

Elliot Kolkovich
Summit County Prosecutor



For Immediate Release

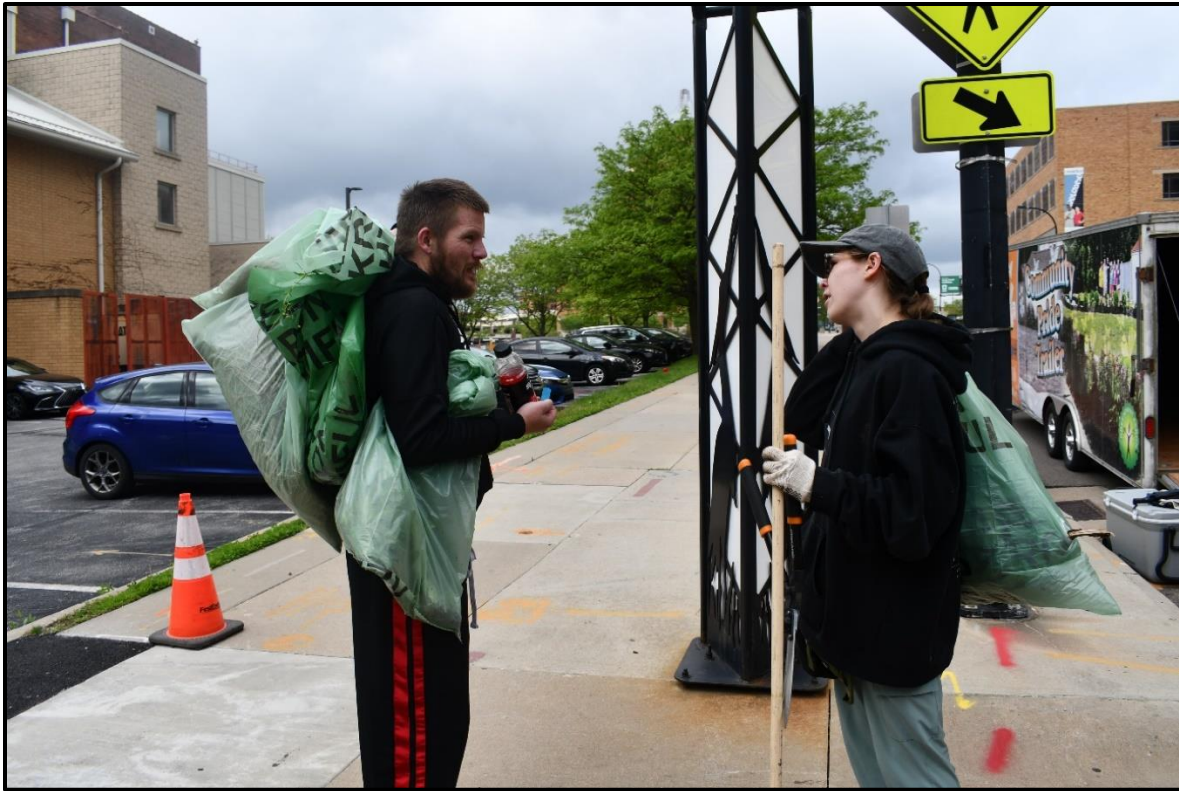
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CONTACT: [Elaine Vilem](#)/[Jillian Zetts](#)

(330) 643-8386 / (330) 643-2321

ICYMI: PROSECUTOR KOLKOVICH, JUDGE OLDFIELD, AND TURNING POINT PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS COME TOGETHER FOR SPRING CLEANING





Participants Worked with Keep Akron Beautiful to Clean Up Downtown Akron, Celebrate National Treatment Court Month

AKRON, OH – In Case You Missed It: Last Tuesday, Summit County Prosecutor Elliot Kolkovich, Summit County Court of Common Pleas Judge Joy Malek Oldfield, and Turning Point program participants partnered with Keep Akron Beautiful to host a “Spring Clean” event in Downtown Akron. This event brought together participants and staff from the Turning Point Program, volunteers from the Prosecutor’s Office staff, and other volunteers to remove litter and refresh public spaces, all while promoting civic pride and environmental responsibility. The Spring Clean also marked National Treatment Court Month, which is held each May and is a national celebration of all treatment court types, such as Turning Point.

“Building strong relationships in the community is an important part of recovery and reducing recidivism, which ultimately keeps everyone safer. I want to thank the participants for their work to cleanup downtown, and the Turning Point program for working to provide diversionary placements and recovery services for those in our community who are deserving of a second chance,” said Prosecutor Kolkovich.

“Working with Keep Akron Beautiful is such a great way for our folks to give back. And for those in recovery, giving back is essential. Giving back helps you gain a better perspective, creates a sense of gratitude and empowers you to understand you can make a difference in the world. I’m so proud of our participants for showing up and giving back,” said Judge Oldfield.

“Each year when Turning Point joins us for a project we know that we are getting some of the hardest working men and women to join us. They do an incredible job and in just three hours they have completed something it would take my small crew a week to do. Thank you to Judge Oldfield and her team for all of their support of Keep Akron Beautiful’s programming in the Akron community,” said Jacqui Ricchiuti, CEO of Keep Akron Beautiful.

Summit County's Turning Point Court is a specialized court for felony offenders struggling with substance use. The court offers a rehabilitation-based alternative to incarceration for eligible individuals, encouraging personal accountability and community engagement as part of the recovery process. The program itself features four phases that participants must progress through to graduate, each of which can take a varying number of weeks based on participant engagement and achievement.

The Turning Point program emphasizes community as a critical aid in achieving and maintaining sobriety, and staff aim to help participants establish and maintain those connections during their time in the program. Events like this empower participants to give back in meaningful ways and strengthen their commitment to personal growth and positive community involvement.

Keep Akron Beautiful is a local non-profit that leads volunteer-driven initiatives focused on maintaining and enhancing the city's appearance. The organization operates under three core pillars: Beautification, Litter Reduction, and Community Involvement. Through these pillars, they lead a variety of projects including, planting native flowers, organizing community clean-up days, removing graffiti through their "wipeout" program, and many more.

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