

TENNESSEE ASSOCIATION OF DRUG COURT PROFESSIONALS

A Publication by the



9TH ANNUAL TADCP STATE CONFERENCE TADCP CELEBRATES 10TH ANNIVERSARY

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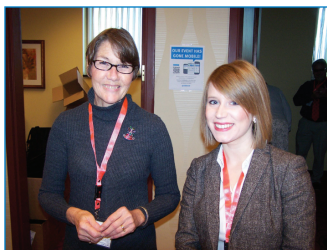
Jill Barrett

Over 350 drug court professionals and alumni converged on Murfreesboro, Tennessee this past December 11th through 13th for another great annual conference. Even though it was the ninth annual conference (the year NADCP was here we didn't have a state conference), drug courts celebrated the 10th Anniversary of our enabling legislation passed in 2003. The Embassy Suites and Conference Center continues to be a great



venue in terms of location, parking, facilities, food, and friendly staff. TADCP also announced the 2014 dates for the next conference, which will be held once again at the Embassy Suites and Conference Center in Murfreesboro on December 3 – 5, so mark your calendars now!

The conference was kicked off with opening remarks by Board President Mary Schneider and Commissioner Douglas Varney with Tennessee's Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Department. Following their remarks, 25 drug court alumni from across the state "paraded" to the podium to share a few remarks about their drug court experience, the drug court they attended, and the amount of time they have clean. It was a terrific way to begin the conference, and we are so grateful for the time and energy alumni put into coming to the conference and sharing their stories with us.



The conference could not have worked without the help from all of our wonderful volunteers who rolled up their sleeves and pitched in with a warm smile and

lots of positive vibes! From managing the front desk and stuffing tote bags to making extra copies of handouts, it seemed there was no task too big for them. Folks showed up to stuff 300 tote bags, register people coming in on every day of the conference, help exhibitors put their exhibit materials up, make sure speakers got where they needed to be, pass out materials in the sessions and so, so much more than can be written here. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Speaking of volunteers, TADCP is already beginning to work on the agenda for 2014. The conference committee will have it's first meeting in the next few weeks and there's time for you to share your thoughts or feedback with the committee. The committee includes: Mary Schneider, Board President and Director of the Rutherford County Drug Court Programs, Lori Tubbs-Douglas, Director of Alternative Choice Counseling, Gibson County, Nancy Fallows, Director of the Cumberland and White County Drug Courts, Rachel Parker with the Coffee County Drug Courts Program, and Norene Puckett, Coordinator for the DeKalb County Drug/DUI and Juvenile Courts Programs.



Executive Director Marie Crosson will staff the committee. Please feel free to share thoughts about the 2014 agenda with any of these folks.

There are many more pictures from the conference located at the Tennessee Association of Drug Court Professionals Facebook page so go there, "like" our page, and enjoy! A link to the pictures on Facebook is also included in our fledgling TADCP BLOG located on our website at www.tadcptn.org.

"The conference could not have worked without the help from all of our wonderful volunteers"

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TADCP GETTING READY FOR DAY ON THE HILL 2014

13TH ANNUAL EVENT TO BE HELD MARCH 18 AT THE WAR MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

Last February, TADCP hosted a Day on the Hill to meet and educate legislators about the great work recovery courts are doing in Tennessee. Great member participation and yummy goody bags made the day a huge success!

This year, we are excited to partner with the Tennessee Coalition for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (TCMHSAS) by sponsoring an exhibit at the 13th Annual Day on the Hill at the War Memorial Auditorium. TCMHSAS is a coalition of provider organizations that represent the interests of

mentally ill and substance dependent citizens, often demonstrating that representation with a unified voice to educate the Tennessee State Legislature and to show concern when potential cuts to services or

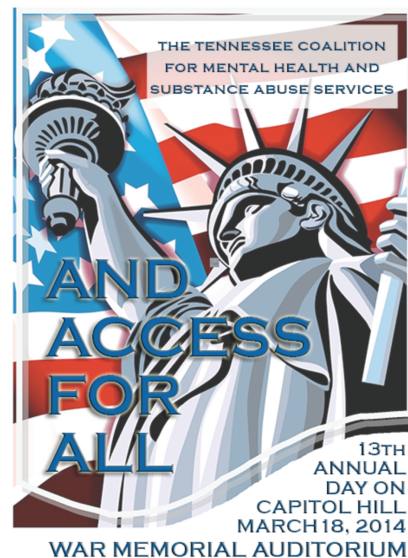
funding is threatened.

Hundreds of people attend this annual event, which will be held on March 18, 2014, along with dozens of mental health and substance abuse services organizations across the state. Familiar organizations like Tennessee Association of Mental Health Organizations (TAMHO), Tennessee Association of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services (TAADAS), and Mental Health America of Middle

Tennessee are just a few examples of the 29 coalition members representing the mentally ill and substance dependent through TCMHSAS.

TADCP will be among the dozens of organizations.....We will be there to represent YOU, our membership, in the vital task of providing education to our stakeholders.

TADCP will be among the dozens of organizations on March 18th at the War Memorial Auditorium to education legislators about mental health and substance abuse services in Tennessee, and explain-



ing how recovery courts are an important part of this very big picture. We will be there to represent YOU, our membership, in the vital task of providing education to our stakeholders.

NETHERY HONORS DRUG TREATMENT COURT GRADUATES

Drug Treatment Court recognized program graduates Wednesday during a luncheon at the Jackson City Court.

Of the seven current graduates, three were present to be congratulated by Drug Treatment Court Director Damien Nethery and Judge Blake Anderson, as well as one current participant who received her GED.

This is the first time Drug Treatment Court has held a recognition luncheon in the city courtroom.

"This is a place where most of our people do not want to come,"

Nethery said. "So to be able to have something here in this very courtroom is very positive, to honor them, to appreciate what they are doing to show that you can live differently. It was just kind of a really cool visual concept."

Nethery honored people currently in the program, recent graduates of the program

and past graduates who came to support those going through treatment.

Drug Treatment Court was established in 2003 and has worked closely with Anderson during the past 11 years.

"Prior to drug court they were not big fans of the judge and avoided him at all cost," Nethery said. "The judge is very open to doing different stuff, and not just saying, 'I'm going to throw you in jail and throw away the key and let's see what happens.' He's very much a believer in - if that's not working let's try something else."

Drug Treatment Court is often a last chance opportunity for non-violent drug offenders to get out of jail and deal with addiction problems.

"The goal is for you to stop doing what you're doing, so if there is a reason behind that then let's identify that reason." Drug Treatment Court has 19 current



Damien Nethery, director of Drug Treatment Court, talks about the DTC program and honoring current participants, and graduates of the program. / NICK MCFERRON/The Jackson Sun



TADCP

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Mark Your Calendars!

2014 NADCP Conference

**December 3-5, 2014
Embassy Suites &
Conference Center
Murfreesboro, Tennessee**



Buffalo Valley, Inc.'s Supportive Service for Veteran's Families (SSVF)

Service Area:

Montgomery, Robertson, Sumner, Trousdale, Cheatham, Dickson, Hickman, Williamson, Maury, Lawrence, Lewis, Marshall, Giles, Bedford, Moore, Coffee, Lincoln, Perry and Wayne Counties.

Contact Information:

To determine if you are eligible or to make a referral, please call 800-699-6573 or 931-628-6056.

Email: PatNorman@buffalovalley.org or GeraldHerring@buffalovalley.org
BVI SSVF staff is also available in Clarksville or Lewisburg.



1-800-699-6573

Administrative Contact:

Deborah A Hillin, MA, LADAC Senior Vice President
DebbieHillin@buffalovalley.org

The SSVF Program is designed to help to prevent homelessness by helping qualifying Veterans and their families gain access to the resources they need in order to successfully transition to or maintain permanent housing.

Qualifications:

- A member of a "Veteran family": Either (a) a Veteran (a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service, and who was discharged or released therefore under conditions other than dishonorable); or (b) a member of a family in which the head of household, or the spouse of the head of household, is a Veteran.
- Must have a DD214
- "Very low income": Household income does not exceed 50% of area median income as determined by HUD.
- Ages 18 and older (family members of all ages)
- "Occupying Permanent Housing": A very low-income Veteran family is considered to be occupying permanent housing if they fall into one of the following 3 categories:
Category 1: Is residing in permanent housing (proof of eviction and/or pending eviction);
Category 2: Is homeless and scheduled to become a resident of permanent housing; or 90 days pending the location or development of housing suitable for permanent housing; or
Category 3: Has exited permanent housing within the previous 90 days to seek other housing that is responsive to the very low-income Veteran family's needs and preferences.

Required Documentation:

- Verification of Veteran Status: DD214
- Verification of Housing Status
- Verification of Household
- Verification of Income

Screening & Intake:

- Complete an eligibility screening & assessment
- Enroll and assigned Case Manager

Expectations:

- Develop Housing Stability Plan
- Develop Employment Plan
- Identify Barriers & Supportive Services necessary to meet essential needs.

Supportive Services Available:

Veterans and their families are linked with Case Managers who will help them quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis and/or homelessness.

Case Managers will provide guidance and coordination to Veterans and their families, helping them to make informed decisions, to understand their options and to gain access to VA benefits and other mainstream resources.

The Veterans and their families are connected with other community resources including but not limited to:

- Housing counseling services
- Vocational and rehabilitation counseling
- Employment & training services
- Transportation services
- Daily living services

Temporary Financial Assistance:

Time-limited payments may be available to third parties (e.g., temporary financial assistance payments/deposits on behalf of Veteran families to landlords, utility companies, limited child care services, etc) provided these payments help Veteran families remain in permanent housing or obtain permanent housing

Funded through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.



THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BY MARY SCHNEIDER

BBBBBBBBB! Even though most of us haven't seen any snow, it sure has been cold! Tennesseans aren't used to this kind of weather. Those of you who remember Rebekah Provost-Emmons from the City of Jackson Treatment Court and former President of TADCP would laugh in sympathy at her posts in Facebook. She is now living in northern Illinois, and as most of you know, they are having a record breaking winter! She is not adjusting well! I think her biggest complaint has been not being able to find stylish enough snow boots. That's our Rebekah!

On behalf of the TADCP Board and Executive Director Marie Crosson, I would like to thank those of you who came to the conference and made it such a wonderful success. We had our biggest turn-out ever! The evaluations were very positive! And we have lots of ideas for next year, so start planning for the next conference, because it will be even better!

One comment on the evaluations that I need to address is someone's concern that we paid for the open bar each evening at the hotel. We did not. This is a perk that Embassy Suites offers its customers, just like the free breakfast every morning. I'm sure that many of the conference attendees did take advantage of the free drinks during the Manager's Reception, but TADCP has always taken the stance that we will not pay for any alcohol at the conference. In fact, there was even a discussion about some of the menu items we looked at that had sauces made with alcohol and it was decided not to choose those items either. We try to be very conscientious of our peers who are in recovery.

Some neat events coming up include the Day on The Hill in March and the Coordinators Conference in June. There is an article in this newsletter about the Day on The Hill. We are trying something new this year by collaborating with a coalition of mental health and substance abuse providers. We hope to do more of this type of thing as we grow and get our name out there. It is amazing to us how little people still know about recovery courts. So by collaborating with others, we also educate them about us.

Another exciting event coming up is our first Board Retreat. We are spending the day together in Nashville with a facilitator who will help us develop a Strategic Plan for TADCP. This plan will help us determine what direction TADCP should go in for the next 3 to 5 years. Adding Marie as our first employee has made us realize that as we grow, we need to change. And many of those changes relate to the members, since it is you who make up this organization. This is an exciting process and I hope you will be pleased with what we come up with.

Finally, continue to check in on our website: www.tadcpn.org. Marie continues to add things and change things and improve things! Her latest addition is a blog, which is just a way of sharing some information with our membership that they might be interested in. Also, don't forget the Facebook page. We would love your pictures and comments on that as well! Thank you for all you do!

Regards,
Mary Schneider, LAPS

TADCP MEMBERS ENJOY....

- CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES (NAADAC AND CLE)
- ANNUAL TADCP CONFERENCE
- QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
- REPRESENTATION THROUGH THE TADCP LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
- FREE AND DISCOUNTED TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

DeKALB DRUG COURT HOLDS GRADUATION

SEVEN GRADUATE IN CEREMONY HELD IN DeKALB COUNTY



On January 8, 2014 the DeKalb County Adult Drug Court held a graduation cere-

mony for 7 participants who got a new lease on life. These participants worked long and hard to make it to this point and the DeKalb County Drug Court is happy to have helped them through this part of their journey into recovery. This ceremony marked the 2nd largest graduation in DeKalb County Drug Court history, which was a great way for their program to start off the New Year! The DeKalb County Drug Court also had

former graduates in attendance who gave inspiring remarks as well as a former program coordinator and several County and City officials to mark the momentous occasion.

This ceremony marked the 2nd largest graduation in DeKalb County Drug Court history...

TENNESSEE ASSOCIATION OF DRUG COURT PROFESSIONALS

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

A one-year membership to TADCP is \$25 per person. An organizational membership from 1/01/2014 - 12/31/2014 is \$200 for 2-10 members and \$10 for each additional member greater than 10. Please make checks payable to TADCP.

Is this application for an individual membership or organizational membership? Individual ☐ Organizational ☐
Please specify the membership organization _____

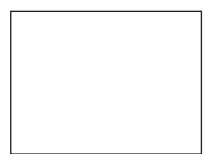
1. Primary contact person

Name _____	Drug Court _____	Phone Number _____
Title _____	Mailing Address _____	Fax Number _____
Organization _____	City, State, ZIP _____	E-Mail Address _____

P.O. Box 639
McMinnville, TN 37111

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COMPUTER

TRAINING

New Horizons Nashville has pricing set up with TADCP for computer training.

The following prices are for TADCP members:

- Access - \$88 per level per student
- Word - \$58 per level per student
- Excel - \$68 per level per student
- OLA Access - \$67 per user for Online Anytime

Feel free to call or email for any additional information:

Ph: 615-850-5919
Fax: 615-251-6925
Email: skomar@NHNashville.com