



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Oakland Family Services' DRIVE Program Copyrighted**

**PONTIAC, MI-** Oakland Family Services received notification that their newly introduced Driver Rehabilitation Incorporating Vehicular Education (DRIVE) program has been copyrighted. The copyright comes after only one year of service to the community.

Created by Judge Mackenzie from Novi's 52<sup>nd</sup> District Court in partnership with Oakland Family Services, the DRIVE program is intended to change behaviors and thinking patterns of people who drive with a suspended license. Statistics show that one in six traffic fatalities in Michigan involve drivers with a suspended license, most of whom have multiple infractions.

DRIVE participants are ordered to the program through the 52<sup>nd</sup> District Court as part of a probation order and must undergo the following: cognitive restructuring therapy courses, vehicle monitoring devices, practice sessions using driving simulators (if unable to drive), specialized driver-retraining courses, and community service. The 12-week series, in combination with a successful completion of probation, will prevent drivers from doing jail-time.

"The goal of DRIVE is to help change the way people think while driving and functioning in the world," explains Jaimie Clayton, creator of the program's treatment aspect and Director of Behavioral Health Operations at Oakland Family Services. "Our program emphasized making choices that do not put others at risk. For example, one person might think that their need to get to work is more important than observing traffic laws, and thus puts other people at risk. This program helps that person see their thinking is distorted and the resulting behaviors are dangerous."

The DRIVE program is paid in full by each participant, with no additional costs incurred by taxpayers. At it's current state, only drivers in Walled Lake, Wixom and Wolverine Lake apply.

Oakland Family Services is a private, nonprofit, human service agency that provides **prevention, education, support and treatment programs** to families and individuals throughout Oakland County and southeastern Michigan.

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