



# TURNING POINT

Transforming Lives, Strengthening Communities

Presiding Judge Joy Malek Oldfield

## Turning Point Times

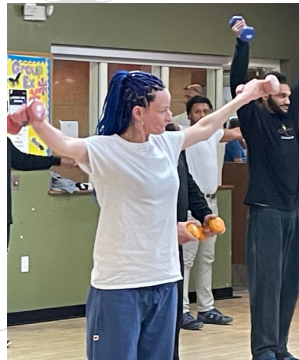
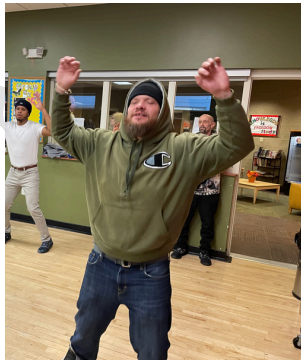
January-March 2026



The Summit County Turning Point Program kicked off 2026 on a high note! Our first plenary session of the year was held at the Kohl Family YMCA, where participants and staff explored the importance of health and wellness. The morning included a tour of the facility and wrapped up with light cardio to get everyone moving.

The YMCA continues to be an incredible community partner for Turning Point. Through their Y-Strong passes, participants who have achieved a period of successful sobriety are eligible for individual or family memberships—opening the door to new experiences, healthy habits, and meaningful connections.

A heartfelt thank you to the YMCA for an energizing morning and for being such a supportive partner in our journey. We're grateful to begin the year together!



**"The only person who can stop you from reaching your goals is you."  
— Jackie Joyner Kersee.**

Let's Connect on Socials

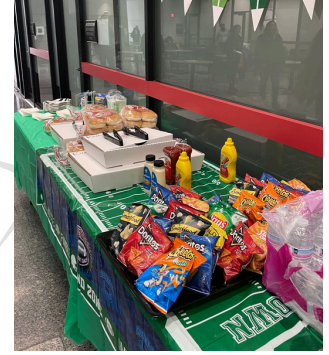


@SummitcountyTPP



@Summit County Turning Point Program

# Turning Point Trends



On February 3, 2026, Turning Point partnered with Akron Recovery Court to host our monthly plenary session, Huddle with Coach Kemp Boyd and the Love Akron Team. Love Akron is a Christian-based organization serving as an intersectional hub that unifies colors, cultures, and congregations to help Greater Akron thrive. At Love Akron, seeds of hope and unity are planted in what they call Fields of Love—key areas where the community needs support, connection, and healing. These fields guide their focus and fuel their response to Greater Akron’s challenges.

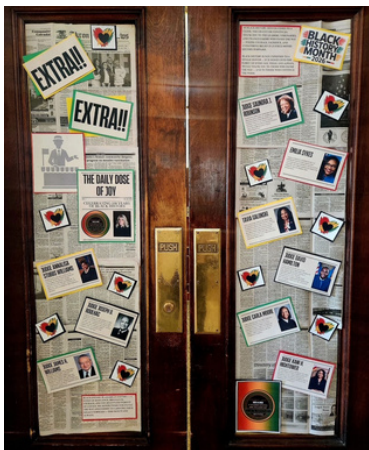
During the session, Coach Kemp Boyd and the Love Akron team engaged with our participants, helping them develop faith-based connections and identify barriers to self-care. Participants left feeling motivated to nurture their faith and explore the resources available, including the Grief Recovery Method, Mental Health First Aid, and the JEDI Experience. There truly was something for everyone to discover.

After this inspiring huddle, everyone enjoyed a tailgate with all the fixins, celebrating community, connection, and progress.



## Black History Month Door Decorating

Extra! Extra! In honor of Black History Month, Judge Oldfield and the Turning Point staff teamed up for the door decorating contest at the Summit County Courthouse. Our theme? The Daily Dose of Joy! We celebrated 100 years of Black history, honoring local political figures, and even used vintage Akron Legal News as our backdrop to give the display an authentic newspaper feel.



As Black History Month comes to a close, our gratitude continues. Thank you to the leaders, visionaries, and changemakers whose courage, sacrifice, and unwavering belief in justice have moved history forward.

## Black History Month Guest Speaker

On February 17, in honor of Black History Month, Pastor Robert DeJournett spoke to our Turning Point Program about his powerful journey from being on criminal supervision to building a successful and purpose-driven life.



Today, Mr. DeJournett serves in numerous leadership roles throughout the community. He is the Principal of DeJournett Consulting LLC, where his mission is to help businesses and organizations further their goals by creating impactful connections and convening meaningful events.



# Turning Point Trends

## ♥ Sweet, Sober, and So Much Fun!

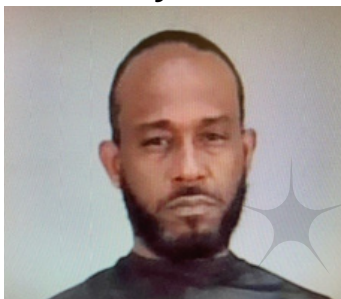
The Turning Point Alumni Group hosted its Sweet and Sober “Meet the Alumni” event on February 11, 2026. Alumni and active participants enjoyed a delicious Italian dinner, indulged in sweet treats, and bravely took the mic for unforgettable “soberaoke.” The evening was the perfect blend of laughter, fellowship, and celebration.



## Turning Point March Graduation

On March 3, 2025, we proudly celebrated the graduation of Turning Point participant Devin Young at the JADFA House. The event was filled with people who admire, love, and respect Devin.

Mr. Young has demonstrated remarkable dedication, perseverance, and personal growth throughout his time in Turning Point. He shared, “Turning Point has helped me change not just my behavior, but the way I think and live day to day. I am committed to continuing this way of life!” We wish Devin nothing but ongoing success and look forward to seeing him as an active member of our alumni community.



## St. Patrick's Day- Turning Point Style

St. Patrick would have been proud of how we celebrated! On March 17, Turning Point participants and staff enjoyed Irish-themed doughnuts and coffee while celebrating the hard work and progress happening every day in our program. Participants were also rewarded with their very own “pots of gold” — Swenson’s coins — a fun way to recognize their continued dedication to their sobriety. A little luck, a lot of hard work, and a great community make days like this possible. Happy St. Patrick's Day!



# Turning Point Trends

## Faith in Recovery- Lunch and Learn Series

Judge Oldfield has reintroduced the Faith in Recovery initiative in collaboration with Love Akron. Turning Point participants attended their first Lunch and Learn on March 17, 2026.



Our Lunch and Learns will be held on the third Tuesday of every month. Turning Point is committed to providing our participants with as many resources as possible. This initiative provides an opportunity for participants to connect with spiritual leaders in the community and explore the faith-based resources and support options available to them.

### Meet Rainin

Meet our newest four-legged volunteer, Rainin! Rainin is a Portuguese Water Dog and a registered therapy dog through the Bright and Beautiful Therapy Dogs program. He visits Turning Point with a wagging tail and a big heart, ready to spread smiles wherever he goes.



Rainin and his handler, Laura Nussbaum, are the paw-fect addition to our team!

From celebrating milestones to making a difference, we've got a season packed with purpose and excitement:



April 7, 2026 - Dr. Labor is in the house!

May 5, 2026 - Keep Akron Beautiful—because our city deserves to be beautiful!

May 15, 2026 - ARC Arise, Shine Gala—get ready to dress up and SHINE!

June 2, 2026 - Turning Point Graduation—cheering on some incredible achievements

July 20-23, 2026 - AllRise National Conference—big ideas, big impact!

## The Daily Dose of Joy

Sobriety is really such a transformative journey, isn't it? There are actually eight dimensions of wellness that we highlight in all that we offer in Turning Point: physical, emotional, intellectual, social, spiritual, vocational, financial, and environmental. This is why we collaborate with community partners like Love Akron (spiritual), the Akron Area YMCA (physical), Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (vocational), and so many others. My goal for my participants is to create a strong foundation throughout the program that they can use throughout life for stability in all these dimensions. I don't want our folks to be defined by the absence of illness - but rather to actively seek out healing in every one of these areas. And when we hold graduation I always tell our participants "this is not the end for you - it's just the beginning!" I say that because we encourage each person to continue their individual path of exploration and overall well-being. Never was this lifelong journey more on display for me than at our quarterly graduation in March, held at the JADFA house - owned and operated by our own Turning Point graduate and alumni Kenny Lambert (and his beautiful wife Kristi). Kenny is a living example of what can happen when you prioritize your well-being every single day. If you know Kenny, you know that he is constantly striving for stimulation in every area of wellness.

And he is a beacon of hope for others. In Kenny's own words that morning, "when I graduated ten years ago, I didn't have a lot going on for me besides my sobriety. It turns out that was everything. If you would've told me ten years ago that I'd be hosting graduation ten years later at a recovery community center that I own, I wouldn't have believed you." I'm thankful to work in a program that works to keep people engaged and thriving! If you are an alumni (or know one), consider getting involved with our Turning Point Program Alumni Group, headed up by graduate and active alumni Ben Rich. We want to support you throughout your court journey and beyond!



Judge Joy Malek Oldfield