

Letter to the Editor

On Saturday, September 26, 2009, over 400 community members celebrated the sixth annual National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month on the Courthouse Square in Prescott. The theme was, **'Together We Learn, Together We Heal.'** There were 32 state, local and private provider exhibitors and five inspirational speakers. We had music, free hot dogs (we gave away 315 hot dogs) and drawings for prizes. Our speakers included a young person, her father, a Veteran, a person in Al-Anon and one of our local employers who hires people in recovery from our community. The presiding Judge of the Superior Court Robert Brutinel, County Attorney Sheila Polk and Drug Court Judge Howard Hinson also welcomed the crowd. Thank you to MATForce (Methamphetamine Task Force) for helping to sponsor the event. I would like to give special thanks to the recovery month planning committee: Tim Prater, US Vets; Tom Johnson & Philip Matosich, Decision Point; Grace Diaz & Gabriel Maldonado, Catholic Charities; Lori Deutsch & Merilee Fowler; MATForce and Youth Count, Kathleen O'Hea, Bill Orick & Gwen Henderson, Chapter 5; Kathleen Haley & Elaine Campolei, Women in New Recovery; Todd Nirschl, Asya Perkins & Kathy Riley, Providence Place; Laura Norman, John Schuderer & Mary Winds, West Yavapai Guidance Clinic; Louie Gomez, Ponderosa Tire Pros; EJ Scott, Prescott Yavapai Tribe; and Buzz Davies, Coalition for Compassion and Justice. It was our best event yet! Special thanks to Bob and Karen Morse, owner's of Chapter 5 Sober Living for Men and Women, who donated space and t-shirts to raise funds for next year's event. This annual event raises awareness that treatment works and recovery is possible.

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