

FRIENDS NEWS

The Friends of New Hampshire Drug Courts



Executive Council Member Joe Kenney with Ashley Hurteau, Friends Board Member and Ed Rajsteter, President, of the Friends

Upcoming Event

NEADCP Conference
"Where Justice Meets Treatment" @ Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel & Trade Center- Marlborough, MA. November 29th & 30th

Next Meetings

The Friends meet on the third Wednesday of each month at 1:00PM. Meeting location varies.

Friends next Board meeting will be January 17, 2018 @ New Futures - Concord NH.

The December board meeting has been cancelled.

Interested in joining?

E-mail the Friends at info@fnhdc.org

Your tax deductible donations can be mailed to:
The Friends of NH Drug Courts,
PO Box 326, North Haverhill, NH 03774

Grafton County Drug Court

November 13, 2017

Rite of Passage



Bill Gilding, Alternative Sentencing Director and Jennifer Stone, Program Coordinator for Grafton County Treatment Court, opened the proceedings of the Rite of Passage Ceremony in front of some 50 plus Drug Court team members, participants, family and friends of Megan and Lacey. These two brave young women began the road to long-term recovery with the with the Grafton County Drug Court Treatment Program 18 - 24 months ago.

The featured speaker for the program was the Honorable Judge Tina Nadeau, Chief Justice of New Hampshire Superior Court. Judge Nadeau could not be physically present, but because of modern technology through a live feed video television, the Judge thanked both Megan and Lacey for their strength and fortitude in completing the program that set them on their paths to long term recovery.

Tom Hebert, a former drug court commencee and Lieutenant Nicole Cremo introduced both Megan and Lacey and told the audience about both of their successes in the program. It was quite intimate and emotional with how they both related their stories about Megan and Lacey.

It was now time for Megan and Lacey to tell their story in their own words. Fighting back tears, they both were describing their long hard journey to recovery. There were a number of missteps along the way, but because of perseverance and sheer determination they reached this day of commencement from the program. Megan was reunited with her children and Lacey with her family.

Honorable Judge Lawrence MacLeod presented both Megan and Lacey with their certificates of completion of the program.

Celebrating Drug Court Graduates

Rockingham County Drug Court will hold its Graduation on November 27th @ 3:00 - Rockingham County Superior Court - Brentwood, NH.

Important - Please be sure to log onto our Friends Facebook page, like us and share our page and posts with your friends



Drug Courts Work ~ They Transform Lives

Friends of New Hampshire Drug Courts is a tax-exempt nonprofit organization



Governor Chris Sununu with Alex Casale, Statewide Coordinator Drug Courts and Ed Rajsteter, President, of the Friends.

Friends meet with Governor and Council

Explain their role in supporting drug courts

During a presentation before the Governor and Executive Council, the Friends of the New Hampshire Drug Courts described how they support the life-saving work of drug courts across the state. This was followed by a drug court graduate who gave a powerful first-hand account of her journey to recovery.

Gov. Chris Sununu and the five-member Council invited the Friends to their Oct. 25 breakfast meeting, which was held at New Futures' offices in Concord.

After the meeting, the governor said he will share the work the Friends do to help address the opioid epidemic during his upcoming trip to the White House in Washington, D.C. Sununu said New Hampshire leads the nation in tackling the drug crisis, noting it is the first state to have a statewide Friends organization providing services to drug court participants and their families.

Full funding by the state for drug courts resulted in eight drug courts currently operating in New Hampshire with the possibility that two more may be established in Coos and Carroll counties by spring 2018, statewide drug court coordinator Alex Casale told the Governor and Executive Council. Casale also explained how drug courts work.

Friends of NH Drug Courts President Ed Rajsteter explained the relationship between drug courts and the Friends, a statewide, non-profit organization that represents all current and future drug courts throughout the state. The state funds drug courts and pays for the intensive treatment and supervision they provide participants. The Friends support drug courts by raising private funds for their incentive programs. It also raises money to further the education and training of drug court participants.

Ashley Hurteau, a newly-appointed Friends director and graduate of Strafford County Drug Court, spoke of her experience struggling with substance use disorder. Sununu and councilors were impressed with her story and the poise and grace with which she told it.

District 1 Councilor Joseph Kenney arranged the special breakfast meeting with the Friends. Linda Saunders Paquette, a Friends director and President and CEO of New Futures, hosted the event.

The Governor and Council meet twice monthly. They typically have a breakfast meeting, then proceed to State House for their formal meeting. Other Councilors are: Andru Volinsky, District 2; Russell Prescott, District 3; Christopher Pappas, District 4; and David Wheeler, District 5.