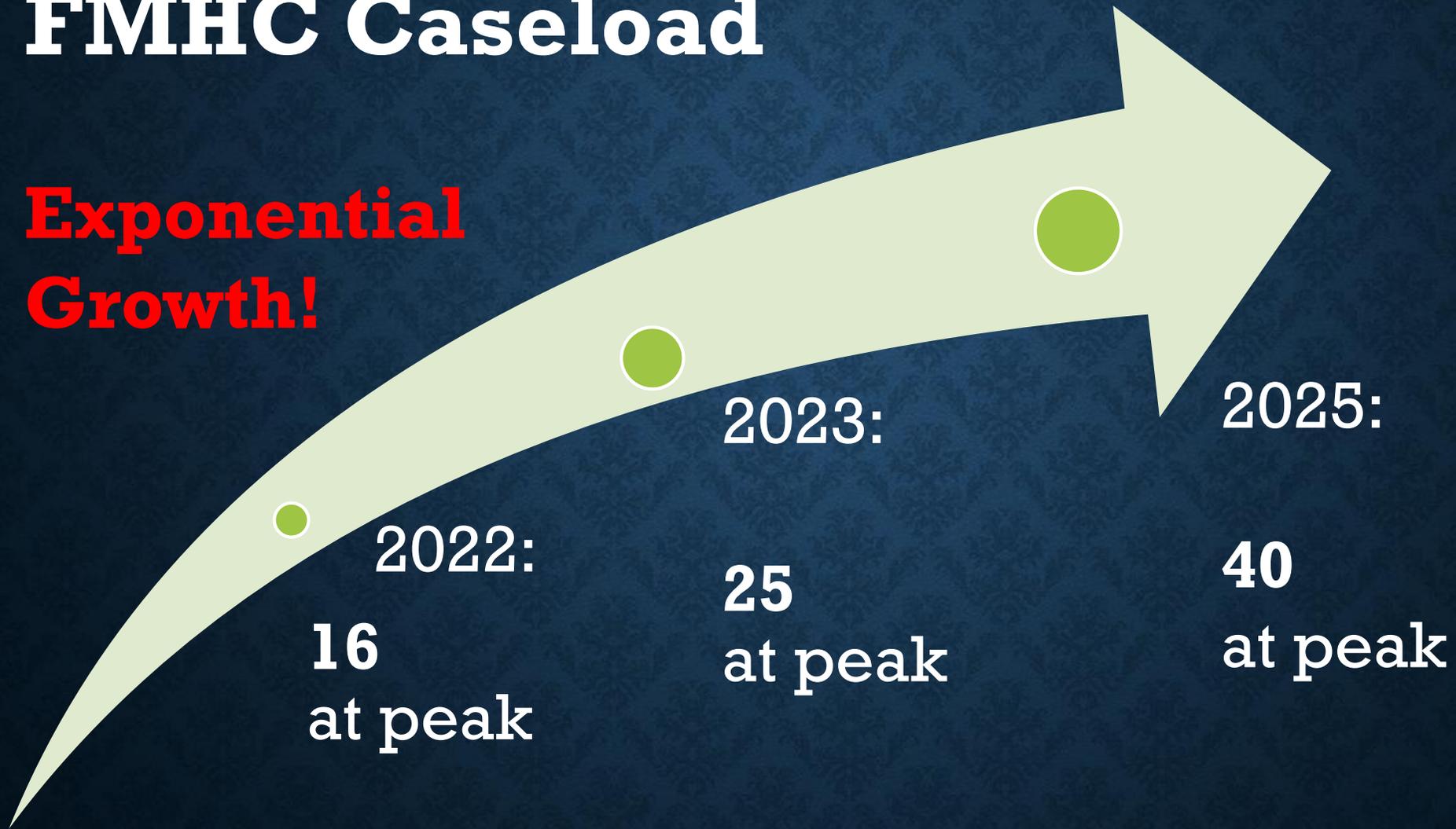
A group of diverse young adults, including men and women of various ethnicities, are smiling and posing for a photo. They are dressed in casual attire like t-shirts and jackets. The background is slightly blurred, suggesting an outdoor setting. The overall mood is positive and supportive.

ALUMNI GROUP IMPACT

- Recidivism rates lowered
- Over 80% retention of participants
- Support from peers and staff validates the recovery journey with no pressure mentoring
- The positive improvements send a ripple of wellness through families and the community

FMHC Caseload

**Exponential
Growth!**



SETTING RECORDS IN 2025

25 new participants – 210 to date

25 participants graduated – 105 to date

40 participants at peak enrollment

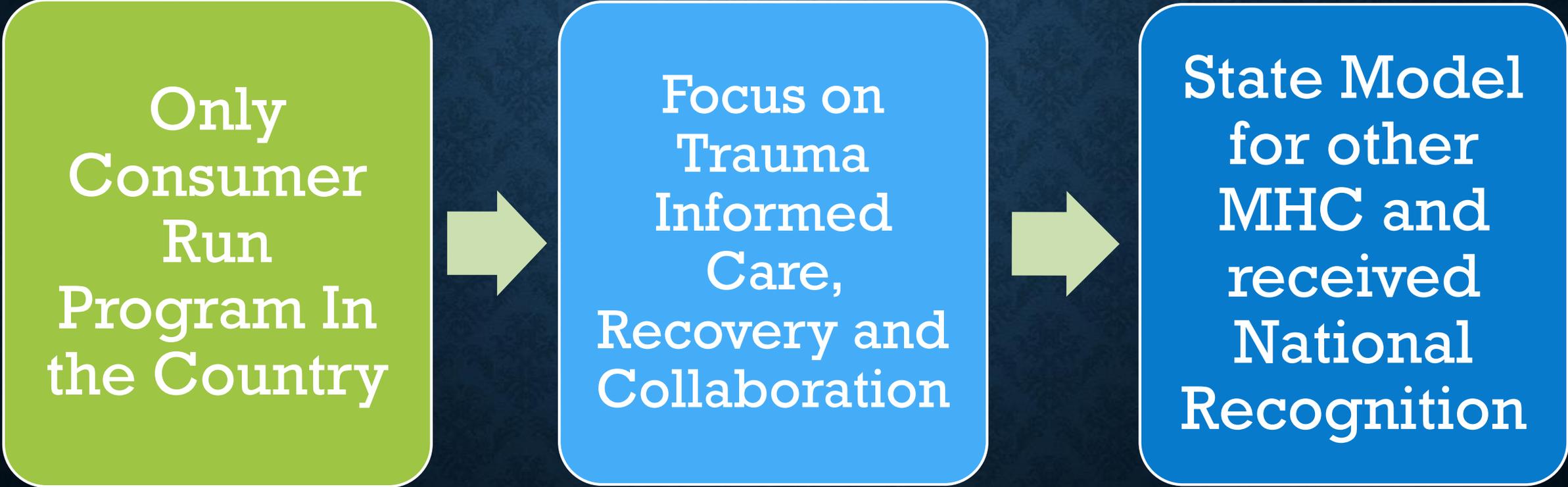
**121 mental health evaluations completed
for the court system - 623 since inception**

**Recommendations sent to referring
parties for all referrals**

FAYETTE COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH COURT

Secret of our Success

Only
Consumer
Run
Program In
the Country



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graph LR; A[Only Consumer Run Program In the Country] --> B[Focus on Trauma Informed Care, Recovery and Collaboration]; B --> C[State Model for other MHC and received National Recognition]
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Focus on
Trauma
Informed
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SAVINGS

Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2025
25 Graduates



FCDC Savings

SMI inmates require 60% more resources

25,450 days of incarceration diverted X \$115 /day

\$2,926,750

Law Enforcement Savings

Based on national average expenditure

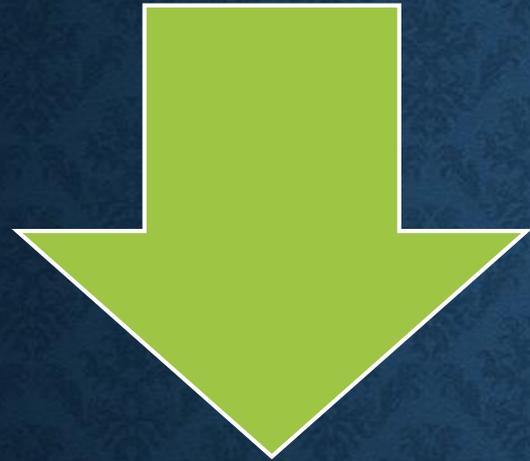
42 post-graduate quarters X \$5,716 /quarter

\$240,072

FCDC plus Law Enforcement

= \$3,166,822.

2025 RETURN ON INVESTMENT



\$270,000
Investment



1,073% ROI

\$3,166,822

ROI

In One Year



A MAJOR BENEFIT TO THE COURT SYSTEM AND COMMUNITY:



- **Timely And Detailed Mental Health Assessments For All Referrals By A Qualified Mental Health Professional**
- **623 To Date**
- **Recommendations based on clinical findings made to all referring parties -**
- **Judges, Prosecutors, Attorneys - *Even If Not Eligible For Mental Health Court***
- **Serve as a role model for other courts interested in a MHC**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
TIME AND CONTINUED SUPPORT!**