

SHELBY COUNTY DRUG COURT

MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

RACE FOR RECOVERY

APRIL 2, 2017

5K

OVERTON PARK

MEMPHIS, TN

WWW.RACESONLINE.COM TO REGISTER



4th Annual Race for Recovery 5k is Scheduled!

The Shelby County Drug Court Foundation is pleased to announce the 4th Annual Race for Recovery 5K has been scheduled for Sunday, April 2nd at 12:00 noon. The event will be held at the historic Overton Park in Midtown. All proceeds from the 5K will go toward providing much needed services for drug court participants.

Runners and walkers of all ages are welcomed to participate in the race. Plan on gathering at the East Parkway Pavilion in Overton Park before the race starts at 11:30am. A brief awards ceremony will be held after the race. Packet pick up will be held at Judicare (300 North Bellevue) Friday, March 31st from 3:45pm-6:30pm. Register anytime by clicking the 'Registration' link below.

We would love to have you or your organization sponsor the race! All sponsors will have their name or logo included in the registration packet and the opportunity to advertise inside the runners' registration packets. There are four sponsor levels available. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor please email Bryan Owens at bryan.owens@shelbycountyttn.gov.

Registration Link: <https://www.racesonline.com/events/race-for-recovery>

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Shelby County Drug Court Celebrates 20 Years

On February 1st, 2017, a crowd of supporters and special guests joined Judge Dwyer and the drug court team to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Shelby County Drug Court. Founded by Judge Dwyer in February of 1997, the SCDC became one of the first treatment courts of its kind in Tennessee. At the event, Judge Dwyer recalled how the drug court was created back in 1997 after he was approached by District Attorney John Pierotti and criminal justice coordinator Bill Powell.

"It was probably because nobody else wanted to do it and I was the only one crazy enough to try it," Dwyer said. "Handling DUI and murder cases on my regular docket, then dealing with people with drug problems seemed overwhelming."

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7th Annual Hall of Fame Awardees



Marty Petty, Truman Fuller, Mike Robinson, White Laminack

The program progressed quickly with the help of grants early on, which allowed Judge Dwyer to develop a staff of counselors who could oversee individuals receiving treatment in the program. With the help of numerous staff members, coordinators, and supporters, the SCDC client capacity has grown to serve a large base of clients struggling with addiction in Shelby County.

“When I started it, I really didn’t know what would happen,” Dwyer said after the anniversary celebration. “Drug courts were relatively new. Back then, there were just a few of them in the whole United States. Now there are thousands because they work. I had the dream that one day it would just help some people out, but I never had any idea that it would grow to this level.” The court has continuously changed its approach to meet client needs; current challenges include the opiate addiction epidemic gripping Shelby County. Since 1997, the SCDC has produced 2,380 graduates and boasts a 25 percent recidivism rate.

Meet Jackie: A Part of the Whole

Jackie Carrico, a recent Drug Court graduate and former participant in the Drug Addicted Mother’s Program (DAMP) entered Drug Court in April 2015 and was placed in DAMP after being arrested and charged with Possession of Cocaine and Drug Paraphernalia. She also had a severe child abuse charge with Juvenile Court. Her mother had custody of her daughter.

Jackie’s course in Drug Court went smoothly until she was sanctioned for an infraction she states she was wrongly accused of. After this incident she was resentful, and determined to give Drug Court a reason to sanction her; she relapsed on her birthday. After not showing up to court, a warrant for her arrest was issued the same day.

Two days later, Jackie asked her fiancé to bring her to court so she could turn herself in. She knew what was coming, and she was ready for the consequence. Judge Dwyer sanctioned her to 30 days in jail, a major turning point for Jackie in her path to recovery. “30 day sanctions work. It’s like saving someone’s life; it’s rehab. You either surrender or you don’t. It cleaned my mind, body and soul.”



Judge Tim Dwyer at the 20th Anniversary Celebration



Some of Jackie’s support group she gives credit to helping saving her life

After her sanction, Jackie finished out Drug Court with no other infractions. Her fiancé even became sober. He stopped using drugs in December 2015. She regained custody of her daughter and has appealed the child abuse charge, hoping to one day get it expunged from her record.

Today, one of the many things Jackie does to maintain her recovery is to give back to the community through service work. She attends conferences, speaks at events, chairs meetings and is sponsoring an individual in recovery. Recently, her fiancé and she started their own business remodeling homes. One of their main projects is remodeling a home that will be used as transitional housing for recovering addicts. She is aware of the effort it takes to support one another in the recovery community. “My favorite daily reflection is ‘I’m part of the whole’.”

Jackie gives credit to her amazing support group comprised of her family, sponsors and friends she has met in the recovery community who help her. Most importantly, she credits Judge Dwyer for not giving up on her and for the 30 day sanction. “My life has changed – it’s because of him.”