FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: October 17, 2024

Contact: Kwesi Williams KWilliams@sonomacourt.org

The Sonoma County Superior Court is gearing up to launch the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act program on December 2, 2024.

The CARE Act program in California provides a voluntary pathway to deliver mental health services to individuals who are experiencing a severe mental illness and have a diagnosis of schizophrenia or another psychotic disorder in the same class.

Through a holistic and person-centered approach, CARE Court seeks to break the cycle of homelessness and incarceration by providing opportunities for individuals to engage in treatment, creating a safer and healthier community for all residents.

This initiative not only provides personalized treatment opportunities and community-based support services but also emphasizes the importance of voluntary treatment over court-ordered options. "A core focus of this statewide initiative is the voluntary nature of compliance with recommended treatment options. It offers a tremendous opportunity for housing and services for those who agree to participate in the program," said Presiding Judge Shelly Averill.

With confidential proceedings and a focus on individual well-being, the CARE Act program offers individuals the opportunity to make a meaningful impact on the lives of those it serves.

To learn more about this program, visit the court's website at sonoma.courts.ca.gov/care-court or the Civil Self-Help Center located at 3055 Cleveland Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA.

Phone: 707-521-6534

Email: selfhelp@sonomacourt.org

Walk-in hours:

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm and 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Friday: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm