

[Adam Fisher and Dana Caldwell](#), Naples Daily News 2:56 p.m. ET Jan. 15, 2017



Rafael Valerio smiles at runners as he helps hands out water during the Naples Daily News Half Marathon in Naples, Fla. with a time of 1:06:02.68 on Sunday, Jan. 15, 2017.(Photo: Logan Newell/Special to The Napl)

For the eighth straight year, the blue Drug Court T-shirts could be seen all about Cambier Park during Saturday's 28th running of the Naples Daily News Half Marathon.

Christine Greider, now a Collier County Circuit judge, began this trend and Janeice Martin, a St. John Neumann grad who has presided over Drug Court since 2011, helped her for a few years before taking this opportunity and running with it.

“She's a big runner and she came up with the idea to take our group and do some volunteering,” Martin said.

“Our group is all about second chances and recovery and the runners are about facing down their challenges and maybe doing something they didn't think they could do. The overlap of those messages works really well.”

There are about 65 in the Drug Court program and 45 helped work Saturday's race. They set up for and manned a snack stand and also handed out post-game waters at the finish line from a stash that looked like it could supply the New England Patriots for a month. Most of them did so while wearing wide grins.

“It's so great to see a team effort," Martin said. "This starts extremely early in the morning, and to be a part of the collaboration and to see people doing something healthy and good for them with a big smile at a crazy hour, all this is good for them.”

The Drug Court volunteers are particularly appreciated. But they probably get more out of this than anyone.

“People out here love the Drug Court program and know we work hard,” Martin said. “So this has really been an opportunity for our folks to come out of the shadows and be a part of something. They're going to be asked all day long, 'What is Drug court?’

“It's good for them to be out here, be away from the TV, hold their heads up and be a part of something.”