

Power County Kudos

By: Bright Tomorrows Staff

On a daily basis, Bright Tomorrows works with law enforcement, child protection, medical, and legal professionals from around Southeastern Idaho that handle child abuse concerns. We often have the opportunity to witness first hand these professionals doing amazing and life changing work for the children of Southeastern Idaho.

We have recently had multiple opportunities to work with such professionals from Power County and have been appreciative of the sensitive way they have handled their sexual abuse cases. From the beginning stages of the investigative process to the sentencing of the offender, we have noticed Power County's public servants' abilities to maintain a victim and child sensitive focus throughout this difficult process.

One Bright Tomorrows Staff was able to attend a sentencing procedure handled by Judge Laggis and was impressed with how delicately Judge Laggis and Prosecutor Randy Klein handled the victim and the victim's family. Both professionals seemed to grasp the stress and fear that the legal system can cause in the child victim. The prosecutor, Randy Kline, spent the time needed to answer questions and prepare the child for what to expect. It was clear during the meeting with Mr. Klein that he took the issue seriously and was intent on seeing the case through.

During the sentencing procedure, Judge Laggis was able to ask some of the poignant questions of the offender that the victim and the victim's family have been wanting answered. Judge Laggis spoke specifically to the victim about his understanding of the situation and verbally reinforced the innocence of the victim in the matter. He also provided verbal support and validation to the family of the victim and articulated his awareness of the emotional strain a sexual crime can cause a victim and a victim's family. Judge Laggis did not mince words in his expectations of the offender and his hope that the offender would take this opportunity to get help and become a responsible member of society.

We continually appreciate the manner in which this area's legal teams respond to victims and their families, as it goes a long way in helping victims and their families heal. Thank you to those of you who are truly making a difference!