

## GRAFTON COUNTY DRUG COURT MEETING

Grafton County Department of Corrections

3787 Dartmouth College Hwy

North Haverhill, NH 03774

January 11, 2016

PRESENT: Commissioners Cryans and Richards.

OTHERS PRESENT: Representatives from Coos, Carroll, Sullivan, Cheshire and Grafton counties. See attached Sign-in sheet.

Commissioner Cryans called the meeting to order at 11:45 AM.

Commissioners Cryans welcomed the guests that had come from other counties to hear about and observe the Grafton County Drug Court. Participants were able to tour the nursing home and jail prior to the meeting. Commissioner Cryans introduced his fellow Commissioner Martha Richards and several other guests.

Commissioner Cryans stated that we had a guest who is a Grafton County Drug Court client and she is going to share her story with the group. He introduced Jennifer Stone, Case Manager to introduce the speaker.

Ms. Stone reviewed some of the duties of the Case Manager position and then told everyone how she had met and interacted with Ashley. She then introduced Ashley to everyone assembled.

Ashley read her very powerful story to the group. Ashley graduated from the Grafton County Drug Court last Monday. Her story is a touching example of the difference drug court can make in someone's life.

Colleen Strout, Restorative Justice Admin Assistant, spoke for the AS Director Lucille Amero who was unable to attend today. Ms. Strout gave an overview of the Grafton County Drug Court and its operation. She told the group about how a person becomes a client and who is on the drug court team.

Next, several team members spoke about their role in drug court and on the team.

Jennifer Stone, Case Manager spoke more in detail about her role as a Case Manager and her responsibilities to work with the clients on issues involving housing, jobs, and living needs.

Ashley Belyea, Case Manager spoke for Dave Belanger, our in-house treatment provider, who was unable to attend the meeting today. Ashley spoke about the treatment component of the program and what kinds of treatment clients receive once they are in the program.

Superintendent Tom Elliott introduced Lieutenant Nicole Cremo, who is in charge of the Community Corrections division and oversees the supervision aspect of Drug Court. Lt. Cremo spoke about the responsibilities that she and her fellow officers have with the clients. She also spoke about how Grafton County is unique in that we are the only drug court that uses Correctional Officers to do supervision and not Probation and Parole.

Lara Saffo, Grafton County Attorney, spoke about the role of the prosecutor in the process. She informed the group about what kind of crimes people commit that can get them a drug court plea offer. She spoke about drug courts evolving and the need to keep up-to-date on current practices and that we are currently in the process of reviewing our policies and procedures and our program.

Judge MacLeod is the Superior Court judge who currently oversees the Grafton County Drug Court. He spoke regarding the role of the judge. He meets with clients weekly to monthly depending on what phase of the program they are in. He makes final decisions regarding rewards, sanctions, terminations, etc. He emphasized that it is a team effort saying a lot of the work is done before it gets to him.

Ed Rajsteter spoke on behalf of the Friends of Drug Court, which is a 501c3 program that started in Grafton County, but is now a statewide program. The Friends provide funding for rewards and positive things that are given to the clients. All monies are donated by community members so that tax dollars are not paying for rewards for convicted offenders.

Commissioner Cryans opened the discussion up for questions to the group. A number of questions were asked and answered.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.

At 1:00 PM the group observed the Grafton County Drug Court team consisting of Judge MacLeod, Case Managers Stone and Belyea, Attorney Tony Hutchins, Lt. Cremo, County Attorney Saffo and Corporal Buxton hold the weekly “team meeting”, in which they review all the clients and discuss their progress or drawbacks during the previous week. They discuss prospective clients and review where they are at in the process.

At 2:00 PM the group was invited to go to the Grafton County Courthouse and observe the weekly Drug Court session with the judge. Judge MacLeod presided and met with each of the drug court clients individually.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Martha B. Richards, Vice-Chair

# Grafton County Drug Court Meeting

January 11, 2016

Sign In Sheet ~ PLEASE PRINT

Colleen Strout

Cahley Belyea

Ashley Zachary

Jennifer Stone

David L. Babson Jr.

CHRIS AHLGREN

DAVID SORENSEN

KEN RICHARDSON

David A. Berry, Jr.

Maethe Richards

Costy Richardson

Ed Rastetter

WEL RICHARDSON

Chuck Wood

JEFF BARRETT

Jessie Levine

WAYNE MOYNIHAN

PAUL GREMER

Ron White, NHAC

Thomas Brady

Lara Saffo

Adam Droplek

MICHAEL GENTILI

Tony Hutchins

Jerry Marcou Sheriff Coos

Keith Roberge coos sheriff office

John McCormick Coos County Attorney

Jennifer Fish Coos County Administrator

Monica Thomas Rep Coos Dist 3

Genius Wood WARE-MACLEOD

David Colson

Robert Thibault / State Rep Coos 3

Leon H. Buxton State Rep Coos 7

CRAIL HAMBLIN - Coos

Michael G. Evans

Julie Libby

Levi Buxton

Tom Elliott

Nicola Cremo

Todd Eck

Mark Dean

Tim Dailer

Arzin Van Name