

Drug Court Alumni Activity: June 1999

Prepared by the OJP Drug Court Clearinghouse and Technical Assistance Project, American University

| Program | Date Formed | Catalyst for Formation | No. of Partic. | Meeting Frequency/ Location | Activities | Materials Developed |
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| AL, Mobile Co. (Mobile) | 3/99 | Drug court staff developed alumni group as a support network | 10 | Meetings are held once per month at the drug court office. | Speak to a variety of community groups and church groups; mentor to other drug court participants. | |
| AZ, Maricopa Co. (Phoenix) | 12/98 | Drug court staff developed alumni group after witnessing the effectiveness of the group by visiting other drug courts. Drug court coordinator organizes all activities. | 25 | Meetings are held once per month at the probation site. | Designing T-shirts for alumni group members; mentor to current clients; Held a Barbecue; Speak to media services, including the New York Times; serve as temporary sponsors; create alumni newsletter | The Alumni Newsletter |

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| CA, Los Angeles Co. (Compton) | 1/98 | Drug court hired an alumni group coordinator specifically for task. | | Meetings are held weekly in the treatment center. | Serve as Big brother/ big sister to current participants; Hold picnics; Organize spiritual gatherings; and operate hotlines. | SHIELDS for Families, Inc. Aftercare Program Description and Fact Sheet |
| CA, Orange Co. (Santa Ana) | | Alumni group organizes all activities. Meetings include some AA/NA activities. | 20-35 | | Mentor to current participants; fundraise by conducting garage sales; give book scholarships to graduates who are attending college; plan social activities; maintain a library of books used in community college courses for loan for those students who cannot afford books. | |

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| CA, Riverside Co. (Riverside) | 10/96 | Senior Probation Officer has organized all activities. | 25 | Meetings are held once per month in the treatment facility. | Serve as sponsors for the current participants; act as a support group. | |

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| CA, San Bernardino Co. (Redlands) | 6/98 | Drug court staff developed alumni group in follow-up to research. | 60 | Meetings are held twice per month in the counseling center. | Serve as sponsors to current drug court participants; formed a softball team; conduct car washes as a fund raiser; and speak at schools. | |
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| CA, San Bernardino Co. (San Bernardino) | 1/96 | Drug court staff has developed alumni group for support, and protection against relapse. Drug court coordinator and counselor organize all activities. | 40 | Meetings are held twice per month in the treatment facility. | Speak and assist at graduation ceremonies; fundraise by conducting auctions and raffles; organize a breakfast and bowling social activity, including family members; co-facilitate treatment | |

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| | | | | | <p>sessions; participate in local parade; speak at elementary schools; designed alumni T-shirts.</p> | |
| <p>CA, San Diego Co. (San Diego)</p> | <p>12/98</p> | <p>Drug court staff has developed alumni group out of a desire for aftercare services. Graduates organize all events. Some staff sit in on the first part of the meetings.</p> | <p>30</p> | <p>Meetings are held twice per month in the treatment facility.</p> | <p>Mentor to current participants; Graffiti black outs; Recovery games; Plan social and recreational events for current participants; Act as co-facilitators at treatment sessions; Act as a policy voice for the drug court.</p> | |
| <p>CA, San Diego Co. (Vista)</p> | <p>3/99</p> | <p>Treatment provider started alumni group. Two alumni group members organize the program.</p> | <p>25</p> | <p>Meetings are held once per month at the treatment center.</p> | <p>Mentor to new clients; hold picnics; provide follow-up survey information at six months and one year for graduates.</p> | <p>Mental Health Systems, Inc. Alumni Association Form for Membership</p> |

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| <p>CA, San Joaquin Co. (Stockton)</p> | <p>9/98</p> | <p>Drug court staff has developed alumni group to address relapse prevention and mentor to current participants.</p> | <p>12</p> | <p>Meetings are held twice per month at the Alano club (an alcohol and drug free club)</p> | <p>Fundraise; organized a graduation dance; mentor to current participants; created T-shirts for alumni group. Funding for alumni group coordinator position is provided by Kaiser Permanente.</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Drug Court Alumni Group Overview 2. By-Laws of the Los Angeles Drug Court Alumni Association Adopted by the San Joaquin County Drug Court Alumni Group 3. Reminder of Meeting Notice 4. Meeting Minutes |
| <p>FL, Hillsborough Co. (Tampa)</p> | <p>11/98</p> | | <p>14</p> | <p>Alumni group meets once every quarter in the courthouse.</p> | <p>Speak to people in custody about the drug court experience; Creating a video of alumni vignettes to be shown at the county jail; Mentor; hold monthly breakfast meetings; assist with</p> | |

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| | | | | | drug court graduations. | |
| KY, Fayette Co. (Lexington) | 4/99 | Drug court staff has developed alumni group as an aftercare component. A case specialist organizes the activities. | 48 | Meetings are held once per month in the public library. | Fundraisers; BINGO; conduct program for high risk youth; coordinate with the DARE program; support group. | |

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| LA, Jefferson Parish (Harvey) | 4/99 | Drug court staff developed alumni group to serve as a support group, and keep the alumni in touch with each other. Graduates organize all activities. | 20-30 | Meetings are held quarterly in the clinic. | Organize social events, such as picnics; Assist in the holiday party given by the Chevron corporation | |

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| <p>NJ, Camden Co. (Camden)</p> | <p>9/98</p> | <p>A combination of the graduates and the probation officer jointly organize the alumni activities.</p> | <p>5-18</p> | <p>Meetings are held twice per month at the courtroom building.</p> | <p>Conduct orientation for new clients on the drug court program; offer transportation assistance to current participants; provide refreshments after graduation ceremonies; give presentations in court and at graduations.</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Camden County Drug Court Alumni Association Newsletter (Issue 1)2. "Please Join Us" Flyer |
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| <p>NY, Kings Co. (Brooklyn)</p> | <p>2/98</p> | <p>Drug court staff developed the alumni group to provide support for graduates and comprehensive aftercare. The deputy project director and senior case manager organize all activities.</p> | <p>9</p> | <p>Meetings are held once per month at the treatment center.</p> | <p>Clothing drive for participants; participated in AIDS walk-a-thon; held a barbeque; attend on-site job readiness workshops; speak at schools.</p> | |
| <p>NY, Monroe Co. (Rochester)</p> | <p>2/97</p> | <p>The Alumni group was formed as an effort to keep people engaged and to give back to the community. The Drug court coordinator organizes alumni activities.</p> | <p>15</p> | <p>Meetings are held once per month in the courtroom</p> | <p>Held a contest to name the alumni association - the winning name was The Clean Slate; conducts Peer counseling; recruit for alumni group; organized picnic, bowling, and pizza parties; public speaking at rotary clubs, NY state conferences, graduations, and local TV stations;</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Clean Slate Alumni Association Brochure 2. The Clean Slate Goals and Objectives 3. The Clean Slate Newsletter 4. Relapse Panel Report 5. The Clean Slate Meeting Minutes 6. "Ways to Stay Clean and Sober", |

mentor to high risk youth; usher at graduations and host reception; one member is doing research for the drug court evaluation by speaking with graduates; drug court will be hiring alumni to work in the courtroom during urine screens (alumni currently volunteers for this duty, and they will now be paid through a temporary agency for their work)

developed by drug court alumni member

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| NY, Suffolk Co. (Central Islip) | 1/98 | Treatment Provider began the program. Case manager, Judge, and coordinator attend alumni meetings. | 6 | Meetings are held once per month in the court building. | Formed a Softball team; Perform community service; act as a support group. | "Stay Focused"; a newsletter of the Suffolk County Drug Treatment Court Alumni Group |

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| OH, Butler Co. (Hamilton) | 9/98 | Drug Court developed the alumni group to offer services for graduates and provide the opportunity for them to perform community service. | 5 | Meetings are held once per month in the treatment facility. | Hold Picnics; Become interim sponsors to current participants; act as a support group. | |
| OR, Josephine Co. (Grants Pass) | 7/98 | The group was started by a recovering addict that was not a graduate. He was so impressed with the program that he inspired many to get involved. | 5 | The frequency and location of meetings vary. | Held an open Thanksgiving dinner for the community; Hold Potlucks in the park which include AA and NA members; Conduct Potlucks for graduates; participated in hiking trips; held a 3 year drug court anniversary party. | |

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| OR, Multnomah County (Portland) | 1/96 | Drug Court staff developed the alumni group as a way to keep clients involved, and provide networking for alumni. | Few | Meetings are held once per month in the treatment facility, and when weather permits, in an outdoor park. | Hold potlucks and holiday parties; elect alumni group officers; Mentor to current participants; and speak at graduations. |
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For further information on drug court alumni activity, as well as contact information for any of the above listed programs, please contact the OJP Drug Court Clearinghouse and Technical Assistance Project at the following address:

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