

CLEVELAND MUNICIPAL COURT

HONORABLE MICHELLE D. EARLEY
ADMINISTRATIVE AND PRESIDING JUDGE

HONORABLE LAUREN C. MOORE
DRUG COURT JUDGE

HONORABLE MARILYN B. CASSIDY

HONORABLE MARK R. MAJER

HONORABLE ANDREA NELSON MOORE

HONORABLE MICHAEL L. NELSON, SR.

HONORABLE ANN CLARE OAKAR

HONORABLE CHARLES L. PATTON, JR.

HONORABLE SUZAN MARIE SWEENEY

HONORABLE JAZMIN TORRES-LUGO

HONORABLE SHIELA TURNER MCCALL

HONORABLE JOSEPH J. ZONE

HONORABLE W. MONÁ SCOTT
HOUSING COURT JUDGE

EARLE B. TURNER
CLERK OF COURTS

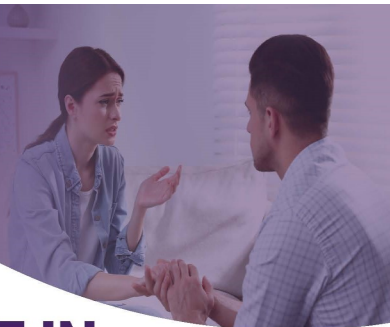
RUSSELL R. BROWN III
MICHAEL NEGRAY
TRACEY GONZALEZ
COURT ADMINISTRATORS

THE JUDGE
LARRY A. JONES
DRUG COURT

*25th Anniversary
Luncheon Celebration &
Awards Ceremony*



SEPTEMBER 8, 2023
11:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M.
HOLIDAY INN INDEPENDENCE
6001 ROCKSIDE ROAD
INDEPENDENCE, OHIO 44131



DRUG USE IN AMERICA IS FUELING A DEADLY EPIDEMIC

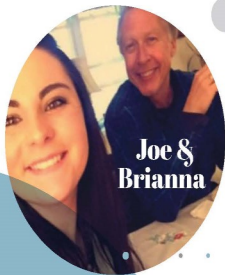
—and the stakes have never been higher.

Our Leadership.

Our advisory board includes the brightest minds in their fields who share one common goal: to shatter the stigma of substance abuse—educating and empowering individuals in recovery to live their best lives. Their respected expertise and instrumental perspectives guide our path.

Our Story. Our Passion.

Unicorns & Polka Dots was founded by Joe Brady and his wife, Karen, after their two daughters battled SUD. They later lost their youngest daughter after she phased out of rehab—but tragically before she could enter a recovery home. Our approach is aligned to ensure that each person's specific needs are met at every stage of their recovery journey.



Joe & Brianna

Unicorns & Polka Dots is a nonprofit working to build a future of brighter days for individuals struggling with substance use disorder (SUD) and their families on the journey to recovery. Our mission is to help change the narrative surrounding SUD and align much-needed resources, helping those in recovery identify and implement the self-directed life skills required to live purposeful and productive lives so they can thrive versus merely survive.



20 MILLION AMERICANS suffer from substance use disorder (SUD).

Source: National Center for Drug Abuse Statistics



ONLY 11% OF ADULTS with SUD receive treatment.

Source: National Survey of Substance Abuse Treatment Services



OVER 96,700 PEOPLE DIE from drug overdoses every year.

Source: National Center for Drug Abuse Statistics

The Struggle is Real.

The road to recovery can be rough. Individuals and their families fighting SUD often need help navigating the fragmented recovery process. **With your support, we're empowering those battling SUD by offering evidence-based resources for prevention, treatment and recovery.**

Our Vision: Help Those in Recovery Find Their Purpose.

The Recovery College – A Comprehensive Recovery Solution

Aggregating the quality resources already available—and best-in-class life-skill resources—and connecting individuals to the resources they need most: education, goal setting, self-care, hobbies, mentors, career development, budgeting, financial acumen and more. Through the execution of these life skills, those in recovery stand a much higher probability of maintaining sobriety while strengthening their self-confidence and self-esteem.

Our Voice: Advocacy in Action.

Town hall meetings assemble leaders from the recovery community to share best-case recovery practices, identify the gaps in the process and celebrate the successes in the community.

Fueled by our purpose and with the financial support of our donors, we can make a difference for those in recovery and save lives. **JOIN US.**

Be a part of our journey.

unicorns-polkadots.org

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HEALING BEGINS WITH YOU

Mission: Your Recovery Counseling mission is to help people recover from emotional challenges, and substance use, in efforts to modify behaviors, find happiness, and enjoy the life their living.

Values: At Your Recovery Counseling, we value the utilization of professional frameworks grounded in ethics, to support clients' dignity and self-worth. The interventions our clinicians use increase the efficacy of successful outcomes.

Goal: Our goal is to bring high-quality, supportive, and effective behavioral health care; to the community.

Vision: Our vision at Your Recovery is to be a premier provider that families and the community can rely on; to meet their needs through the lens of unconditional positive regard, using evidence-based interventions; to assist persons served, as they make the transition through stages of change.

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Servicing clients throughout all 88 counties of Ohio, USA
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The Judge Larry A. Jones Drug Court



In 1998, Cleveland Municipal Court accepted a federal grant to establish a Cleveland Drug Court. Simply put, drug courts are judicially supervised court dockets that provide a sentencing alternative of treatment combined with supervision for people living with serious substance use.

This specialized docket was presided over by the Honorable Larry A. Jones until his election to the Eighth District Court of Appeals in 2008. In 2009, The Honorable Anita Laster Mays assumed the position of Drug Court judge and presided over the docket until the end of 2014, when she joined Judge Jones on the Court of Appeals. Following Judge Mays departure, the Honorable Lauren C. Moore took over the docket and continues that role today.

Drug Court may be offered to a felony offender charged with a fourth- or fifth-degree-level possession of a controlled substance, who has only one non-violent felony conviction and is chemically-dependent. Defendants are required to enter a plea of "guilty" to a first-degree misdemeanor. The sentence is held in abeyance pending successful completion of the program. Upon successful completion of Drug Court and payment of a supervision fee, a participant's guilty plea is vacated, the charge(s) dismissed and the case sealed or expunged.

Over 1,900 people have successfully completed the program, which became known as the Greater Cleveland Drug Court since it expanded to a number of suburbs benefitting not just the individuals involved, but also the community in which they live. Average treatment typically costs approximately \$3,000, while the cost of six months of incarceration averages \$14,000.

Because of the program's success, the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court formally adopted the program in 2008 and on April 11, 2014 the Greater Cleveland Drug Court received Specialized Docket Certification from the Supreme Court of Ohio.

On October 26, 2022, the Greater Cleveland Drug Court was renamed the Judge Larry A. Jones Drug Court in honor of its first presiding judge. The renaming ceremony took place at Cleveland City Council Chambers, the very place Judge Jones began his political career as a City Councilman in 1981.

PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION

WAYNE DAWSON, CHANNEL 8 WJW

WELCOME

HONORABLE MICHELLE D. EARLEY

OPENING REMARKS

HONORABLE LAUREN MOORE

INVOCATION

DR. SEDRIC D. VEAL

TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH, LEAD SERVANT/
HOUSE OF PEACE FUNERAL SERVICES, CEO

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER

WAYNE DAWSON

SPEAKER REMARKS

JOE BRADY

JENNIFER HALSTEAD

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

HONORABLE LAUREN C. MOORE

INTRODUCTION OF DRUG COURT TEAM

EMILY GIBBS

CLOSING REMARKS


WAYNE DAWSON



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CITY OF CLEVELAND

Special thanks to Scott Loomis, Acting Commissioner, and the City of Cleveland Division of Printing and Reproduction for the printing of this program.



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JORDAN

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The Honorable Michelle D. Earley *Administrative and Presiding Judge*



Michelle D. Earley was appointed to the Cleveland Municipal Court on April 20, 2009 and was elected the following November. By a unanimous vote of the Judges in December of 2017, she became Administrative and Presiding Judge making her responsible for the business and overall direction of the Court.

Judge Earley attended The Ohio State University and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Information Systems. She then chose to move to Cleveland to attend Case Western Reserve University School of Law.

Judge Earley possesses a strong commitment to the law and the community. Since joining the Court, Judge Earley has presided over the Dedicated Domestic Violence Docket since 2010. She currently presides over the Domestic Violence High Risk Docket.

The Honorable Lauren C. Moore *Judge Larry A. Jones Drug Court Judge*



Judge Lauren C. Moore was elected to the Cleveland Municipal Court in 2003 after working as a civil attorney and public defender at the Legal Aid Society, Chief Prosecutor for the City of Cleveland and an Assistant Cuyahoga County Prosecutor.

Since 2005, she's been in charge of the annual *Mock Trial Program*, which has exposed hundreds of Cleveland Metropolitan School students to the legal profession. In January of 2015, Judge Moore took over the Greater Cleveland Drug Court, now called the Judge Larry A. Jones Drug Court, currently one of the longest and most successful programs offered by the Cleveland Municipal Court with over 1,900 graduates.

To those who come before her, Judge Moore inspires people to begin and maintain their journey to sobriety. She also introduced innovative ideas like Therapeutic Recovery Yoga and is an advocate for legislation that prioritizes treatment over incarceration.

Wayne Dawson Master of Ceremonies



Wayne Dawson is co-anchor of Fox 8 News in the Morning, Cleveland's Number 1 morning show, seen weekdays from 4am to 10am. Before teaming up with the morning crew, Wayne served as co-anchor of the weekend editions of FOX 8 News – rated Number 1 for five consecutive years with Wayne behind the desk.

For two years prior to joining WJW in the late -'70s, Wayne was an anchor/reporter at WNIR Radio in Kent, Ohio. The 1979 graduate of Kent State University holds a bachelor of arts degree in journalism.

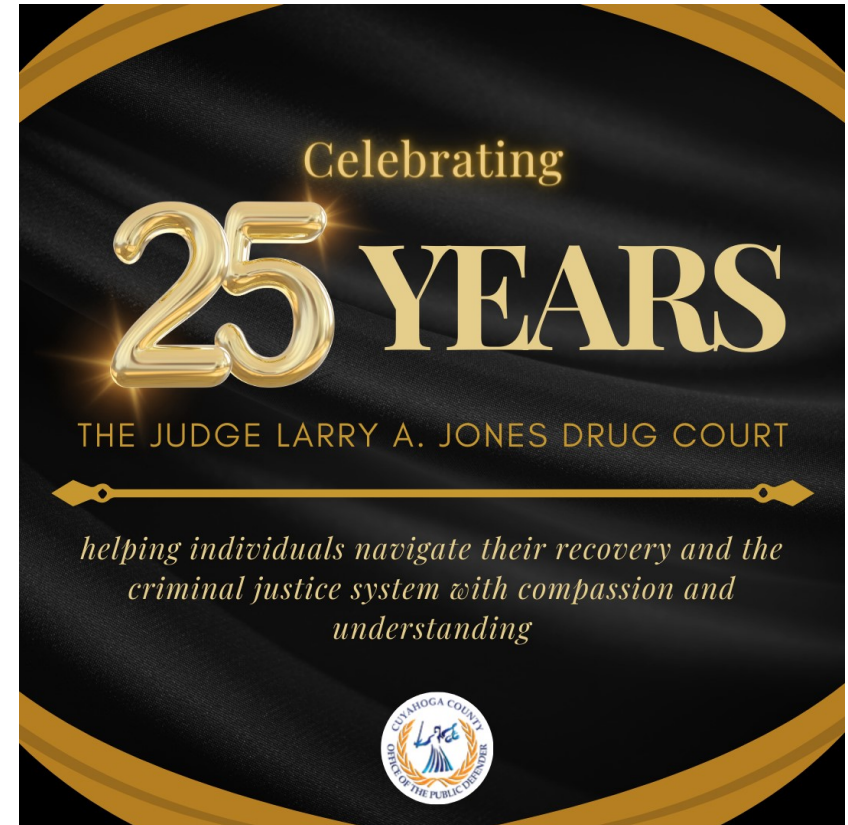
An eleven time Emmy winner, Wayne is a member of the NAACP, the National Association of Black Journalists and the Phi Beta Sigma fraternity. He is also a member of the Broadcasters Hall of Fame. In 2014 Wayne was inducted into the NATAS Silver Circle and also received the Chuck Heaton Award for the Cleveland Press Club. He was also awarded the William Taylor Alumni award from the Journalism and Mass Communications School of Kent State University.

Wayne was also twice named one of the Jaycees "Outstanding Young Men of America." Beyond that, the Professional Women's Business Association selected Wayne as "Outstanding TV News Reporter" and Delta Sigma Theta named him "Man of the Year."

Wayne Dawson is also an ordained minister and pastor for the Grace Tabernacle Baptist Church in Lyndhurst.



**Thank you to the Honorable
Lauren C. Moore for your
dedication and nine years of
service to the Judge Larry A.
Jones Drug Court**



THE JUDGE LARRY A. JONES DRUG COURT

25th Anniversary Luncheon Sponsors

GOLD SPONSOR

Unicorns and Polka Dots

Unicorns and Polka Dots is a nonprofit working to build a future of brighter days for individuals struggling with substance use disorder (SUD) and their families on the journey to recovery. Our mission is to help change the narrative surrounding SUD and align much needed resources, helping those in recovery identify and implement the self-directed life skills required to live purposeful and productive lives so they can thrive versus merely survive.

SILVER SPONSOR

The Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board of Cuyahoga County • Catholic Charities
• Community Assessment and Treatment Services (CATS)
• People Places and Dreams

BRONZE SPONSOR

Rocky River Municipal Court • Oriana House • Case Western Reserve University • Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court • Northern Ohio Recovery Association (NORA) • Moore Counseling and Mediation Services • Court Community Service

CONTRIBUTING SPONSOR

Alliance for Safety and Justice • Jordan Community Resource Center • Your Recovery • Ohio Alcohol Monitoring Systems
• Silver Maple Recovery • The May Dugan Center

THANK YOU TO CITY OF CLEVELAND, WARD 9 COUNCILMAN KEVIN CONWELL AND HIS BAND THE FOOTPRINTS FOR PROVIDING WONDERFUL MUSIC FOR THIS SPECIAL EVENT

SPEAKERS

Joe Brady Keynote



Joe Brady has spent the majority of his working career helping manufacturers and distributors across the country improve their bottom line through the implementation of best-in-class supply chain practices, however personal circumstances compelled Joe and his wife Karen to get actively involved in helping those with Substance Use Disorder. His two daughters struggled with it and one, Brianna died from an accidental overdose in 2021. Brianna was 24 and the mother of two children.

Prompted by these experiences and having met so many people in recovery, Joe launched Unicorns & Polka Dots. His mission and vision is simple – to help those in recovery to identify and implement the very best life skill resources and hobbies that will provide purpose and upward mobility and fill the gaps and voids that come to life in the recovery process.

Unicorns & Polka Dots has already made significant progress and this fall Joe will be launching a recovery council comprised of five men and five women with one to five years of sobriety. Joe will use this council to serve as his eyes and ears out there on the front lines, working to further clarify where the gaps exist and what more can be done to improve the recovery process.

Jennifer Halstead

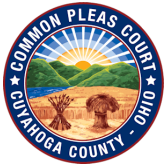


Jennifer Halstead worked as the Manager of Mom's House, a sober living community of pregnant women battling opioid addiction. The program began in 2021 designed to welcome pregnant women that other sober living programs turned away, with the goal being to provide a clean, safe place for them and their babies to live and make a fresh start.

Jennifer was one of those moms. During her pregnancy, she was diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis and prescribed opioids, which lead to street drugs, heroin and ultimately an arrest and conviction for her involvement in a bank robbery. After four years in prison, she ended up using again.

Jennifer's path to recovery was a long a difficult one and she's grateful for the courts and the people around her that got her to where she is today. "Hearing stories similar to mine and how their lives are changed gave me hope and today I can use some of my darkest moments to encourage others."

AWARD RECIPIENTS



Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Drug Courts

Judge David T. Matia



Judge David T. Matia has served as a judge for Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court in Cleveland, Ohio since 1999. He started Cuyahoga County's first felony drug court in 2009 and is deeply committed to improving recovery opportunities for individuals both in and out of the criminal justice system.

He has been quoted in the New York Times and featured in Cleveland Magazine and the American Bar Association Journal for his efforts in fighting the heroin/opioid epidemic. Judge Matia is a frequent speaker on the topics of drug courts and the overall opiate crisis. His Court is now referred to as the MAT Court which stands for Medical Assisted Treatment.

Judge Joan Synenberg



Judge Joan Synenberg has served on the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court for the last 16 years. Along with her general criminal and civil caseload, she has presided over several specialized dockets. She oversees the dual diagnosis Recovery Court docket that treats those with mental health and substance

issues, and previously managed a mental health and developmental disability program.

Judge Synenberg also conducts a Pro Bono Collaborative in her courtroom every month which provides free, legal civil assistance to those already facing criminal charges. This could be help with issues such as expungements, driver's license suspensions, collections, evictions/Foreclosures, child support, and child custody/visitation.

The Judge Larry A. Jones Drug Court Advisory Board

HONORABLE LAUREN C. MOORE
JUDGE LARRY A. JONES DRUG COURT JUDGE

Emily Gibbs
PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Margaret Baughman, Ph.D.
SENIOR RESEARCH ASSOCIATE, CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

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Greater Cleveland Drug Court Foundation

Yolanda Armstrong
*C.E.O. FRIENDLY INN
TREASURER, GREATER CLEVELAND DRUG COURT FOUNDATION*

THE JUDGE LARRY A. JONES DRUG COURT 25 YEARS OF MEMORIES



AWARD RECIPIENTS



Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Drug Courts

Judge William T. McGinty



Judge William T. McGinty was elected to the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court in 2018 after serving as Law Director in Fairview Park and partner in the law firm *McGinty, Hilow and Spellacy*, a practice focused on criminal and juvenile defense.

In 2022, Judge McGinty was selected to oversee the Hope Court, (Helping Others Prosper Everyday) Court is one of the Court's four Drug Courts. It was created to provide additional opportunity for those who are at high risk of re-arrest, have longer criminal histories and struggle with moderate to severe substance use disorders.

Judge Kelly Ann Gallagher



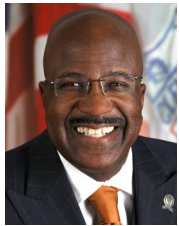
Judge Kelly A. Gallagher was elected to the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court in 2016 filling the seat vacated by retiring Judge Jose Villanueva in the court's general division. Judge Gallagher started out as a firefighter in Brooklyn, went to law school and handled more than 500 criminal cases before becoming

a judge.

She was selected to oversee one of four Drug Court Programs in 2021, referred to as the Traditional Drug Court.

AWARD RECIPIENTS

Councilman Kevin Conwell



Councilman Conwell graduated from Glenville High School and earned two business degrees from Cuyahoga Community college. He earned a bachelor's degree in liberal arts from Kent State University and an MBA from Chancellor University.

Before being elected, Councilman Conwell was employed by the Center for Families and Children as Operations Manager for the “Fathers and Families Together Program” where he coordinated parenting classes and job placement services for fathers in several locations throughout the City of Cleveland. The councilman was honored as National Father of the Year at an event in Washington D.C.

Currently, he is actively engaged in major development projects underway near and along East 105th Street. The neighborhood has seen growth in public/private developments, as well as new housing being built on empty lots, as well as renovations of older buildings including the old Hough Bakery headquarters.

Councilman Conwell and his wife, Yvonne Conwell, who is a Cuyahoga County Councilwoman, live in the Glenville neighborhood with their children, Kevin Jr., Krystle and Krystina.

Laura Daniels



Laura Daniels is a Certified Peer Specialist and Chemical Dependency Counselor in the State of Ohio. Laura’s mission in life is to prevent the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs utilizing a holistic healing and recovery approach.

Ms. Daniels is a tremendous voice and advocate for women and faithfully demonstrates that advocacy is the critical link between treatment, recovery, and the rest of the world. Her lifelong mission is to offer culturally relevant consumer choices, presented with dignity and respect to youth, adults, and families in communities throughout Ohio.

AWARD RECIPIENTS

Shawn Hardy



Shawn was raised in a single-parent home with a loving mother, but no male role models. Shawn was introduced to and struggled with Crack Cocaine and Alcohol usage at the age of 14. Shawn's heavy drug usage and flawed decision-making caused him to repeatedly find himself on the wrong side of the law.

On October 4th, 1995 at the age of 20 years old, Shawn was driven and motivated by the pain and frustration of his lifestyle and was forced to try a Drug and Alcohol inpatient treatment program. Shawn then became a participant in the Alcoholics Anonymous twelve-step program where he found a sponsor and began working the twelve steps in an attempt to recreate his life.

Shawn journey includes speaking engagements in London England, Bellingham England, Scotland, Ontario, Sweden, and various locations within the United States. Shawn is also the co-founder of the non-profit agency “12 Step Life” which provides credit repair, treatment referrals, permanent housing assistance and sober living for drug and alcohol-dependent persons.

Nate Hollis



My name is Nathaniel Hollis and I’m employed at the Northern Ohio Recovery Association as a Certified Peer Recovery Coach. It is an honor and a privilege to share in the celebration of the Judge Larry A. Jones Drug Court 25th Anniversary. A little over a year ago I was asked to extend my peer support services to the Larry A. Jones Drug Court.

It has been a very rewarding and humbling experience to work with and to share my own past involvement with the very system where I am employed today.

Working with the Northern Ohio Recovery Association as well as the Larry A. Jones Drug Court is a true blessing that I will forever be grateful for and I thank all involved for the wonderful opportunity.