



Winter Issue is Here!

- SAVE THE DATE!!! 2015 Statewide Drug Court Conference is April 8-9 in Little Rock.
- Drug Courts In Their Communities!

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Winter Issue

January 2015

Legislative Update

January 2015 brings a new legislative session for Arkansas. The 90th General Assembly begins with one piece of drug court legislation filed. Senate Bill 148 addresses drug court fees paid by participants. The bill is currently assigned to the Senate Judiciary committee. To keep up to date on all legislative activities, view any potential drug court bills filed later in the session, go online to: <http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/assembly/2015/2015R/Pages/Home.aspx>

Governor Hutchinson Calls for Increased Drug Court Funding

In a news release on January 27th, Governor Hutchinson highlighted his key budget points. One of those points was drug courts. The Governor has pledged a one million dollar increase in drug court funding for the state. It is not yet known how these funds will be applied for use by the drug courts. For more on the Governor's proposals visit his website at <http://governor.arkansas.gov/press-releases/detail/governor-asa-hutchinsons-budget-highlights-promises-kept>

2015 Statewide Drug Court Conference Registration Opens

Registration has begun for the 2015 Statewide Drug Court Conference. The conference will be held at the Embassy Suites in Little Rock on April 8 and 9. The two full days of training brings speakers on a variety of topics including current research in drug court topics, drug testing updates, prescription drug addiction, veterans in the criminal justice system and other exciting information. Register today!

Hot Springs Drug Court Personnel Attend C.O.R.E. Training in Florida

On July 20-24, 2014, Chris Skrivanos, Drug Court Counselor, and Michael Hall, Drug Court PPA, attended the 2nd annual C.O.R.E. conference in Amelia Island, Florida. The C.O.R.E. conference is for addiction professionals to advance their understanding of the principles behind abstinence-based recovery practices, highlights the critical importance of 12-Step processes and abstinence-based recovery, and presents new options for productively integrating useful clinical tools into a larger recovery-oriented treatment culture. *Continued next page...*

C.O.R.E.

Continued from pg. 1...

The goal is to improve addiction treatment outcomes by better integrating abstinence-based practices and Twelve-Step principles into therapeutic initiatives.

Chris Skrivanos said, "I found the conference to be informative, enlightening and refreshing. I especially enjoyed hearing highly credentialed professionals, including PHD's, Physicians, LCSW's and Drug & Alcohol Treatment Professionals extol the clinical benefits of 12-step recovery including meeting attendance, working the steps with a sponsor and being of service to others. I believe the back to basics approach encouraged by C4 Recovery Solutions through this conference is critical to the recovery of Drug Court clients."

Jefferson County Drug Court Feeding the Soul!



Local Drug News

Gardening for Good!

Berryville Drug Court began a community garden project. The drug court participants have been working in the garden for several months and are seeing the hard work pay off in crop yields. In a two week period the garden produced over two trailer loads of fresh vegetables. The vegetables were given to a local food bank as well as the county jail for inmate meals.

[More Pics in gallery](#)



Jefferson County Drug Court participants volunteer every 4th Saturday at a local soup kitchen in Pine Bluff. The kitchen offers free cooked meals to the public.

Photo and information courtesy of Karen Lee, Jefferson Co Drug Court Coordinator.

Local Drug News

Sebastian County Graduation

The Sebastian County Drug Court held their annual graduation event December 5, 2014. The program graduated 36 participants. Five graduates had no sanctions during their time. Recovery bibles were donated to each graduate courtesy of "Courage to Change Ministry", pastors DeWayne & Rebecca Hicks. "Drug Court Works" Arm bands were donated compliments of Sheriff Bill Hollenbeck. Entertainment was provided by Reggie Moore accompanied by Minister Douglas Dodson. Keynote speaker was Aaron Jennen, former Deputy Prosecutor for Sebastian County Drug Court and now Assistant US Attorney, of US Attorney's Office, Western District. Cavanaugh Free Will Baptist Church accommodated the Ceremony. A special Thanks to Dean for the sound system, and projections of photos and Bio's along with the DVD of the Program. — Shirl Page, Sebastian County Criminal Justice/Drug Court Coordinator.

Holiday Spirit!

The Boone/Newton County Drug Court (14th Judicial District) clients participated in their annual Free Christmas Gift Wrapping project for community service in Harrison, AR. Each client participated for a minimum of 10 hours. There were several clients who participated well beyond the required hours. The project clocked 175.5 hours of community service.

[More pics in gallery](#)

YOU IN 10!



“You: In 10!” is an interview series that spotlights drug court professionals in our state. The interview consists of a blend of conventional and non-conventional questions presented to the interviewee. The winter spotlight is on Deborah Gorham, ACC Drug Court Probation Officer for the Saline County Drug Court.

The Line: Where are you from originally?

Deborah Gorham: Rose Bud, Arkansas

TL: Do you have any hobbies?

DG: Softball and golf

TL: If you were stranded on a desert island what 3 things would you absolutely want to have with you?

DG: Sunscreen, cup and knife

TL: Where do you see yourself 10 years from now?

DG: as an AAM or higher

TL: If you could do any other career what would it be and why?

DG: Firefighter; I have always loved the thought of running into a burning building to save others while everyone else is running out!

See the rest of our spotlight on page 4...





You In 10! Continued...

TL: Do you have any pets? What kind?

DG: I have one cat and will soon have a dog

TL: What is your favorite part of working in a drug court?

DG: Knowing I have done everything I can do to help others with their rehabilitation.

TL: What is one thing about you that people are surprised to learn?

DG: I was elected to the Rose Bud City Council in 2002 and re-elected for 3 more terms.

TL: Puppy Bowl or Super Bowl?

DG: Super Bowl!

TL: Who inspires you?

DG: My mother; She was a single mother who raised 4 kids without help and made sure we had everything we could ask for (even working two jobs). She was the strongest person I have ever known and would do anything for her.

Thank you Deborah for stepping into this issue's spotlight! This interview series seeks to learn your stories and share with readers that which makes you unique. You are also busy, busy people, which is why there is a limit to ten questions. Be on the look out readers, YOU could be next in our spotlight!

President Obama Calls for a Focus on Treatment for Nonviolent Drug Offenders

Obama said. "What I am doing at the federal level is asking my Department of Justice just to examine generally how we are treating nonviolent drug offenders. Instead of focusing on treatment, we've treated this exclusively as a criminal problem. It's been counterproductive and it has been devastating in a lot of minority communities."

To view the video online, click: <http://thehill.com/homenews/administration/230474->

National News

Clintons and Naloxone

The Clinton Foundation seeks to make anti-opioid overdose medications more affordable and accessible for patients. The push is part of The Clinton Foundation's Health Matters Initiative. The group is partnering with pharmaceutical company Kaleo. Evzio, the auto-injectable naloxone is manufactured by Kaleo. The medication typically costs \$30 out of pocket for most people with insurance or coverage through Medicare, Medicaid, the VA or TriCare,. However, one unit of Evzio can cost up to \$575 for people without health coverage.

As part of the partnership, Evzio will be available at much lower costs to universities, colleges, community organizations, and local police and emergency authorities. "[It's] something which I think will save a lot of lives," said Bill Clinton at a panel session during the Clinton Foundation Health Matters Summit.

"We have seen physicians very much embrace the product," said Spencer Williamson, Kaleo CEO. "They see it as a way to really empower patients and their families to manage their challenging medical conditions," said Williamson.

To read the complete article by McCarton Ackerman, visit "The Fix" website at: <http://www.thefix.com/content/clinton-foundation-announces-initiative-make-naloxone-devices-more-affordable>



What's New with Your ADCPA Board?

The Arkansas Drug Court Professionals Association (ADCPA) Board of Directors has been hard at work planning activities for our membership in 2015. Our annual Drug Court Conference will be held on April 8th and 9th in Little Rock at the Embassy Suites so don't forget to get your membership and registration forms sent in! We will have two full days of training again this year. Representatives from the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) will be providing training for one full day and we will have speakers from our state providing training that directly applies to drug courts in Arkansas. A new project that your board is working on this year are "Regional Flash Trainings." These will be FREE to our membership so even if you are not coming to conference, join our association for this opportunity! These one day trainings will be held in four locations around the state of Arkansas. Our state association has paired with the NADCP to offer these trainings to our membership. This year's training will be held in the Fall 2015 and we will be sending out the dates of this training to our membership as soon as all the details are worked out.

The 2015 one day training will pertain to operational tune-up of your drug court. This training will discuss how drug court teams can apply the latest research and best practice techniques to improve outcomes in your program. We hope to have as many teams around the state of Arkansas attend these trainings so be watching your email for the upcoming date in your area. ADCPA and NADCP are very excited about this opportunity to give an added benefit to the members of our state association. Thank you all for your continued support and we hope to see you all very soon at our annual statewide conference!

Board member officers are:
President– Judge Jerry Don Ramey,
Vice President– Judge John Dan Kemp,
Secretary– Officer Lisa Wells,
and Treasurer– Officer Tara Sharp.

Please feel free to contact your local board members with any major concerns for review by our board. Board meetings are held quarterly with our next meeting scheduled for

THE LINE



Harrison Drug Court participants conducting free gift wrapping during the holidays 2014



THE LINE



Chris Skrivanos and Michael Hall (L to R) enjoy the CORE Conference in Florida 2014.



Harrison Drug Court (left); Berryville Drug Court participants working the community garden (Below).



Photo Gallery

THE LINE



More Berryville Drug Court community garden pics this page and next.



THE LINE



ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LINE

A quarterly publication by the Division of Drug Courts at the Administrative Office of the Courts.

Contributions, comments, and inquiries are welcome. Please submit to *The Line*, A.O.C., Justice Building, 625 Marshall street, Little Rock, AR 72201. Tel. (501) 682-9400.

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We're On The Web!
<https://courts.arkansas.gov/>



The Administrative Offices of the Court (AOC) supports the information technology, training, juvenile support services, drug court services, language and advocate services of the Arkansas court system. The courts served include the District Court to the Arkansas Supreme Court and its boards and committees.

Webinars and Resources

American University Drug Court
Practitioner Webinars at:

<http://www1.spa.american.edu/justice/videos.php>

“Translating Drug Court Research into
Practice” at:

<http://research2practice.org/>

NDCI’s “Tune In Tuesdays” Webinar series:

[http://www.ndci.org/training/online-trainings-webinars/
webinars](http://www.ndci.org/training/online-trainings-webinars/webinars)

And other useful links.....

<http://www.courtinnovation.org/topic/drug-court>

www.drugfree.org

