PUBLISHED BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

The Line

Volume 44, No. 2 May 2013

2013 Drug Court Conference held in Hot Springs!

- Emerging research on drug courts!
- Synthetic drug update!
- Photos from the event!

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2013 Annual Drug Court Conference Held in Hot Springs

The 2013 Annual Drug Court Conference was held in April at Hot Springs. The historic Arlington Hotel played host for nearly 200 drug court practitioners from across the state.

The annual event provided training to attendees on the current research involving drug courts and best practices. Other topics such as a synthetic drug update, veterans drug courts, juvenile drug courts and coping with participant relapse were also highlighted. Pictures from the event are inside this issue of *The Line*. The event proved to be a success with attendees, who are already looking forward to the next yearly meeting. The conference planning committee will meet at the next ADCPA Board meeting to finalize a 2014 event date and location.

Dr. Doug Marlowe with the National Association of Drug Court Professionals discusses current research.

"Ask yourself– Is it a 'sick' behavior, or is it a 'willful' behavior?"— Doug Marlowe discussing addict relapse.

The White House Publishes 2013 National Drug Control Strategy

On April 24th the White House announced President Obama's 2013 National Drug Control Strategy. The strategy seeks to build on the foundations from prior years from 2010-2012. The *Strategy* continues in support of addiction as a chronic disease of the brain that can be prevented and treated. The *Strategy* will serve as the Nation's blueprint for reducing drug use and its consequences by using a collaborative, balanced and science-based approach. The President's plan is divided into four areas: prevention, expansion, reformation and support.

The prevention component uses educational programs to prevent drug use before it begins. The expansion focus will work to provide access to treatment for Americans struggling with addiction. The reform component will pursue criminal justice system innovations and the support element will seek to assist Americans in recovery by lifting the stigma association with those in recovery from substance use disorders.

To read the full text of the President's *Strategy* go to: www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp

Every 4 minutes someone in America is sent to treatment instead of prison through drug court.

Report on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders

A 2011 report sponsored by SAMHSA and the National Institute of Justice researched mental and substance use disorders among adult men on probation or parole. Authors Thomas E. Feucht and Joseph Gfroerer examined issues that have been associated with managing the growing criminal justice population under correctional supervision.

Their analysis reveals that overall from 2002 to 2009, illegal drug use among people on probation and/or parole remained a persistent challenge, with rates of drug abuse and dependence remaining 2 to 3 times as high as rates among non-probationers and non-parolees. Similarly, rates of any mental illness, serious mental illness, serious psychological distress and depression during the past year were 2 to 3 times higher among probationers and parolees than among other respondents. The data demonstrated a gap between the need for treatment and the receipt of services.

Conclusions from the report show that there is a high need to provide additional treatment services to this population. Without adequate services, this population is at greater risk for probation/parole failure that leads to re-incarceration. Findings suggest the ongoing need for broader implementation of effective treatment and reentry services for this population.

To read the full report, visit: www.oas.samhsa.gov

Speaker Joseph Lunievicz at the 2013 Drug Court Conference

"We are working with people who have a chronic illness for which there is no cure and relapse is a common occurrence."—

Joseph Lunievicz, 2013 Drug Court Conference

2013 Annual Drug Court Conference Cont….

Attendees listen during presentations at the 2013 Drug Court Conference

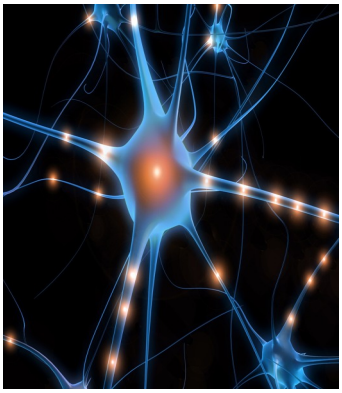
ADCPA Conference Committee members begin set up at The Arlington Hotel in Hot

New Cocaine Vaccine Could See Use on Humans Within a Year

According to an article published in *The Daily Mail*, an anti-cocaine vaccine that consumes cocaine has come a step closer to being used in humans. The new vaccine that could help treat cocaine addicts has just passed preliminary tests in primates and could be in human clinical trials soon.

The vaccine works by preventing the active compound from reaching the brain before it can produce the dopamine-induced high.

Read more: http://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-2323697/Anti-cocaine-vaccine-eats-drug-



Local Drug Courts in the News: Mena Drug Court

Polk County- In a March 2013 *Polk County Pulse* article, author Michael Reisig interviewed the local Citizen of the Week. Bethany Hughes works as a drug court professional in Mena. In her interview, Hughes spoke of her work with the drug courts and her life experiences that led to her career. "My father ran a boys home and that gave me exposure to the value of helping people, and the desire to serve those who need help in various fashions," she said. While working as an outreach specialist in parent education she reaffirmed her desire to do social work. When the opportunity arose to work with the Mena Drug Court, she pursued the option feeling that it would fit with her career goals. Hughes acknowledges that not every participant in drug court succeeds but the premise behind the program is solid and she has seen it change lives. "I have seen firsthand that we are finding hope for the hopeless…." she added. "I think most of these people walk away having learned something about themselves, and we have given them a direction, and the tools they need to grow, whenever they want to use them. Having been raised in this community and having children in the community, I feel a strong desire to do my part to improve and protect, and to be a positive part of it all. ...I'm doing my best to make that happen."

National Association Updates: NADCP on MSNBC

750,000 viewers tuned in as NADCP's All Rise Ambassador, Matthew Perry, and Chief of Science, Law and Policy, Dr. Doug Marlowe, were guests on MSNBC's Hardball with Chris Matthews.

Matthews opened the segment highlighting Matthew Perry's incredible advocacy work for Drug Courts this week on Capitol Hill and at the White House. Matthew Perry stressed the importance of Drug Courts as an alternative to incarceration for addicted offenders.

When Matthews asked about the impact of addiction on the U.S. prison system, Dr. Doug Marlowe summed-up the big picture. "It's fair to say that 80% of criminal offenders are there in part because addiction is fueling their criminal activity. What we are trying to do is find a middle ground. We're not going to let them go. We're not going to endanger public safety. But we are also not going to throw them away," said Marlowe.

Visit www.nadcp.org/Hardball to watch the segment.

Remember to turn in your application for mini-grant funding!!

DEA and Synthetic Marijuana

MAY 16 (WASHINGTON) – U.S Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) made the synthetic cannabinoids UR-144, XLR11, and AKB48 Schedule I, illegal drugs under the Controlled Substances Act (CSA) for the next two years. Many individual states, including Arkansas have already taken actions to make synthetic marijuana products illegal. These cannabinoids in so-called "fake pot" products falsely marketed and sold as "herbal incense" or "potpourri" products on the Internet and by a variety of retail stores. Synthetic cannabinoids refer to a family of substances that act on the brain similar to THC, the main psychoactive constituent of cannabis. This action is based on a finding by the DEA that the placement of these synthetic cannabinoids into Schedule I of the CSA is necessary to avoid an imminent hazard to the public safety.

In recent years, smokable herbal blends containing synthetic cannabinoids have been marketed under the guise of being "legal" and have become increasingly popular, particularly among teens and young adults. The long-term physical and psychological effects of these substances are potentially severe, and psychotic and violent behavior has been observed in short-term users of these products.

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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https://courts.arkansas.gov/

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

And other useful links……

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

www.drugfree.org