



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 2, 2025

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H.O.P.E. Drug Court to Celebrate its 111th Graduation on December 16, 2025

Roseburg, OR — The H.O.P.E. Adult Drug Court will celebrate its 111th graduation ceremony on Tuesday, December 16, 2025, at the Douglas County Fairgrounds – Cascade Hall, beginning at 5:15 p.m. The ceremony will be presided over by The Honorable Robert B. Johnson, who leads the adult drug court program.

The H.O.P.E. Drug Court graduation is a time of noticing transformation, reflection, and community celebration. Attendees will hear directly from graduates as they share their personal journeys—stories of perseverance, healing, accountability, and hope. These moments highlight not only the strength of each participant but also the commitment of the entire drug court team and community partners who support them along the way.

“These ceremonies remind us of what recovery looks like in real life,” said Judge Johnson. “It’s hard work. And it’s the belief that people can change when given the structure and support they need to transform.”

About the Drug Court Program

Drug courts were created to reduce substance use, lower recidivism, and improve public safety by offering individuals with substance-use disorders a therapeutic, supervised alternative to traditional sentencing. Instead of cycling through the justice system, participants receive comprehensive treatment, intensive supervision, accountability, and wraparound support—all aimed at breaking the cycle of addiction and criminal behavior.

Drug Court is critically important for participants because it changes the trajectory of their life, treats addiction as a health issue and not a criminal one, reduces the likelihood of reoffending, reunites families and rebuilding relationships, helps them reach meaningful milestones, and provides comprehensive support that traditional courts cannot offer. In 2024, 21 graduates saved taxpayers \$4.56 million in prison costs by staying in this local program. In 2025, the first three graduations had 14 graduates and saved taxpayers \$2.94 million (does not include this December graduation).

The H.O.P.E. Drug Court Program continues the mission in Douglas County by giving participants the opportunity—often their first real opportunity—to rebuild their lives with structure, treatment, and support.

Community Impact

Graduates of drug court demonstrate the profound, positive ripple effects the program creates. Their success reduces burdens on law enforcement and social services, increases community safety, and restores individuals as parents, family members, neighbors, and employees. During this graduation, we are celebrating knowing recovery is possible and that communities thrive when people are given a chance to heal and contribute.

Guest Speaker

This graduation's guest speaker is Robert Miller, Founder and Executive Director of FARA. Because of his own difficult beginnings and lived experience, Robert deeply understands the power of *being heard, known, and seen*. This belief has shaped his purpose-driven work and the mission behind FARA, which he opened nine years ago this month.

Robert's passions are his faith, his wife, and his children. When he has the opportunity, he enjoys golfing wherever someone is willing to join him, and he loves spending time playing video games with his kids.

Robert earned a bachelor's degree in education, a master's degree in social work, and achieved Clinical Licensed Social Worker status last year. Over the past nine years, he has facilitated parenting classes, trauma-informed trainings, and domestic violence classes. As a family and child therapist, he works with children, couples, families, and men navigating a wide range of life challenges.

He is passionate about empowering individuals to become educated, equipped, and confident in reaching their fullest potential. A person-centered therapist and facilitator, Robert believes that everyone has a story that matters—that our past shapes us but does not have to define our future. His guiding mantra is: "Without connections, there can be no influence."

Event Details

- **What:** 111th H.O.P.E. Drug Court Graduation
- **When:** December 16, 2025, at 5:15 p.m.
- **Where:** Cascade Hall, Douglas County Fairgrounds, Roseburg, OR
- **Who:** Open to the community; presided over by The Honorable Robert B. Johnson

Community members, partners, and supporters are invited to attend and celebrate the achievements of the newest class of graduates. Their success reflects the heart of what the H.O.P.E. Drug Court stands for: helping individuals reclaim their lives while strengthening the safety and well-being of the entire community.

Learn more and view graduation project flyers:

<https://douglascountyor.gov/851/HOPE-Drug-Court>

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