



# Friends of New Hampshire Drug Courts

## *Drug Courts Work – They Transform Lives*

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## Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Friends of NH Drug Courts Awards Initial Donations to Six County Drug Courts for Participant Programs**

NORTH HAVERHILL, NH - The Friends of New Hampshire Drug Courts, the newly organized statewide tax-exempt nonprofit whose mission is to support all established New Hampshire Drug Courts, formally announced the initial distribution of \$12,475.00 in donations among the six established drug courts throughout New Hampshire.

"The Friends of New Hampshire Drug Courts (the Friends) has created a public - private partnership distributing donations to ensure that each drug court has the necessary funding for participant incentives to achieve the best results for the drug court participants and communities," stated Ed Rajsteter, Friends President. "When the Friends began in November 2015, we didn't realize that in such a short time we would be in the position to make this level of donations available to enhance the statewide drug court programs. The Friends will continue to accomplish its mission of raising private donations for incentives that assist participants to successfully complete the 18 to 24 month drug court program and once again become a productive member of their communities."

Donations received by the Friends that are unrestricted are evenly distributed to all of the established county drug courts for participant program incentives such as transportation assistance, continuing education, gas gift cards, gym memberships, and loans to reacquire driver licenses. The individual county award amounts also include restricted donations received by the Friends that are earmarked by donors for specific county drug court programs. The following donation distributions were made; Belknap-Laonia - \$1,155.00, Cheshire County - \$1,155.00, Grafton County - \$3,550.00, Hillsborough-South - \$3,855.00, Rockingham County - \$1,650.00 and Strafford County -\$ 1,155.00.

Drug Courts are designed to work along with the criminal justice system offering defendants whose offenses are substance abuse driven an alternative sentencing option, The Friends of New Hampshire Drug Courts works to enhance those programs by providing additional privately raised funding for incentives as well as related education and training.

The Drug Court alternative sentencing program is a nationwide program with a proven record of success that achieves real results in combating drug and alcohol addiction and returning the participant as a productive, employed members of his or her community.

Membership in the Friends of New Hampshire Drug Courts is open to everyone. The Friends are actively seeking individual and corporate members to help in our mission as well as individuals to serve on our new Board of Directors. To obtain more information about the Friends or to become a member or donate, please visit our website, [www.friendsofnhdrugcourts.org](http://www.friendsofnhdrugcourts.org).

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