



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 24, 2026**

**Contact:** Crystina Dunehew, Court Coordinator

**Phone:** 541-957-2415

**Email:** [crystina.c.dunehew@ojd.state.or.us](mailto:crystina.c.dunehew@ojd.state.or.us)

### **H.O.P.E. Drug Court Celebrates 113th Graduation, Highlighting Recovery, Accountability, and Community Impact**

**Roseburg, OR** — The H.O.P.E. Adult Drug Court will celebrate its 113th graduation ceremony on Tuesday, July 7, 2026, at Cascade Hall at the Douglas County Fairgrounds, beginning at 5:15 p.m. The ceremony will be presided over by the Honorable Judge Robert B. Johnson and will honor participants who have successfully completed the rigorous Drug Court program.

Graduation ceremonies represent far more than the completion of a program, they celebrate resilience, personal growth, and the power of recovery. Family members, friends, community partners, and supporters will gather to recognize graduates who have worked tirelessly to overcome substance-use disorders and build healthier, more stable futures.

Attendees will hear firsthand from graduates as they share their journeys through treatment, accountability, and recovery. Their stories reflect the challenges they have overcome, the support they have received, and the hope they now carry forward into the next chapter of their lives.

"Each graduation reminds us that recovery is possible," said Judge Johnson. "The individuals we celebrate have demonstrated extraordinary commitment and perseverance. Drug Court provides the structure, treatment, and support necessary for change, but it is the participants who do the hard work every day. Their success strengthens our entire community."

### **Transforming Lives Through Treatment Courts**

Treatment courts like H.O.P.E. Drug Court offer an evidence-based alternative to traditional criminal justice responses for individuals struggling with substance-use disorders. Rather than focusing solely on incarceration, treatment courts address the underlying causes of criminal behavior through intensive treatment, accountability, and long-term support.

Participants engage in a highly structured program that includes:

- Intensive substance-use treatment
- Regular court appearances
- Frequent drug testing
- Close supervision and accountability
- Peer support and mentoring

- Employment and educational assistance
- Family and community support services

This comprehensive approach helps participants develop the tools needed to achieve lasting recovery, rebuild relationships, secure employment, and become productive members of the community.

### **A Strong Return on Investment**

The H.O.P.E. Drug Court continues to demonstrate significant benefits for both participants and taxpayers. In 2024, the program celebrated 21 graduates, resulting in an estimated \$4.56 million in avoided prison costs. In 2025, four graduation ceremonies recognized 20 graduates, generating an additional \$4.22 million in taxpayer savings through successful treatment and community-based supervision.

While these financial savings are substantial, the program's greatest successes are measured in stronger families, improved health outcomes, reduced recidivism, increased employment, and lives restored through recovery. The success of H.O.P.E. Drug Court is made possible through the collaboration of the court, treatment providers, community corrections, peer mentors, community organizations, employers, and local supporters who believe in the value of second chances and long-term recovery.

### **Giving Back to the Community**

As part of their recovery journey, graduates completed community service projects benefiting:

- Oregon Department of Human Services Child Welfare Division
- Roseburg Dream Center
- Community members seeking assistance with résumés, interview preparation, and employment opportunities

These projects reflect Drug Court's commitment to service, personal responsibility, and strengthening the community.

### **Event Details**

What: 113th H.O.P.E. Drug Court Graduation

When: Tuesday, July 7, 2026, at 5:15 p.m.

Where: Cascade Hall, Douglas County Fairgrounds, Roseburg, Oregon

Who: Open to the public; presided over by Judge Robert B. Johnson

As H.O.P.E. Drug Court celebrates its 113th graduation, the message remains clear: recovery is possible, accountability works, and communities become stronger when individuals are given the opportunity, support, and tools needed to change their lives.

Community members are encouraged to attend and witness firsthand the transformative power of treatment, recovery, and hope.

Learn more and view graduation project information:

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