



Go For The Gold

How to Bring a Big Idea to Life

A Presentation by Nicole Hagy

Today's Goals:

1. Identify a pathway/approach to presenting their idea to their organization's leadership or community.
2. Determine a realistic timeline complete with funding clarifications and overall goals.
3. Recognize how your idea will make a lasting impact in your workplace or community and/or what will be needed to distinguish it from similar initiatives.

Experience

BA | Marketing
Walsh University

MS | Integrated Marketing Communications
West Virginia University

Professional History

Almost 20 years of non-profit & for profit
experience

Nicole Hagy

**COMMUNITY
OUTREACH/GRANTS
COORDINATOR**

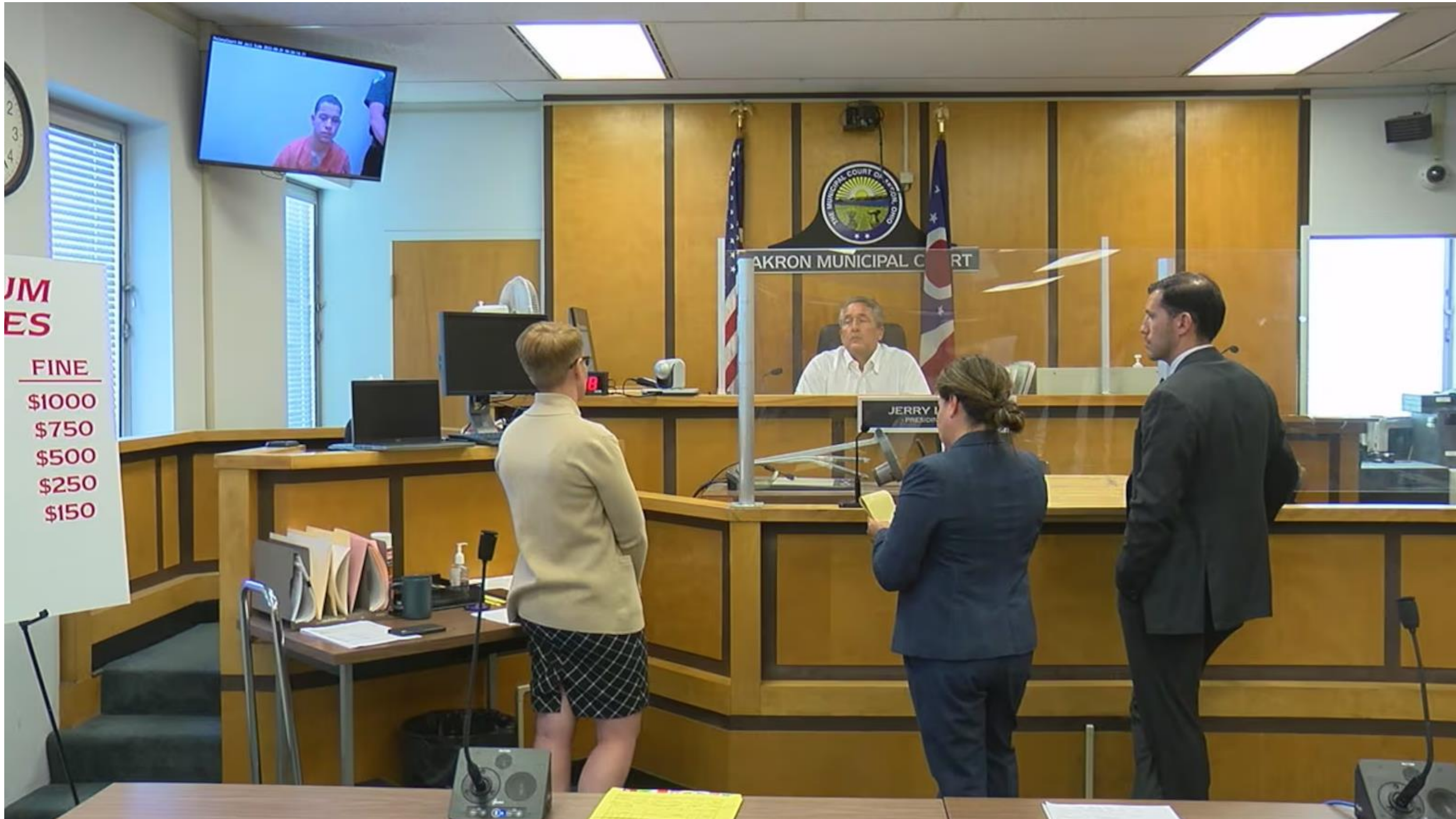


What's Important to Me:



A Bit About My Day Job:

- I work for a municipal court in Akron, Ohio
 - Arraignments for high-profile cases
 - Weddings
 - School visits
 - Community educational events
 - Watching people start a new life





How My Big Idea Got Started

What Was Already In Place:

We serve justice partners

We partner with non-profit agencies to show how we can better serve those involved in the criminal justice system.

We serve the community

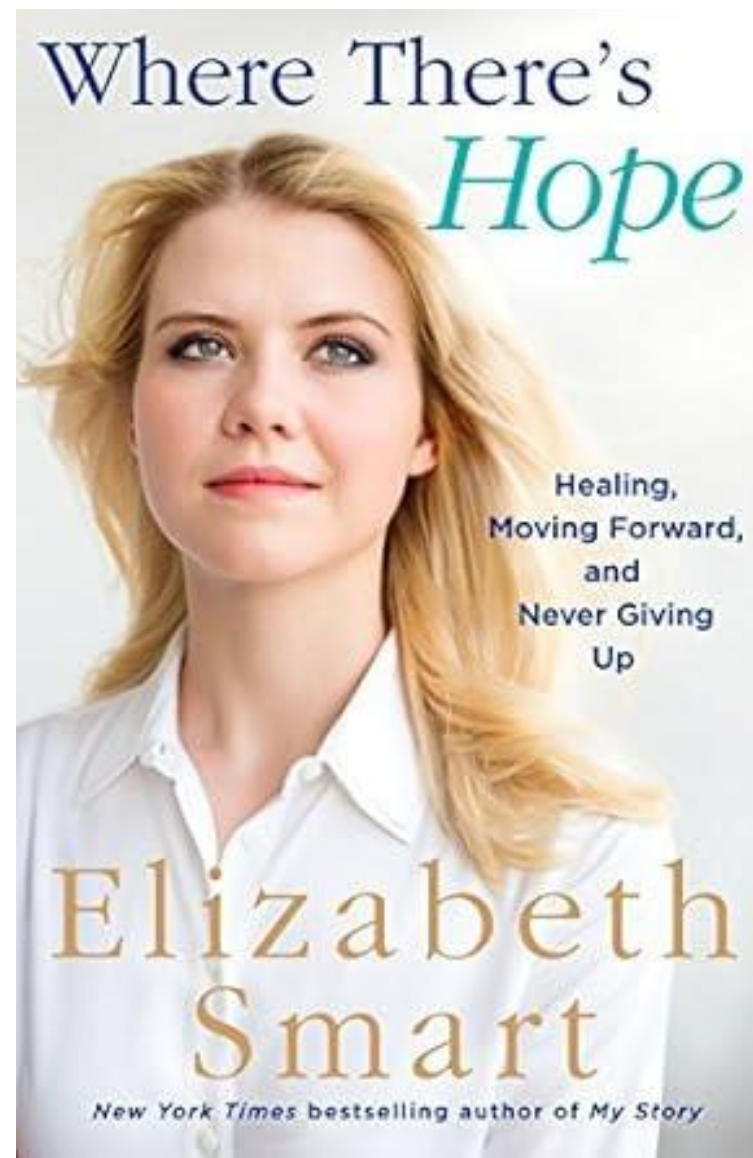
All court users can benefit from our programming, whether or not they are involved in the criminal justice system.

We provide free programming

We believe that there should be zero barriers to an educational opportunity. All are welcome.

Trust

Elizabeth Smart | May 15, 2025

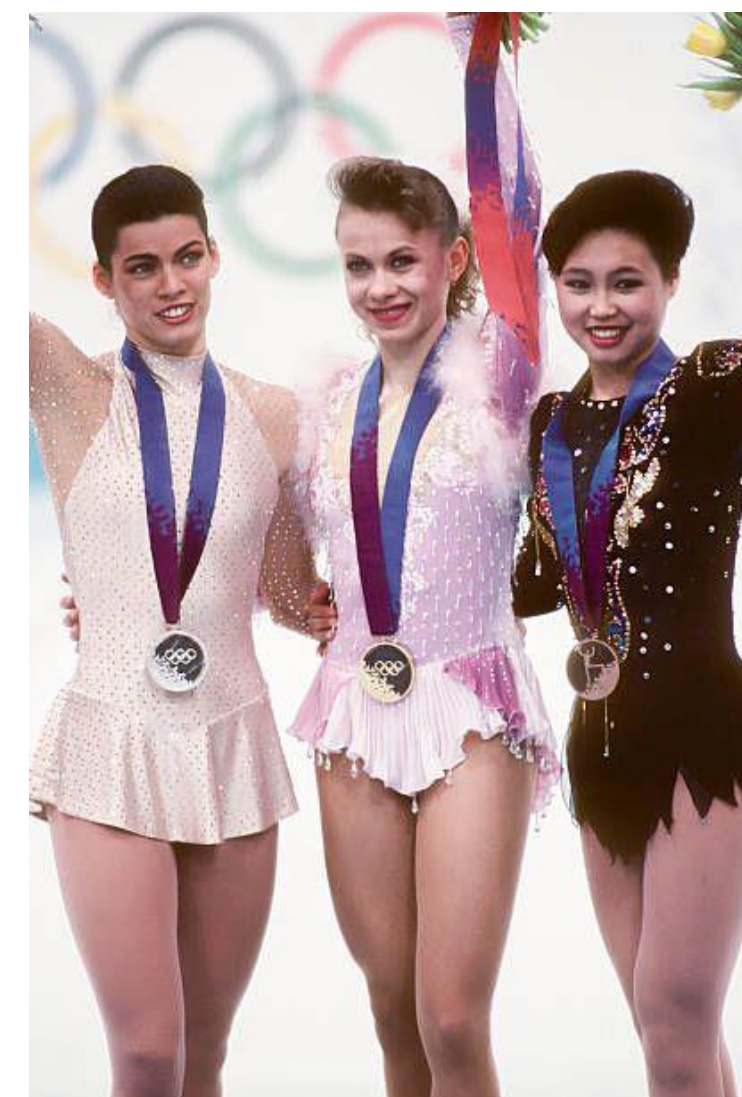


A Trip Back to 1994...

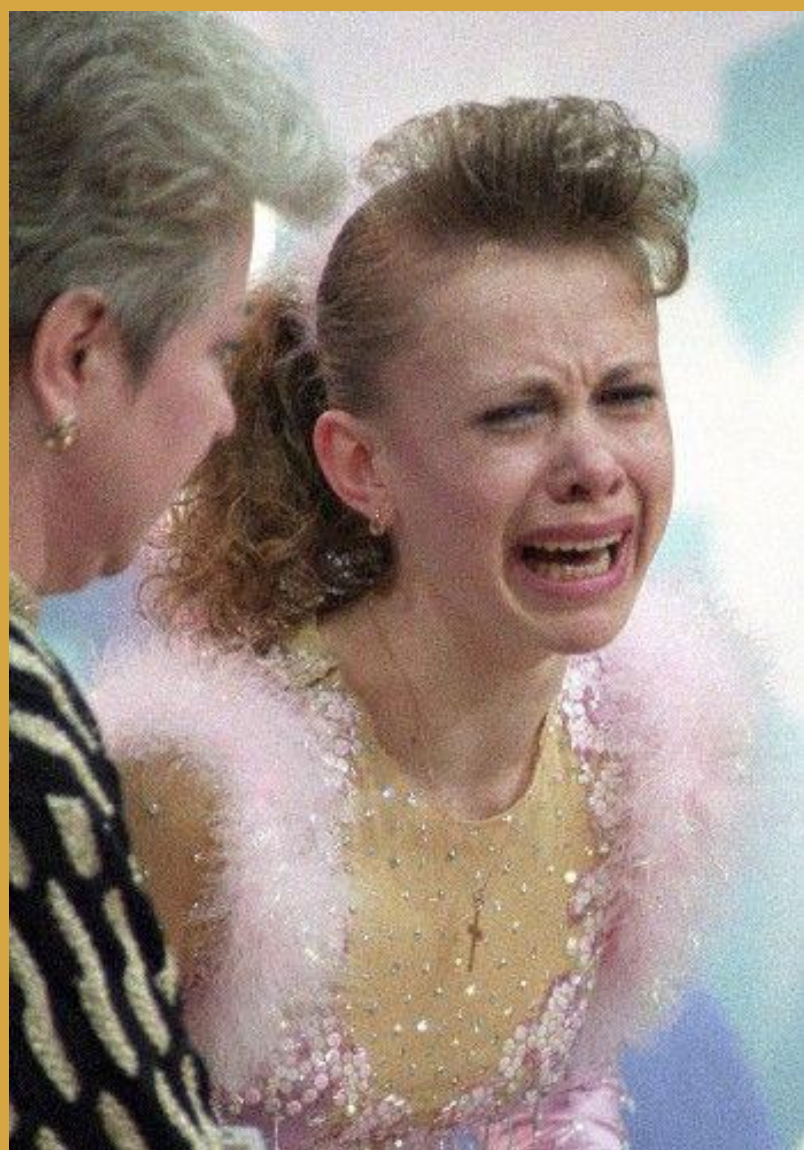


**Figure Skating
was at its peak**

**But not for the
right reasons**



Oksana becomes an instant international icon



What Happened Next

Oksana moves to the U.S.

Young age
Instant fame/wealth

Spends time with older adults

Older crowd
Substance use

Drives under the influence

Enters recovery
Rebuilds her life



Instagram Connection

Hi Oksana,
Do you have a management
team?

I'd like to chat about bringing
you in as a guest for an event in
Ohio.

Instagram Connection

I work for a court and we have programs for people in recovery and those who have overcome trauma.

I've followed your recovery journey and wanted to see if that was ever something you'd be open to sharing with a group. If not, I understand.

What Happened Next

**I talked to her
manager**

Cost
Contract requirements
Availability

**I talked to my
manager**

Spoke with the Judge
who handles our
recovery programs

Found the funding

Grant funding

And then...

**Contract
Signed**

**Toured/
Booked
Venue**

**Announced
it!**

Akron Recovery Court and Akron OVI Court Present:

Oksana Baiul



Thursday, September 4, 2025



8:30 a.m. - Check-In & Breakfast
9:00 a.m. - Presentation



Akron Art Museum Auditorium
1 South High Street, Akron



About The Event

Olympic Gold Medalist Oksana Baiul will help us kick off National Recovery Month by sharing how she overcame alcoholism.

Meet The Morning's Emcees



Judge Jon Oldham
Presiding Judge
Akron Recovery Court
Akron OVI Court



Kristi Capel
Anchor
Fox 8 News
in the Morning

Sign Up Here



Questions?
Call 330.375.2186 or email
NHagy@akronohio.gov.

This is a free event made possible by:





“Let’s Do It!”

**Two
Podcasts**

**Throwing Out
First Pitch at
Minor League
Baseball
Game**

**Visiting Ice
Rink**















Gold medalist figure skater Oksana Baiul holds up a newspaper from 1994 with a headline proclaiming her Olympic gold medalist in figure skating, Susan Lindway of Seven Hills brought the paper and a gold marker for her to sign it during her visit to Center Ice in Jackson Township Thursday September 4, 2025.

Kevin Whitlock / Massillon Independent



Gold medalist figure skater Oksana Baiul right, skates with fans during her visit to Center Ice in Jackson Township Thursday September 4, 2025.

Kevin Whitlock / Massillon Independent



Gold medalist figure skater Oksana Baiul right, skates with fan Jackie Koene of Canton during her visit to Center Ice in Jackson Township Thursday September 4, 2025.

Kevin Whitlock / Massillon Independent



The Event's Impact

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Did you enjoy today's program?

Showing the most recent responses to the question. [See all responses here.](#)



The Event's Impact

MULTIPLE CHOICE

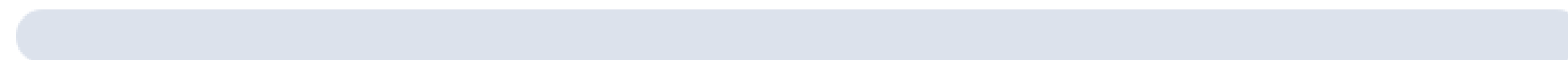
Would you recommend this program to a friend/colleague?

Showing the most recent responses to the question. [See all responses here.](#)

Yes 23 (100%)



No 0 (0%)



Total responses 23

The Event's Impact

MULTIPLE CHOICE

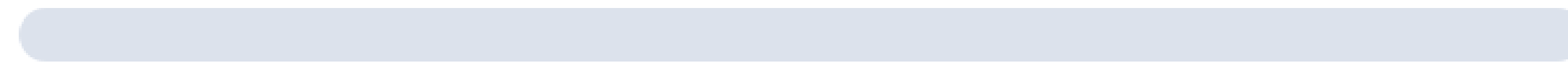
Do you feel that the speaker helped fight the stigma associated with substance use disorder and addiction?

Showing the most recent responses to the question. [See all responses here.](#)

Yes 23 (100%)



No 0 (0%)



Total responses 23

The Event's Impact

OPEN ANSWER

We hope to continue welcoming well-known speakers associated with recovery and/or mental health. If you have a suggestion for a speaker we should consider, please list their name(s) here.

Showing the most recent responses to the question. [See all responses here.](#)

Kevin Hines 1 (12.5%)

Retired figure skater Ashley Wagner, US National Champion & Olympian, has started doing work in the skating community about mental health in sports & in life. 1 (12.5%)

CC Sabathia 1 (12.5%)

Total responses 8

The Event's Impact

OPEN ANSWER

Feel free to offer any suggestions or provide additional feedback about today's event.

Showing the most recent responses to the question. [See all responses here.](#)

The venue, food, staffing, parking, resources and program were all great! And the more 1 (7.14%) people who know about future events and have access to attend them, the better! They provide the encouragement, support, education, and hope that is needed.

very nice and well put together. 1 (7.14%)

Somehow wish the Beacon Journal would have participated with pre publicity and 1 (7.14%) follow/up. GREAT COVERAGE from Canton.

Total responses

14

February 2025

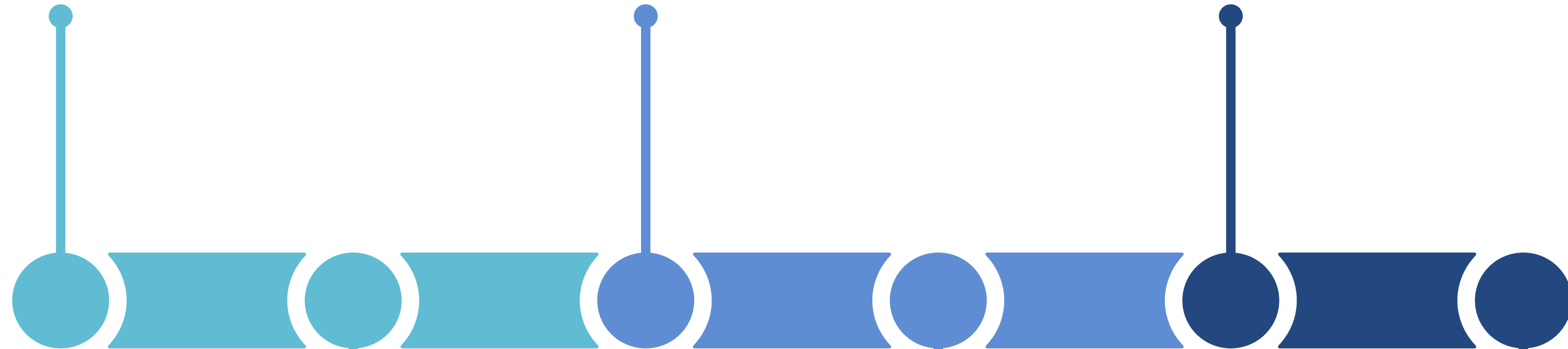
End of June 2025

August 2025

Initial concept/Reached
out to Oksana

Secured full funding from
three funders

Formally announced
details/opened registration



March 2025

July 2025

September 2025

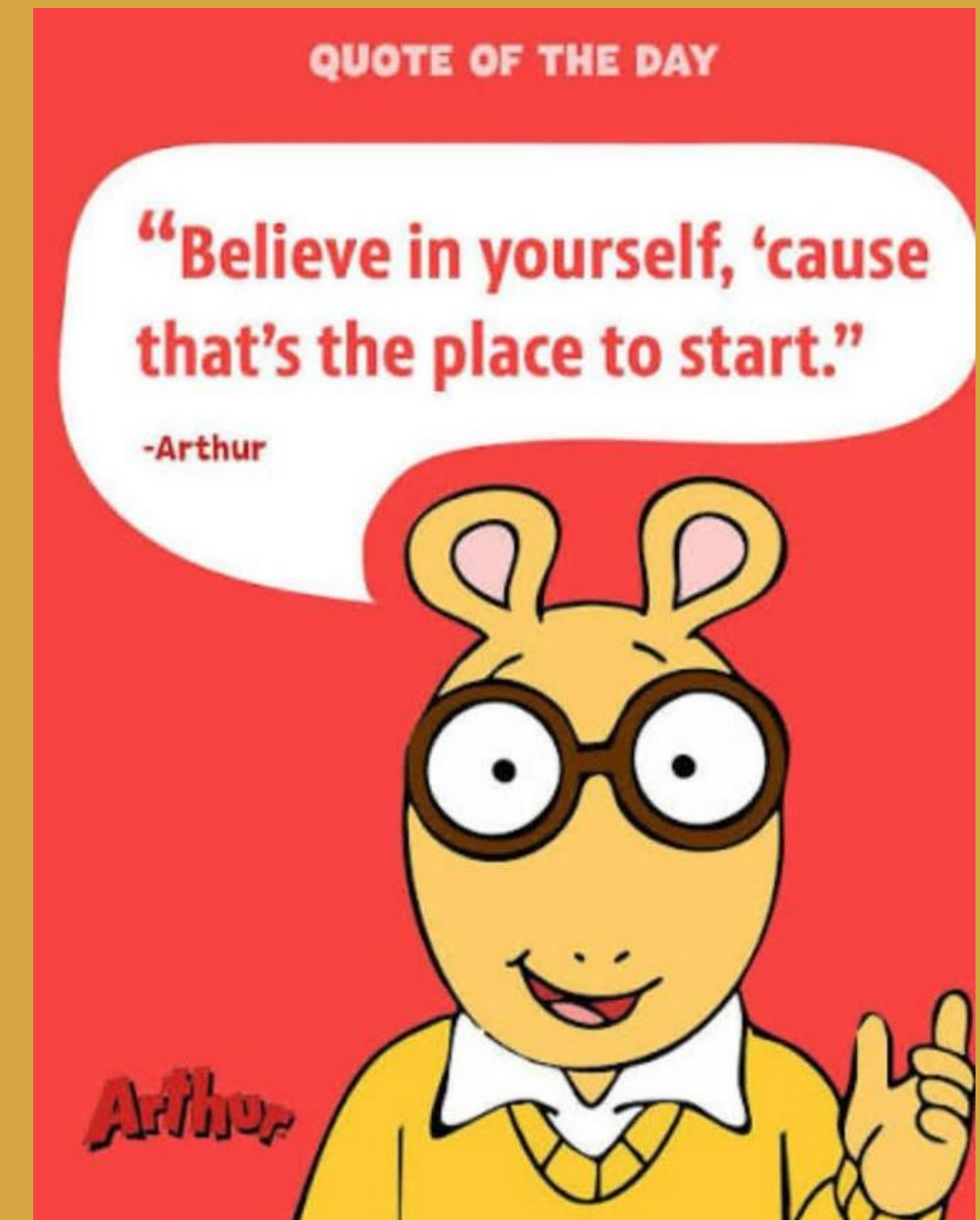
Mapped out financial needs

Contract
signed/prepared for

Hosted event/secured
survey results

What I Learned:

- BELIEVE IN YOURSELF
- Hard work pays off
- Your gold medal moment may look different
- Dream BIG









CONNECT WITH ME:

FACEBOOK - @NICOLEHAGY

TWITTER/X - @NICOLEHAGY

INSTAGRAM - @NICOLEHAGY

LINKEDIN - /IN/NICOLEHAGY

CONNECT WITH OKSANA:

FACEBOOK - @OFFICIALOKSANABAIUL

TWITTER/X - @OKSANABAIUL

INSTAGRAM - @OKSANABAIUL

CAMEO - /OSBF

GO MOUNTAINEERS!