



*The Best of Oregon*

## CITY of BEAVERTON

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### NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 20, 2016**

### **PARTICIPANTS OF AWARD-WINNING B-SOBR PROGRAM GRADUATE**

**BEAVERTON, Ore.** – On Thursday, July 21, the Beaverton Sobriety Opportunity for Beginning Recovery (B-SOBR) program will host a graduation ceremony honoring 11 graduates of the program and acknowledging partner agencies that help in the recovery of participants. The ceremony takes place at 2 p.m. in Courtroom B at the Griffith Drive Building, 4755 SW Griffith Drive.

The dedicated treatment providers and community partners being acknowledged include:

- Sequoia Mental Health
- Serenity Lane Treatment Center
- ChangePoint Inc.
- Best Care Treatment Center
- Treatment Services Northwest
- Vigilnet Community Monitoring
- Fairhaven Recovery Homes
- Goodwill Job Connections
- Oregon Food Bank
- Access to Recovery

B-SOBR began in 2011 with the approval of Mayor Denny Doyle and the Beaverton City Council and received a three-year \$125,000 grant administered by the Oregon Department of Transportation and supported by federal funding.

Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUI) costs millions of dollars to the state each year. Beaverton has three major highways through the city, leaving many Oregonians commuting through or living in the area at risk. B-SOBR focuses on offenders with multiple convictions and those with a BAC (Blood Alcohol Content) of 0.15 or higher. Beaverton Municipal Court processes approximately 400 DUI cases annually. The program focuses on reducing number of repeat drunk drivers.

In 2015, the program was awarded two grants totaling \$613,500—the State of Oregon's Criminal Justice Commission awarded a \$288,750 Specialty Court Grant covering a two year period (2015-17) and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration awarded a \$324,750 grant, to be disbursed over three years (2015-2018). For the past year, the Portland Area Canine Therapy Teams (PACTT), a partnership between DoveLewis and Guide Dogs for the Blind (GDB), has volunteered two therapy teams to attend court hearings with B-SOBR participants. Highly trained retired and career-change dogs from GDB and their handlers undergo extensive

training and assessment through DoveLewis and GDB to complete their certification in animal-assisted therapy. The dogs help provide comfort to and relieve stress for participants. PACTT program has 50 certified teams that have logged more than 3,500 volunteer hours in 70 facilities.

For more information, reminders and community news, visit [www.BeavertonOregon.gov](http://www.BeavertonOregon.gov). Also follow Beaverton on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/CityofBeaverton](http://www.facebook.com/CityofBeaverton), or Twitter at [www.twitter.com/CityofBeaverton](http://www.twitter.com/CityofBeaverton).

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