HCDrugFree

Update from HC DrugFree's Board of Directors

After more than 22 incredible years of dedicated service, HC DrugFree is announcing the dissolution of our organization, with an anticipated closing date of December 31, 2026. While this chapter is coming to a close, we look back with immense pride at the profound impact we have made together in keeping Howard County healthy, safe, and informed.

From the very beginning, HC DrugFree's Mission was clear: to provide resources and education on prevention, treatment, recovery, and health and wellness to help Howard County residents develop knowledge and skills to understand and address behavioral health (substance use and mental health) disorders.

Over the last 22 years, we stood side-by-side with residents, schools, the DEA and other law enforcement, and local leaders. For 17 of those 22 years, we had the privilege of being led by Joan Webb Scornaienchi as the Executive Director of HC DrugFree. Joan's dedication to HC DrugFree and Howard County made an immeasurable difference in our community and with our residents, especially students and young adults. We honor her service and legacy as part of this announcement.

Together, we turned awareness into action. Because of your unwavering support, we have successfully:

- Educated thousands of youth and parents on the dangers of substance misuse.
- Safely removed tons of unused medications from local homes and the community through our collection drives.
- Provided lifesaving resources and training to equip neighbors to help neighbors.
- Fostered a supportive, well-informed network that will continue to protect the Howard County community for generations to come.

An organization is only as strong as the community behind it. We extend our deepest gratitude to Joan, our passionate staff, selfless volunteers, dedicated board members throughout the years, and generous donors. Your shared vision and tireless efforts have saved lives and strengthened the very fabric of Howard County.

Honoring Legacy, Protecting the Future: Creating the "HC DrugFree Fund"

After stepping out of her role as Executive Director in August, Joan deeply appreciated hearing from so many of you in the HC DrugFree family. When she

initially shared her transition plans, she was fully prepared to guide a new leadership team into what she hoped would be an exciting new chapter for the organization. Like so many in our community, she is still processing the recent announcement of the organization's dissolution and shares in the collective sadness of imagining Howard County without HC DrugFree.

For 17 years, Joan had the pleasure and privilege of getting to know and care about all of you. She laughed with you, shed countless tears with you, and always held your families in her prayers. Your children truly became her children, so continue sharing their triumphs and life updates with her. She always told students that if they ever needed her—even long after high school graduation—they should never hesitate to reach out. She meant it then and still does.

Many of you are asking what will happen to the remaining funds raised under Joan's leadership. While HC DrugFree will no longer operate as a formal organization, its mission will be supported through a new HC DrugFree Fund at the Community Foundation of Howard County.

As part of her legacy, Joan hopes to advise this fund for many years to come, ensuring that future distributions remain true to HC DrugFree's core purpose: preventing substance misuse, keeping our community safe, and empowering Howard County youth and families.

How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard.

-Winnie the Pooh

For more information, contact:
HC DrugFree
5305 Village Center Drive, Suite 206
Wilde Lake Village Center
Columbia, MD 21044
Admin@hcdrugfree.org
www.hcdrugfree.org

HC DrugFree | Wilde Lake Village Center 5305 Village Center Drive, Suite 206 | Columbia, MD 21044 US

Unsubscribe | Update Profile | Constant Contact Data Notice

Constant Contact

Try email marketing for free today!