

Anti-drug message continues

Norwood woman in Washington for 'Tribute to Nancy'

BY ROBERT M. ELKINS

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Twenty-year-old Robin [redacted] of Norwood will join the national tribute to Nancy Reagan with a two-minute speech today in Washington D.C.

The two met at a Milford drug rehabilitation center when [redacted] was 16 and have since worked in anti-drug campaigns together. At today's national "Tribute to Nancy" [redacted] will "give a two-minute thank-you to Mrs. Reagan," [redacted] said.

"I'm so scared," [redacted] said, "But she really did motivate me a lot."

Wednesday she was in the final throes of preparation. "I'm really in a rush," [redacted] said. "I've just put down \$20 that I can't find, and I'm a half hour late to visit my father."

Mrs. Reagan met Robin at Straight Inc. Robin, a Straight

graduate, was a staff counselor at the center and sat with Mrs. Reagan at a three-hour group therapy session.

The first lady had her join a four-city trip to promote prevention of drug abuse and [redacted] appeared with her on stage at an Indianapolis junior high school.

Seven months later, Robin was the youngest of four speakers invited by Mrs. Reagan to Washington to speak about teenage drug abuse at an international summit of 18 first ladies. She held their attention with her tearful account of what drugs did to her life. A drug user at 14, she had overdosed on marijuana, alcohol and amphetamines. She is drug-free now.

[redacted] who teaches aerobics at Living Well in Pleasant Ridge during the day and is a night cashier for Sohjo, said the Kiwanis Club is paying her air fare and lodging in the capital while



Robin [redacted] will give speech

she attends the reception and dinner.