

# FRIENDS NEWS

| The Friends of New Hampshire Drug Courts |

## Friends Seeking New Board Directors

The Friends are seeking new Board Director candidates to ensure that each of the 7 established drug courts has a representative. Prospective candidates or recommendations should be submitted to [info@friendsofnhdrugcourts.org](mailto:info@friendsofnhdrugcourts.org)

## Friends Upcoming Annual Meeting & Dinner

Watch for more info about the upcoming Friends Annual Meeting & Recognition Dinner to be held in May 2017. The event will be held mid-week in Concord.

## Next Meetings

The Friends meet on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 1PM at New Futures, 10 Ferry St. Suite 307, Concord, NH. Next meetings - Wednesdays, January 18, February 15 & March 15.

**Interested in joining? E-mail the Friends at [info@friendsofnhdrugcourts.org](mailto:info@friendsofnhdrugcourts.org)**

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

## Upcoming Hillsborough-South & Cheshire Drug Courts Graduations

On Thursday, January 19th at 1 PM, the Hillsborough County - South Drug Court will hold its graduation celebration for 3 drug court graduates at the Hillsborough County Superior Court, 30 Spring St., Jury Assembly Room, Nashua, NH 03060. Please RSVP to Julie Christenson-Collins at [christensen-collins@gnmch.org](mailto:christensen-collins@gnmch.org) or 603-881-1638.

On Wednesday, February 1st at 12 Noon, the Cheshire County Drug Court will hold its graduation ceremony for 3 drug court graduates at the Cheshire County Superior Court, 33 Winter St., 2nd Floor, Court Room #4, Keene, NH 03431. Please RSVP to Alison Welsh at [awelsh@co.cheshire.nh.us](mailto:awelsh@co.cheshire.nh.us) or 603-209-6467.

## Woodsville Guaranty Saving Bank Donation



Special thanks to Woodsville Guaranty Savings Bank! For the second year, WGSB has made a \$1,200 donation to fund the Friends' website and support the critically important work of the Friends.



**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**



## Friends of New Hampshire Drug Courts

*Drug Courts Work – They Transform Lives*

### **Please Consider Donating to the Friends Annual Appeal**

The opioid epidemic in New Hampshire knows no socio-economic or age boundaries and impacts family, friends, schools, the work place and our communities at large.

Drug Courts are the most effective judicial intervention for treating individuals with substance misuse disorders. Evidence shows that Drug Courts reduce drug use, reduce crime, and saves money. **Drug Courts restore lives and reunite families.**

Currently, federal, state and county funding provide for the operational costs of drug courts. Participant incentives provide positive support to succeed in the program and encourage constructive changes in behavior. This is why the Friends of New Hampshire Drug Courts was formed, to financially provide incentives for participants and create an effective public/private partnership with this beneficial statewide program.

Your past contributions have helped immensely. Your continued support ensures the Friends will touch many lives; **we exist to serve those who are seeking long term recovery.**

Your generosity will have an immediate impact on urgently needed assistance. On the reverse side are compelling testimonials from drug court participants.

Please consider making a tax-deductible gift to the Friends of New Hampshire Drug Courts; you have an option of sending a check or use the Friends website to make an online credit card donation. If you wish, your gift may be directed to a specific drug court in Belknap, Cheshire, Grafton, Hillsborough-North, Hillsborough-South, Rockingham or Strafford counties. The goal is to have a drug court in every County.

Ed Rajsteter, President

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## Our Drug Court Participant's...Their Stories

### **Tina's story:**

"After seven or eight months into this program, I was given the opportunity to receive a loan to help me with a down payment. I did not have the entire amount to pay bills or rent, but I did receive \$355 for dental as I was in need of a full set of dentures. I made an agreement to pay back the loan at \$100 a month, which I did and it has been paid off.

If it not for the help of the Drug Court loans, I would not have what I have today. I have worked very hard on my recovery to becoming a responsible person and I have to say I am proud to give back what was given to me. Drug Court loans are really needed to help us get back on our feet to live our lives and move forward. They help us with security deposits, clothes for interviews, and cars for transportation. We had nothing when we started.

There is a real need for these loans to help the participants in Drug Court. Please, whatever is needed to help Drug Court to continue helping with loans will truly be appreciated." *Tina*

### **Paul's story:**

"Today I am a different person. I'm continually doing things to better myself. I have a new outlook on life and I enjoy living life clean which I never thought was possible. A lot of people reach out to me and that definitely help me stay clean. So no matter what happens today I do not have to use, no matter what. I'm happy being clean and sober for the first time in my life. So I believe if I can do it, anyone can. It is what it is! *Paul*

### **Justin's story:**

Receiving a Drug Court loan has been critical to my recovery. It helped me obtain a stable and safe housing situation, which in turn got me out of a revolving door cycle on the street. And since then has helped me progress further in life, by taking stress away and replacing it with better things, like a good job, time to take classes, and concentrating on the important things in life. Without this help, one can only speculate where I might be. It has been very important foundation in beginning my recovery and a path to a better sober life." *Justin*

### **Nicholas' story:**

"Entering into Strafford County Drug Court was one of the most difficult decisions I've ever had to make, yet is has been proven to be one of the best. Through working with the team, I can say with honesty that I've made the best out of a bad situation. The changes I have made and the personal growth that I've experienced will continue to affect me for the rest of my life. The program has allowed me to be productive, live my life, and make positive changes. If I had chosen the alternative, I'm sure I would have experienced any rehabilitation. As a result, I'm the happiest I've been in a long time. Strafford County Drug Court has my gratitude." *Nicholas*

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