

# The INSIDER

Mecklenburg County S.T.E.P. Drug Treatment Courts

1 5 Y E A R S O F D R U G T R E A T M E N T C O U R T

## Everyone Needs Hope By: Janeanne Tourtellott



What do some people say about drug court? Have you heard it? One says “they’re making me do this program! It takes up all my time! I don’t need this \*%&@!” Another says, “they deserve jail. Instead they get ‘help’?! This is soft on crime! I say, if you do the crime then do the time!”

It wasn’t that long ago that the majority of the professionals involved in the criminal justice system, legislators and community members expressed these sentiments. We have truly come a long way since the first drug court was founded over twenty years ago. A national movement known as Drug Court opened our eyes to a different way of working with those whose addiction resulted in criminal activity. In the process, we have learned much about ourselves and the “systems” involved. In fact, a whole new emphasis is being placed on Restorative Justice, not only in our courts, but in our schools and community.

Those of you on the receiving end of “restorative justice” know it is anything but “soft on crime.” You know it is very demanding to meet the daily requirements put upon you by the treatment courts.

Those of you who work in one of the treatment courts also know it is very demanding on your time. The additional time spent on meeting with a team to determine the best options to assist someone to be successful is far more work than traditional court ordered programming.

Yet, on February 9, 2010, Mecklenburg County S.T.E.P. programs celebrated their 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! We have been successfully working with our citizens who have an addiction and find themselves involved in the criminal justice system. Over the years, we have received national recognition for programs. We have several team members who collaborate with the National Drug Court Institute to provide training to teams across the country. We have knowledgeable and committed team members who diligently seek out assistance for those who participate in one of the S.T.E.P. court programs. Just take a look at the names of all the partners listed on the back of the newsletter!

Over 858 individuals have successfully completed one of the S.T.E.P. court programs. Over the past fifteen years, thirty-six babies have been born substance-free to one of our participants. By participating in one of our five adult criminal courts, Mecklenburg County S.T.E.P. court has helped the criminal justice system avoid additional costs of over \$7,000,000. Yes, you read that right – over \$7,000,000! We are definitely in line with the national norm of saving \$3 to \$7 of incarceration expenses for every dollar we spend on substance abuse treatment!

I recently had the opportunity to hear David Sanderson speak on the lessons he learned as a result of his experience as a passenger on US Airways Flight 1549. (That is the flight that landed in the Hudson River.) He was one of the last people off the plane. He is grateful for the quick thinking and calm demeanor that prevailed on that particular January morning.

I think there is a correlation that drug court can draw from that event. It was a collaborative effort of many individuals coming together from very different backgrounds that led to the survival of everyone on board. Not just those on the plane, but those in tug boats on the river, in the control tower, on the shore, members of the rescue team, etc., that all did their part.

I bet it was even frustrating when passengers and rescuers alike realized there weren’t enough seats in the life boats for everyone on board the plane. However, each person did their part and the end result was an astonishing zero fatalities!

Whether you are participating in a S.T.E.P. court program as an active participant or an active team member, you are part of something good. It takes each person doing their part to make us all successful. No one individual can take credit for what Mecklenburg County S.T.E.P. courts have achieved over the years. Our success is a direct result of the collaboration of over thirty agencies and countless individuals, participants and team members. Just as participants challenge team members in finding viable options and resources for their success, the active participation of all the different agencies (even when we disagree) serves to make the overall program successful.

Article continued on next page...

Thank you to each person who diligently works to keep our programs operating successfully. Thank you to each individual who daily put themselves on the line as they move toward a healthy and substance-free life. I am excited to see what our collective efforts will be able to achieve in the future. Here is to at least 15 more years.



*Everyone needs hope  
Give thanks for what you have  
Trust for what you need  
-David Sanderson*

### ***WHAT DRUG COURT MEANS TO ME...***

“As a prosecutor, my mission is to seek justice. Sometimes “justice” doesn’t mean a conviction. Sometimes “justice” means a dismissal of a low-class felony charge in exchange for a recovered addict that is now a productive member of society. I am very proud and honored to be the Assistant District Attorney that gets to dismiss that person’s charge.”

- S.T.E.P. Court Assistant District Attorney

## **Remarks to the First National Association of Drug Court Professionals Conference, 1995. . .**

My how we love prisons. Forget the extraordinary costs we incur today. We love prisons so much we are threatening to steal any available funding from education system in most states just to build staff and operate our prisons. As Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy has so eloquently pointed out: “We must not view our collective ability to build more prison space as a sign of success in our society.”

Yet the public continues to respond to harsh and superficial rhetoric. And worst of all, far too many of our fellow Americans continue to operate under the delusion that we can shock, scare or punish people into abandoning drugs. We make it sound so easy. And we want it to be easy for the sad truth is that it suits our convenience. For if we simply put people away for using drugs, we never have to deal with the underlying desperation which drives so many people to the hopeless and painful life offered by narcotics.

But each of you has seen the hopelessness of our current policies. You have determined that a simple, basic human act – the act of compassion and understanding – may well hold the key to this problem. You have seen – or you would like to see – this nation deal with the narcotics problem on medical as well as criminal terms.

And, at the very least, you are willing to try something else other than a re-hashed version of the failed policies of the past.... And so, it will take courage and persistence to keep going, to seek new partners in your communities for your efforts. But, please, please, I implore you to keep trying, to keep fighting. For what you do is more than dispensing justice. You’re saving lives!

Most importantly of all, you are giving people hope – hope to those who thought they’d been forgotten – hope to those who don’t feel the goodness of life – hope to those who think they are all out of chances. You give hope, you give opportunity and you restore dignity. That is as close a definition to “doing” justice as one could ever find....

ABA President George Bushnell, Jr.



## LOOKING BACK...

### 1993



- ◆ OFFICIALS FROM CHARLOTTE AND RALEIGH ATTEND THE “NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE” CONFERENCE IN MIAMI, FLORIDA.

From Left to Right: George Pettigrew (Mecklenburg Probation Chief), Janie Beaver (Mecklenburg Court Services), Steve Newman (Mecklenburg Area Mental Health), NC Dept of Health and Human Services Representative, Janet Reno (U.S. Attorney General), Tonda Wilde (McLeod Center - T.A.S.C.), Todd Nuccio (Mecklenburg Trial Court Administrator), Virginia Price (Governor’s Crime Commission) and Bob Ward (Mecklenburg Public Defender).

### 1994

- ◆ CHIEF JUSTICE JAMES G. EXUM, JR. CONVENED THE “SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND THE COURTS STATE TASK FORCE” IN FEBRUARY 1994.

### 1995

## FIRST YEAR OF DRUG COURT!

- ◆ MECKLENBURG COUNTY “DISTRICT A” DRUG TREATMENT COURT BEGINS FEBRUARY 9TH.
- ◆ MECKLENBURG COUNTY DRUG TREATMENT COURT FEATURED IN THE JUNE 25TH EDITION OF *THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER*.
- ◆ *NORTH CAROLINA DRUG TREATMENT COURT ACT RATIFIED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON JULY 28TH (N.C.G.S. § 7A-790 ET SEQ.)*
- ◆ CHARLOTTE MAKES A SITE VISIT TO PORTLAND, OREGON’S DRUG COURT.

From Left to Right: Hon. Phil Howerton (STEP Court Judge), Robert Williams (Paralegal w/ Portland DTC), Portland Judicial Clerk, Steve Newman (Mecklenburg County Area Mental Health), Bob Ward (STEP Court Public Defender), Ed Ritch (Ex. Dir. Mecklenburg Community Corrections), Tonda Wilde (McLeod Center - T.A.S.C.), Judge Robert Washington (Portland Superior Court), Janie Beaver (Mecklenburg Court Services Director), Maj. Tommy Barnes (CMPD Vice Dept.) and Steve Ward (STEP Court District Attorney).



1996

◆ MECKLENBURG COUNTY DRUG TREATMENT COURT FEATURED IN THE FEBRUARY 20TH EDITION OF *THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER*.

## Drug Program's First Year Earns Praise

By: Kathleen McClain

Mecklenburg's drug-treatment court had plenty to celebrate Monday.

Two participants graduated from the voluntary program after a drug-free year, their lives changed in ways they never dreamed.

And organizers announced that money is on the way to quadruple the program – from 50 to 200 participants – in the next 18 months.

Drug-court professionals from around the country, in Charlotte for a meeting, were on hand to observe the program, which began as an experiment last February.

Tributes from graduates and court officials prompted both applause and tears.

"This program has probably made me feel better than anything I've done in 10 years in this field," case manager Tonda Wilde told the visitors. "It made me feel like there was a reason for being here."

Mecklenburg's treatment court is aimed at users, not dealers.

Most participants are charged with felony drug possession. They must admit guilt and agree to probation, treatment, counseling and drug testing.

They also must attend at least four 12-step meetings a week. Charges are dropped if they stay drug-free for a year.

Iris S., one of the graduates, had been kicked out of public housing when she entered the program. Her son was on trial for murder. Everything that could be wrong with her life was wrong, Wilde recalled.

But Iris stood Monday to say thanks for the program that led her to sobriety, and from sobriety to a nice apartment, a well-paying job, a relationship with God and a reconciliation with her family.

"I had a lot of problems, and I had to deal with them

instead of covering them up with drugs," she said. "You all showed me so much love, it made me want to do right."

Jeff Tauber, the California Judge who heads the National Association of Drug Court Professionals, said there are drug-court programs in about 80 U.S. cities – four times as many as two years ago.

Tauber praised Mecklenburg's program for the commitment of its organizers and the closeness of the bond they form with alcoholics and addicts who enter the program.

"These programs don't take a tremendous influx of resources. They take a commitment from both the treatment community and the court," Tauber said. "This group is very well coordinated, and they know their offenders very well."

District Judge Phil Howerton heads the treatment-court team, which includes Stephen Ward, an assistant district attorney; Bob Ward, an assistant public defender; Melanie Gregor, a probation officer; and Wilde, director of Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime, a program for inmates. They added treatment-court duties to already busy schedules.

Howerton said Monday that the program has received commitments of \$110,000 from the state, about \$50,000 from Mecklenburg County and \$34,000 from the anti-drug program Fighting Back. The money will allow the court to continue – and expand – through June 30, Howerton said.

The state grant will be renewed for the fiscal year beginning July 1.

Howerton said the money will buy treatment and pay for a director and additional case managers.

"We're delighted that we've got the money to expand," he said. "We'll start just as soon as the checks are written."

(Continued on page 5)

Monday, the celebration centered on the graduates.

“I’m not too good with words,” said Brad Riley, 32. “Last year this time, I didn’t think I was going to make it. But thanks to Judge Howerton and Mr. Ward and

the TASC people, I did.”

His mother, Doris Barber, added, “I thank God for this program. I thank you for the support, for having my son back.”

- ◆ MECKLENBURG COUNTY “DISTRICT B” DRUG TREATMENT COURT BEGINS MARCH 27TH.

## 1997

- ◆ STATUS OF NORTH CAROLINA’S PILOT DRUG TREATMENT COURT PROGRAM REPORT GIVEN TO NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

- ◆ AS OF DECEMBER 31ST:

- \* 103 ACTIVE CLIENTS
- \* 26 GRADUATES
- \* 84 TERMINATIONS
- \* 213 TOTAL CLIENTS SERVED
- \* 61% RETENTION RATE



## 1998

- ◆ MECKLENBURG COUNTY “SUPERIOR” DRUG TREATMENT COURT BEGINS JULY 10TH.
- ◆ MECKLENBURG COUNTY DRUG TREATMENT COURT FEATURED IN THE AUGUST 22<sup>ND</sup> EDITION OF *THE NEWS & OBSERVER*.

### ***WHAT DRUG COURT MEANS TO ME...***

“The Drug Court program does make a difference. Many clients enter Drug Court with a dismal outlook and as they recover and meet each challenge successfully, they blossom, grow and change. That’s what Drug Court does. It provides structure for growth and change in individuals that have made mistakes in their past and needed an opportunity to change! Drug Court works and it reintroduces viable citizens into the community, which helps all of us!”

Drug Treatment Court Treatment Liaison



## 1999

- ◆ MECKLENBURG COUNTY “FAMILY” DRUG TREATMENT COURT BEGINS NOVEMBER 17TH.



## 2000

- ◆ MECKLENBURG COUNTY “DWI-C” TREATMENT COURT BEGINS MARCH 30TH.
- ◆ MECKLENBURG COUNTY DRUG TREATMENT COURT FEATURED IN THE JANUARY EDITION OF *THE LEADER*, (A CHARLOTTE NEWSPAPER).

EXCERPTS FROM THE ARTICLE WRITTEN BY  
ROBERT L. WARD, ASSISTANT PUBLIC DEFENDER:

THERE HAS BEEN WIDESPREAD INTEREST IN DRUG TREATMENT COURTS BECAUSE OF THE ONGOING AND HISTORICAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SUBSTANCE ABUSE, ADDICTION AND CRIME.

WITH BIPARTISAN SUPPORT, NORTH CAROLINA WAS THE FIRST STATE TO INITIATE AND DEVELOP A STATE-WIDE APPROACH AND STRUCTURE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF DRUG TREATMENT COURTS.

THE MECKLENBURG COUNTY S.T.E.P. PROGRAM WORKS TO FIND SOLUTIONS—IT MEASURES SUCCESS ONE DAY AT A TIME, AND AS JUDGE HOWERTON SAYS “ONE LIFE AT A TIME.”

## 2001

- ◆ NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY FORMALLY AUTHORIZES EXPANSION OF THE DTC TARGET POPULATION TO INCLUDE SUBSTANCE ABUSING JUVENILE OFFENDERS AND CHEMICALLY DEPENDENT PARENTS OF NEGLECTED OR ABUSED CHILDREN.
- ◆ MECKLENBURG COUNTY BEGINS PLANNING PROCESS FOR JUVENILE DRUG TREATMENT COURT.

## 2002



- ◆ NC DTC EVALUATION REPORTS STATE DRUG COURTS ARE SUCCESSFUL IN REDUCING THE REARREST RATE FOR DTC GRADUATES WHEN COMPARED TO NON-GRADUATES.
- ◆ DECEMBER 5TH: MECKLENBURG DWI TC RECEIVES “ADJUDICATION AWARD” FROM THE NATIONAL COMMISSION AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING.
- ◆ MECKLENBURG COUNTY “DWI-D” TREATMENT COURT BEGINS SEPTEMBER 4TH.

## 2003

- ◆ MECKLENBURG COUNTY FAMILY DRUG TREATMENT COURT EXPANDS TO “FAMILIES IN RECOVERY TO STAY TOGETHER” (FIRST) JANUARY 22ND.
- ◆ MECKLENBURG COUNTY “YOUTH TREATMENT COURT” BEGINS JANUARY 28TH.
- ◆ THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION RECOGNIZED THE MECKLENBURG DWI TC AS A NATIONAL MODEL FOR REDUCING REPEAT DWI OFFENSES.
- ◆ THE NATIONAL DRUG COURT INSTITUTE RECOGNIZED BOTH THE FIRST PROGRAM AND THE DWI TC AS MODEL MENTOR COURTS. BOTH PROGRAMS HOSTED TEAMS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY AS THEY PREPARED TO IMPLEMENT SIMILAR PROGRAMS.
- ◆ FIRST PROGRAM (FDTC) RECEIVED “PIONEER AWARD” FROM THE CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY CENTER (NOW ANUVIA PREVENTION & RECOVERY CENTER).
- ◆ FIRST PROGRAM RECOGNIZED AS A “PROGRAM OF EXCELLENCE” BY THE NC COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY MH/DD/SA PROGRAMS.

## 2004

- ◆ SECOND YEAR OF RECOGNITION FOR BOTH THE MECKLENBURG COUNTY DWI TC AND THE FIRST PROGRAM AS MODEL MENTOR COURTS.
- ◆ MECKLENBURG COUNTY S.T.E.P. PROGRAM HOSTS COMMUNITY AWARENESS EVENT IN MARSHALL PARK AS PART OF NATIONAL DRUG COURT MONTH ACTIVITIES.
- ◆ PLANNING BEGINS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF MENTAL HEALTH COURT.



2005

◆ MECKLENBURG COUNTY S.T.E.P. PROGRAM CELEBRATES  
ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY!

**Drug Treatment Court Holds Gala to Celebrate  
Ten Years of Success!**



From Left to Right: Judge James Lanning, Judge Shirley Fulton and Judge Philip Howerton.

The Mecklenburg County Drug Treatment Court celebrated its ten year anniversary on February 9, 2005. In honor of the milestone, a gala, "Celebrate Success: Drug Court Works!" was held on the evening of Saturday, April 9, 2005 at the Wachovia Atrium. Over 250 individuals who had been instrumental in the success and growth of Drug Treatment Courts across the county and the state were invited and in attendance. In recognition of this milestone and to increase awareness regarding prevention, recovery and collaboration within a wider spectrum of the community, numerous corporate and individual sponsors including the Mecklenburg County Bar Association and Foundation came forward to sponsor the event.

Judge Harvey I. Hoffman of the Michigan District Court was the guest speaker at the gala. Judge Hoffman is a member of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) Board of Directors and was Chairperson of the NADCP sub-committee and DUI Drug Courts. The Michigan District Judges Association recognized him as the Michigan Judge of the Year for 2001.

**Judge Harvey Hoffman, Chief Judge of Michigan's 56<sup>th</sup> District Court  
From his speech at Mecklenburg County S.T.E.P. Court's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala**

We come to DTC for different reasons: because our bosses told us to, because we thought that it might be interesting, because our budgets required us to pursue more cost effective approaches, because there was some grant money available, because we were bored and Drug Court sounded kind of sexy. We have all watched the slow, grinding turn of the revolving door of drug and alcohol related recidivism in our courtrooms.

But after you have worked in DTC for a while, there is typically a point, a moment when you look up from what you are doing and you realize that a lot of the people that you are working with are actually getting better. They are holding down jobs, completing their educations, getting back with their spouses, paying their taxes and spending time with their children.

At that point you realize that the work that you are doing is actually making a difference. You are doing something that matters. Not surprisingly, you find that you are enjoying your work more, that you are happier and that you feel better about yourself. You find that there is a little less dust on your soul.



- ◆ MECKLENBURG COUNTY “MENTAL HEALTH COURT” BEGINS FEBRUARY 25TH.
- ◆ DRUG COURTS WAGE BATTLE FOR INSTITUTIONALIZED FUNDING IN MECKLENBURG COUNTY AND ACROSS NORTH CAROLINA.
- ◆ NATIONAL DRUG COURT INSTITUTE CONTINUES TO RECOGNIZE THE DWI TC AS MODEL MENTOR COURT.
- ◆ S.T.E.P. COURT PROGRAM GETS A LOGO!



## 2006



Bob Ward moderating Q & A session at “Invest In Change” rally.

- ◆ MECKLENBURG COUNTY DWI TC FEATURED IN *COURTS TODAY* MAGAZINE.
- ◆ INVEST IN CHANGE RALLY HELD IN CHAPEL HILL, NORTH CAROLINA TO SUPPORT ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING PROGRAMS LIKE DTC.



### *WHAT DRUG COURT MEANS TO ME...*

**“From a thorn to a flower ... only by the people who have been placed in my life that loved, nourished and showed me a new way of life. Thanks Drug Court!”**

**Barbara L.  
Drug Treatment Court Graduate**

## 2007

## ◆ JUDGE LEWIS "FLIPS" FOR SOBRIETY AND IS FEATURED ON NEWS 14 CAROLINA!

District Court Judge Hugh Lewis typically sits atop his bench in the Mecklenburg County courthouse imposing his rulings on thousands of defendants. Dawn B. was one of them. "I got addicted to pain medication and alcohol and my life was spinning out of control," the drug treatment court client said. "I was at the worst of the worst and was knocking on death's door." That's when she was put in front of Judge Lewis and he made a unique deal with her. "I have a standing pledge to anyone who comes in front of my courtroom -- if they do 90 meetings in 90 days, I will do cartwheels for them," he said.

Judge Lewis says he will make a fool of himself for anyone who needs inspiration and motivation to become clean and sober.

On Tuesday, February 28, 2007, Judge Lewis adjourned his courtroom and went out into the hallway and made good on the promise. Three clients graduated from the treatment court, but this was only the second time in four years someone turned the judge into a gymnast. "Just the anticipation of him doing it up until this moment was fantastic," Dawn said. "And I'm doing another 90 in 90 so he can do this again. Until I'm finished with the program, he'll be

doing cartwheels!" News 14 Carolina was on hand for the event. Judge Lewis shared with them, "the number of graduates is increasing. The support we've got from the public and even, God bless them, the support from the legislature we got, we're showing that it works. You give us a little money and we can make you big dividends, and you see it here today."



District Court Judge Hugh Lewis "flips" for sobriety on News 14 Carolina.

◆ BEAM GLOBAL SPIRITS & WINE, INC., THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR DWI COURTS AND NASCAR DRIVER, ROBBY GORDON, PARTNER TOGETHER TO SUPPORT NC DWI COURTS

Beam Global Spirits & Wine, Inc. [Fortune Brands, Inc. (NYSE:FO)], a global leader in premium spirits and wine, and the National Center for DWI Courts (NCDC) joined forces on Friday, October 12, 2007, to raise awareness about the effectiveness of DWI Treatment Courts in North Carolina, where nearly 600 people are killed each year by drunk drivers. DWI Courts deal with hardcore and repeat drunk driving offenders by providing long-term, ongoing accountability and rehabilitation in addition to conviction.

DWI Court judges, prosecutors and law enforcement officials assembled to support North Carolina Treat-

ment Courts. Professional racecar driver and long time supporter of the fight against drunk driving, Robby Gordon, participated to bring awareness to the life-saving efforts of DWI Courts.

"Beam Global Spirits & Wine is committed to eliminating drunk driving," said Matt Stanton, vice president of corporate affairs, Beam Global Spirits & Wine. "We continue to support programs that offer solutions that work and are committed to working with states to establish more DWI Courts. We are proud to partner with NCDC on this important issue and believe that our partnership will encourage others

(Continued on page 11)



to support these remarkable courts that are making a difference in the fight to eliminate hard core drunk driving.”

“We are pleased that North Carolina has had great success with DWI Courts and encourage the state to use additional funds to establish more DWI Courts in the state,” stated West Huddleston, executive director of the National Center for DWI Courts and the chief executive officer of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals. “Through DWI Court programs already established throughout the country, we have proven that blending long-term treatment with the accountability, immediacy and certainty of court response works more effectively than punishment alone. We hope to build on that success by raising awareness for expanding DWI and Treatment Courts in North Carolina and throughout the country.”

The 26th Judicial District implemented the nation’s first DWI Treatment Court. North Carolina has long been a leader in the establishment and success of Treatment Courts. Mecklenburg DWI Treatment Courts serve an average of 137 high-risk, high-need DWI offenders per year. Nearly half of those will successfully graduate, while approximately 77 percent of these offenders remain actively engaged in treatment for longer than six months.

“Graduates of the DWI Court program are turning themselves around after they receive help, making our roads safer for every one,” stated The Honorable Philip Howerton, N.C. District 26 DWI Treatment Court. “North Carolina is a great example for other court systems. We hope the state continues to support Treatment Courts and encourage other states to follow North Carolina’s lead.”



Members of the DWI Treatment Team pose with Robby Gordon. From Left to Right, Greg Tosi, Bob Ward, Elizabeth Trosch, Sherrill Foust, Robby Gordon, Rosalind James, Judge Philip Howerton and Janeanne Tourtellott.

Robby Gordon is a long-standing supporter of Beam Global’s efforts to fight drunk driving. He appeared with racecar legend, Michael Andretti, in public service announcements that urge the public to consume adult beverages responsibly. “I am impressed with the results of DWI Courts,” commented Robby Gordon. “I would like to offer my appreciation to Beam Global for supporting the National Center for DWI Courts and for including me in their efforts to help raise awareness for this program. I hope North Carolina and other states continue to expand their DWI and Drug Treatment Court programs.”

Beam Global and the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) partnered in May to launch the National Center for DWI Courts, which focuses solely on hard core and repeat drunk driving offenders. A founding partner of the National Center for DWI Courts, Beam Global donated \$50,000 to underscore its commitment to eliminating drunk driving. NCDC raises awareness about the effectiveness of DWI Courts and provides training and research to court personnel as DWI Courts are launched throughout the country.



Judge Howerton addresses the media and attendees at the press conference.



The Jim Beam car, driven by Robby Gordon.



## 2008



From Left to Right: Hon. Fritz Y. Mercer, Jr., Hon. Thomas F. Moore, and Hon. Philip F. Howerton, Jr.

- ◆ MECKLENBURG COUNTY DRUG TREATMENT COURTS HOLD ANNUAL “PRO-SOCIAL” HOLIDAY EVENT.



## 2009

- ◆ YOUTH TREATMENT COURT HOSTS PILOT “SUMMER SCHOOL” PROGRAM, ALLOWING PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS TO IMPROVE MATH, READING AND LIFE SKILLS.



## 2010



- ◆ MECKLENBURG COUNTY DRUG TREATMENT COURT CELEBRATES 15TH ANNIVERSARY!
  - \* COOKOUT TO BE HELD AT HORNET’S NEST PARK FOR ALL DTC CLIENTS AND TEAM MEMBERS, PAST AND PRESENT!

### *WHAT DRUG COURT MEANS TO ME...*

“Somewhere along the line, I realized that I wasn’t here because I got caught, but rather because someone thought that I didn’t belong in jail.”

**Ted H.**  
**Drug Treatment Court Graduate**

## CLIENTS OF THE QUARTER

### DWI-C

Andrea N. entered the DWI "Diamond Court" program on September 3, 2009. Since entering the program, Andrea has been in full compliance with all of the program requirements. She has overcome many obstacles throughout her journey and has maintained her sobriety through it all. She continues to take full advantage of the support and resources this program offers. We are proud of her and hope that she continues to be a ray of hope to others.



### DWI-D

Meredith O. has been a participant in the "Phoenix Court" for 158 days. During this time, Meredith has had to overcome some significant barriers in her quest for recovery. Meredith has been on the A-Team for the past two months and is looking forward to being a role model for newer participants.

### SUPERIOR

Julie B. is the Superior Drug Treatment Court "Client of the Quarter." Julie has done a great job in the program and has been on the A-Team since February 19, 2010. We would all like to congratulate her on her success! She deserves this award and worked hard to obtain it.



### DISTRICT A

Kelvin B. first showed up for the screening process homeless and in despair. He continuously stated he knew he could become drug free again if he just had a little help. Kelvin is now in a residential program, has reconnected with his family and he is completing job readiness training. The District Court Team is glad to present Kelvin the "Striver Award."

### MENTAL HEALTH COURT

Lovette H. has been chosen as the Mental Health Court "Consumer of the Quarter." Since Lovette transferred to Mecklenburg Open Door in February 2010, he has completed all tasks asked of him by CS Team, probation, and MH Court and has remained clean and sober for the past three months. He has taken sole responsibility for the care and welfare of his newborn baby boy. He has taken steps independently to make sure that his son is well-cared for and has asked for help when needed. Lovette has invested his time and energy into being a good father. We believe that Lovette is an excellent example for others.

**UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES****“Traumatic Brain Injury and Substance Abuse: Recognizing and Addressing the Co-occurring Conditions of TBI & SA”**

Speaker: John Corrigan, PhD (Ohio Valley Center for Brain Injury Prevention and Rehabilitation)  
May 17, 2010

This presentation is part of the 2010 Jonnie H. McLeod Substance Abuse Conference,  
which will be held at UNC Charlotte.

For more information, please contact Peggy Philbrick at 704-355-4354.

**“HIV & AIDS 101”**

Speaker: Chelsea Gulden, BA  
May 20, 2010

2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Anuvia Prevention & Recovery Center  
100 Billingsley Road, Charlotte, NC 28211

NC Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board Certification Hours are available.

Cost: \$20.00 per session

To pre-register, please call Mark Bosch at 704-927-8868.

**“Sex Addiction: The Dark Side of the Sexual Revolution”**

Speaker: Cathy Reinbold LPC, LCAS, MAC, CSI, CCH  
May 27, 2010

2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Anuvia Prevention & Recovery Center  
100 Billingsley Road, Charlotte, NC 28211

NC Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board Certification Hours are available.

Cost: \$20.00 per session

To pre-register, please call Mark Bosch at 704-927-8868.

**“Attachment Theory, Addiction, and the 12 Step Treatment Approach”**

Speaker: Christopher E. Lord, M.D.  
May 28, 2010

8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

McLeod Addictive Disease Center  
515 Clanton Road, Charlotte, NC 28217

Participants MUST pre-register online at [www.mcleodcenter.com](http://www.mcleodcenter.com)

**“HIV, STDs, and Recreational Drugs”**

Speaker: J. Wesley Thompson, MHS, PA-C, AAHIV  
June 18<sup>th</sup> and June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010

8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

McLeod Addictive Disease Center  
515 Clanton Road, Charlotte, NC 28217

Participants MUST pre-register online at [www.mcleodcenter.com](http://www.mcleodcenter.com)

**“Narrative Approaches to Substance Abuse Counseling”**

Speaker: Pam Lassiter, Ph. D., LPC, LCAS  
July 2, 2010

8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

McLeod Addictive Disease Center  
515 Clanton Road, Charlotte, NC 28217

Participants MUST pre-register online at [www.mcleodcenter.com](http://www.mcleodcenter.com)



COURT CALENDAR

MAY 2010				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
3	4 YTC—CR 8130 @ 4PM DTCB—CR 4330 @ 3:30PM	5 MHC- CR4330 @ 11AM FIRST- CR4330 @ 2PM	6 DTCA—CR 4330 @ 11AM DWI—C—CR 4330 @ 4PM	7 Superior—CR 5350 @ 2PM
10	11 12:30—4420 YTC Team Mtg	12 12:30—5260 Superior Team Mtg	13	14
17 8:30—4420 District Team Mtg	18 YTC—CR 8130 @ 4PM DTCB—CR 4330 @ 3:30PM	19 MHC- CR4330 @ 11AM FIRST- CR4330 @ 2PM	20 DTCA—CR 4330 @ 11AM DWI—D—CR 4330 @ 4PM	21 Superior—CR 5350 @ 2PM 8:30—9610 Operations Cmte
24	25	26 12:30—4420 FIRST Team Mtg	27	28
31 HOLIDAY				
JUNE 2010				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	1 YTC—CR 8130 @ 4PM DTCB—CR 4330 @ 3:30PM	2 MHC- CR4330 @ 11AM FIRST- CR4330 @ 2PM	3 DTCA—CR 4330 @ 11AM DWI—C—CR 4330 @ 4PM	4 Superior—CR 5350 @ 2PM
7	8	9	10	11
14	15 YTC—CR 8130 @ 4PM DTCB—CR 4330 @ 3:30PM	16 MHC- CR4330 @ 11AM FIRST- CR4330 @ 2PM	17 DTCA—CR 4330 @ 11AM DWI—D—CR 4330 @ 4PM	18 Superior—CR 5350 @ 2PM 8:30—9610 Operations Cmte
21 DISTRICT COURT	22 JUDGES' SUMMER	23 9:30—4401 DWI Team Mtg CONFERENCE SUPERIOR COURT	24 JUDGES' SUMMER	25 CONFERENCE
28	29	30		
JULY 2010				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1	2
5 HOLIDAY	6 YTC—CR 8130 @ 4PM DTCB—CR 4330 @ 3:30PM	7 MHC- CR4330 @ 11AM FIRST- CR4330 @ 2PM	8 DTCA—CR 4330 @ 11AM DWI—C—CR 4330 @ 4PM	9 Superior—CR 5350 @ 2PM
12	13 12:30—4420 YTC Team Mtg	14	15	16
19	20 YTC—CR 8130 @ 4PM DTCB—CR 4330 @ 3:30PM	21 MHC- CR4330 @ 11AM FIRST- CR4330 @ 2PM	22 12:16—Room 9610—Mgmt Cmte DTCA—CR 4330 @ 11AM DWI—D—CR 4330 @ 4PM	23 Superior—CR 5350 @ 2PM
26	27	28 12:30—4420 FIRST Team Mtg	29	30

# DTC GRADS

## SUPERIOR

James M.  
Walter T.

## DISTRICT A

Brian D.  
Robert H.  
Robert N.  
Matthew B.  
John W.  
Jerimy B.  
Jonathan P.

## DISTRICT B

Christina B.  
Hugh G.  
Shannon H.  
Kimberly T.

## DWI-C

Tiffany B.  
Bobby C.  
Jodi D.

Nathaniel S.  
Daniel S.  
Matthew G.  
Telly R.  
Dennis R.  
John S.

## DWI-D

Clarence G.  
Montchavis H.  
Emil B.  
Ricky G.  
Justin S.  
Robert B.  
Kevin H.

## FIRST

Ebony T.  
Kenyada I.  
Carla L.  
Schameka E.  
Amy G.  
Helen G.  
Lindsay W.

## MHC

Dennis L.  
Angela E.  
Nathaniel Y.

## YTC

Marteicus T.  
Brian G.  
Johnny W.  
Caleena R.  
Leslie J.  
William E.  
Shanquise B.



## NA Meetings

Charlotte: 704-336-8980  
Concord: 704-933-5559  
Conover: 828-323-3752  
Cornelius: 866-879-7166  
Davidson: 866-879-7166  
Huntersville: 866-879-7166  
Matthews: 704-336-8980  
Monroe: 704-366-8980  
Mooresville: 866-879-7166  
Pineville: 704-336-8980

## AA Meetings

24 HOUR HOTLINE  
704-332-4387  
TOLL FREE: 1-877-233-6853



## Partners with Adult DTC Programs

Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Office  
Mecklenburg County Public Defender's Office  
Mecklenburg County Division of Community Corrections  
Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office  
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department  
Mecklenburg County Area Mental Health  
Southeast Addiction Institute and Learning Center, Inc.  
Anuvia Prevention & Recovery Center  
McLeod Addictive Disease Center  
Mecklenburg County Jail Inpatient Treatment Program  
Freedom House  
Urban Ministries  
Salvation Army Residential Program  
Joblink Transformation Center  
CPC Pathways Program  
Uptown Men's Shelter  
Emergency Winter Shelter

## Partners with FIRST Program

Mecklenburg County Area Mental Health  
Anuvia Prevention & Recovery Center  
Community Choices CASCADE  
McLeod Addictive Disease Center  
Southeast Addiction Institute and Learning Center, Inc.  
Women's Commission  
NOVA  
Behavioral Health Center  
Department of Social Services, Youth & Family Services Division

## Partners with YTC Program

Mecklenburg County Area Mental Health  
Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention  
Children's Law Center  
Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Office  
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools



DRUG TREATMENT COURT  
832 EAST FOURTH ST., SUITE 4351  
CHARLOTTE, NC 28202  
PHONE: 704-686-0150  
FAX: 704-686-0172

**NEXT ISSUE: SUMMER 2010**