

# Northern Hills Drug Court

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## Northern Hills Drug Court Mission Statement

The Northern Hills Drug Court's mission is to increase community safety, foster healthy families, and proficiently utilize public funds. This will be accomplished by streamlining and coordinating services to felony offenders whose crimes are substantially related to the abuse or dependence upon a controlled substance with a primary consideration given to methamphetamine abuse or dependence. The Northern Hills Drug Court will increase long term abstinence by holding offenders accountable and ultimately reducing drug-related crimes.



Judge Percy accepts a donation from Connie Reubel representative of Realtor's Against Meth.

## Making a Difference

By Bruce Hubbard, Drug Court Defense Attorney

I am the defense attorney on the Northern Hills Drug Court team. We had our first team meeting on September 4, 2007. I approached the start of the program with considerable trepidation since I would be venturing into an area unknown to me in my 32 years of private practice. I believe that all of us on the team were thinking.... Can we really make a difference in the lives of our participants? We are now seven months into the program I am happy to report that the answer to the question is a resounding..... YES!!

We started the program with two participants and we now have nine. It is very gratifying to sit in on the team meetings and court sessions and observe the personal growth of the participants. The rules of drug court and the tasks required of the participants are tough, but they have hung in there and are now leading sober and productive lives. All of them are employed and one is attending college.

The secret to drug court is intense supervision, continual chemical dependency treatment and counseling, frequent drug tests, and the requirement that all participants be held accountable for their actions. Were it not for the drug court program, our participants would all be housed in the state penitentiary at the expense of the taxpayers of South Dakota. Drug court is not only keeping the participants sober and out of prison, but is putting families back together that have been torn apart by drug abuse.

The Northern Hills Drug Court is working and will continue to work. Of that I have not doubt. I am grateful that I have had the opportunity to be involved with the program since its inception. We've come a long way since that meeting in early September!

# Thank You

The Northern Hills Drug Court would like to thank the following businesses for their donations to the drug court program.

Realtor's Against Meth

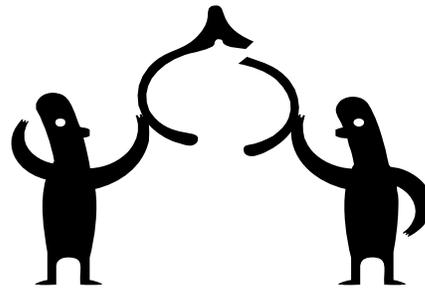
Black Hills Center of Hope ( for use of their building.)



- One participant has 6 months sobriety.
- Four participants are in Phase II.
- Nine participants are employed.
- One participant enrolled in college.
- One participant has 1 year sobriety.

The Northern Hills Drug Court team is proud of our participants' accomplishments.

Good Job!!!!



## Wish List for Drug Court

- Art supplies for an adult
- Work Gloves
- Space for educational meetings
- Volunteers willing to teach life skills such as budgeting, finance, tutoring
- Gift certificates to non alcoholic, non gambling establishments

## Northern Hills Drug Court

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## TEAM MEMBERS

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