

Calendar

- **NMADCP Training Conference**
May 24, 2011
Albuquerque (Live)
Las Cruces (Web Broadcast)
- **DC Coordinators Mtg**
June 13, 2011
11:30 am - 2:30 pm
Webinar
- **NMADCP Board Mtg**
June 20, 2011
Telephonic
12:00 - 1:30 pm
- **DCAC Mtg**
June 24, 2011
12:00 - 2:00 pm
Webinar

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National Drug Court Month: May 2011

As announced by the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP), May is National Drug Court Month, and this year the NADCP's theme is "Drug Courts: A Proven Budget Solution." As it does year round, the NADCP aims to "show the nation that Drug Courts are the most successful and cost effective program in our criminal justice system and must be supported and expanded!"

Here is the link to the NADCP web page containing more information regarding this initiative, including a comprehensive Field Kit that will help any court promote its drug court

program through media events and congressional meetings:

<http://www.nadcp.org/act/2011NDCM>



In addition, **President Obama** today issued a special message to Drug Court professionals, sending his greetings to everyone celebrating National Drug

Court Commencement Week and praising Drug Courts as a smart investment. The President's message highlights Drug Courts as a critical part of the Administration's strategy to provide alternatives to incarceration for drug-addicted offenders, lauding Drug Courts for breaking the cycle of drug abuse and crime and annually transforming the lives of 120,000 citizens in need of treatment. Below is the link to the President's full message:

<http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/presidentsmessage/>

Drug Courts Come Under Attack

Yes, oddly enough, even as drug courts celebrate a second decade of success, two policy groups (the Drug Policy Alliance and Justice Policy Institute) have attacked drug courts as being ineffective. The two groups held a briefing in March on Capitol Hill at which they released reports attacking Drug Courts and advocating for the U.S. to follow the lead of Portugal in decriminalizing all illegal drugs, including heroin,

methamphetamine, and crack cocaine.

Their argument flies in the face of considerable research to the contrary. "More research has been published on the effects of Drug Courts than on virtually all other criminal justice programs combined. By 2006, the scientific community had concluded beyond a reasonable doubt from what are called meta-analyses (highly advanced

statistical procedures) that Drug Courts reduce crime and return financial benefits to society which are several times the initial investments" (Doug Marlowe, NADCP: 2010).

The full text of the NADCP's response to the recent attacks can be found at the following link:

<http://www.nadcp.org/setting-the-record-straight>

Adult Drug Courts

1st Judicial District
Lupe Sanchez

2nd Judicial District
Catherine Hartman

3rd Judicial District

4th Judicial District
Anna Lujan

6th Judicial District
Jim Helgert

7th Judicial District
Jason Jones

8th Judicial District
Reynaldo Garcia

9th Judicial District
Robin Miller

11th Judicial District

12th Judicial District
Maureen Schmittle

13th Judicial District
Donald Garley
Karen McCutcheon

DWI/ Drug Courts

**Bernalillo County
Metropolitan Court**
Sylvia Serna

Dona Ana Magistrate
Priscilla Quinones

Eddy Magistrate
Robert Fabian

San Miguel Magistrate
Donita Sena

Santa Fe Magistrate
Darlene Romo-Baca

Torrance Magistrate
Susan Rossignol

Valencia Magistrate
Gilbert Romero

Spotlight on the Adult Drug Court Program in Las Cruces

Our featured program this month is the Adult Drug Court Program in the Third Judicial District, Las Cruces, New Mexico. The photograph, narrative, and participant poem were provided by the program's acting director at the time, David Borunda.

The Third's program was established in October 1998, making it one of the state's longest running drug court programs.



This weekend our drug court participants took part in the Great American Clean Up sponsored by Keeping Las Cruces Beautiful. Our team was assigned a large area. We had a great turn out of approximately 24 participants, and we picked up in excess of 71 bags of trash (each bag was a 30 gallon size bag) estimated at close to two thousand pounds of trash. This did not include the tires, ice chests, baby strollers, furniture, and weight bench sets illegally thrown in an illegal dump

**To Whom This May Concern:**

*I have lived a life that
I now must depart from.
This self of which I speak
His future dark,
his outlook bleak*

*This old self on mine,
something of me,
I'd wish not define*

*Being able to now see exactly
the changes needed in me
Still trying to wake from
mind altering substance haze*

*So in my life
I now can move
to the next phase
This old self of which
I must say good-bye*

*A dark pointless past
which now I lay to die
Parting the clouds
which clouded my vision*

*Starting again a
much better decision
So to myself
I sincerely say
let not history repeat,
yet embrace a new day.*

*Sincerely,
J M
3-31-11*

A poem written by one of our drug court participants after a recent relapse. During an individual session with his counselor he was asked to write a letter of apology to himself for the incident that led to his relapse. The client sat down and wrote this in less than five minutes.

Federal Funding Opportunities



A number of Problem-Solving Court grant solicitations have been issued lately by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Most of these are focused on Adult Drug Courts, but their definition of adult drug courts would allow a court to apply on behalf of a

DWI program or a Co-Occurring and Mental Health Court, among others. The most recent solicitation is for Family Dependency Drug Courts. Though there is strong competition nationwide for these grant funds, a well-written application stands a good chance of being successful. Although you can go to the BJA or SAMHSA websites to view these solicitations, our friends at the National Drug Court Institute (NDCI) have a single webpage from which you can access all four of the recent solicitations:

<http://www.ndci.org/training/grants-available-adult-drug-courts>

Please feel free to contact us at the AOC if you have any questions about any of these grant solicitations

Online Course Offered by NDCI

The following information was sent out by Carolyn Hardin of the National Drug Court Institute:

NDCI provides an online course titled "Essential Elements of Adult Drug Courts". This **free** self-paced course is a great overview for new Judges and other team members. Also, the NDCI Comprehensive Judicial Drug Court Practitioner Training is a weeklong, intensive training program designed to educate the new or transitioning Drug Court judge. This training focuses on skills specific to the Drug Court judge and is based on best practices. A sample of course sessions include "Court As Theater"; "Judge as Leader", "Constitutional

and Legal Issues", Confidentiality and Ethics"; "Motivational Interviewing for Judges"; Incentives and Sanctions; "Psychopharmacology" and many more. This training is being held on October 24-28, 2011 in Reno, Nevada at the National Judicial College (NJC). The cost for the weeklong training is \$975 for judges; however, NADCP Members will receive a **25% discount** off any practitioner training! That's right, sign up by July 20, 2011 and you will receive **25% off!**

NDCI in collaboration with the National Judicial College (NJC) are developing a new online curriculum for new and transitioning judges assigned to drug courts. NDCI will provide

more information about this new exciting curriculum later this year. So stay tuned but in the meantime, go to www.ndci.org and check out the online "Essential Elements Course, the weeklong course and review our past webinars from "Tune-In on Tuesdays". All can be found at www.ndci.org.

Please let anyone in your AOC Problem-Solving Court group know of any questions you may have about the NDCI training.

Juvenile Drug Courts

1st Judicial District
Ginger Sloan

2nd Judicial District
Mark Pickle

3rd Judicial District
Katherine Cardon

4th Judicial District
Anna Lujan

5th Judicial District
Victoria Henderson
Christy Williams

6th Judicial District
Rachel Pelz

8th Judicial District
Reynaldo Garcia

11th Judicial District
George Di Re

12th Judicial District
Maureen Schmittle

13th Judicial District
Cynthia Ferrari
Eva Hazlett-Sanchez
Joseph Rinaldi

Family Dependency Drug Court

3rd Judicial District

8th Judicial District
Reynaldo Garcia

13th Judicial District
Eva Hazlett-Sanchez

Treatment Court

1st Judicial District
Lupe Sanchez

2nd Judicial District
Rachel Saiz

11th Judicial District

13th Judicial District
Laurel Carrier

Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court
Art Marshall

Bulletin Board



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Problem-Solving Courts Website

[http://joo.nmcourts.gov/
joomla/pscourts](http://joo.nmcourts.gov/joomla/pscourts)

PLEASE SEND US ARTICLES ON YOUR PROGRAM. WE'RE ESPECIALLY INTERESTED THIS MONTH IN ARTICLES ON YOUR PROGRAM INCENTIVES.

You will be eligible to

WIN



\$5.00
Starbucks's
gift certificate.

Submissions must be received by the 5th of the month for publication in that month's newsletter. Please send your articles, stories, photographs to Carmen Rodriguez at aoccxr@nmcourts.gov.

Prior Newsletters

Available on PSC Website

All Problem-Solving Court Newsletters are available on the Problem-Solving Court website. Click on the following link to access the website: <http://joo.nmcourts.gov/joomla/pscourts/>

You can then click on Court Programs on the left side of the home page, and then Newsletters.

CHECK OUT THIS NEW WEBSITE!



<http://research2practice.org/>

The Adult Drug Court Research to Practice (R2P) project, a cooperative agreement awarded to the National Center and the School of Public Affairs at American University, has launched its official website. R2P is designed to promote the timely dissemination of research related to adult drug courts, including information on addiction science and substance-abuse treatment, as well as studies on the effectiveness and operation of adult drug courts. It is funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance and the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. In addition to the launch of the website, one of the project's first initiatives will be a two-hour webinar on May 23 examining offender characteristics and drug court outcomes to address the basic question of how to maximize limited resources.