



# INSIDE CEC

## Lipman Hall Achieves JCAHO Accreditation

Lipman Hall, a residential youth facility, recently achieved accreditation status from the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Health Care Organizations (JCAHO). "During a three-day intensive on-site audit, a specially trained JCAHO surveyor evaluated Lipman Hall's compliance with a



Dr. Robert Mackey, PsyD, COO and Marlene Riordan, RN, MPA, Director of Quality Management.

set of national standards set by health care professionals," said **Marlene Riordan**, Director of Quality Management for CEC. The standards are published in the *Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Behavioral Health Care*.

The evaluation process involved the review of

documents such as reports on performance improvement activities and reports to clinical staff; interviews with key CEC and Lipman Hall managers; and, visits to treatment settings, including Lipman Hall housing units.

Lipman Hall received a score of 91%, based on its compliance with 800 standards of care. The mean score for a new facility nationwide is 84%. "This is a major accomplishment for a facility that has been open for only 14 months. The JCAHO surveyor said this was the best performance of any new children's residential treatment center in its initial survey that he had seen anywhere," noted **Nicholas R. Scalera**, Director of Lipman Hall. According to JCAHO, the score indicates how well an organization measures up against an absolute standard and reflects the level of performance that every organization strives to meet.

### COMMITMENT TO QUALITY

"The team effort and hard work on the part of Lipman Hall and corporate staff members played a vital role in our success," said Ms. Riordan. "Achieving accreditation reflects the commitment of our staff, at all levels," said **John J. Clancy**, President

*(Continued on Page 8)*

## Inside this Issue:

<b>Corporate Corner</b>	2
<b>Recidivism Study Shows CEC Programs Work</b>	2
<b>Delaney's Family Program</b>	3
<b>Who Was Mr. Coleman?</b>	3
<b>Northeast Site News</b>	4
<b>New Satellite Monitoring Program</b>	5
<b>Alumni Spotlight</b>	5
<b>Mid-West Site News</b>	6
<b>AYA Site News</b>	7

To submit story ideas and comments for **INSIDE CEC**, please E-mail the Editor at [doconnor@cecintl.com](mailto:doconnor@cecintl.com).

## CEC to Build 750-Bed Facility in Colorado

The State of Colorado Department of Corrections (DOC) has announced its intent to award a contract to Community Education Centers (CEC). CEC will construct a 750-bed Pre-Parole and Parole Revocation Center in Colorado Springs.

"We appreciate the confidence that the State of Colorado has shown in our company and are enthusiastic about the opportunity to partner with the Department of Corrections to provide secure correctional treatment services in a manner that supports the mission of the Department," said **John J. Clancy**, President and CEO of Community Education Centers.

The proposed Pre-Parole and Parole Revocation Center will provide quality assessment, treatment and corrections services to DOC offenders who are either near parole eligibility or whose parole has been revoked. The program will provide optimum opportunity

for community reintegration. These services shall be provided in a treatment milieu that motivates and assists each offender in achieving meaningful goals in a safe and secure environment. The program structure will be designed to address issues unique to pre-release offenders with an emphasis on community stabilization, employment, relapse prevention and preparation for supervised community living. As part of the rehabilitation process, each offender shall be encouraged to develop a plan of interaction with positive support influences such as family, significant others, church and community support and treatment programs.

"CEC is uniquely qualified to provide the services requested by the Colorado DOC and we are enthusiastic about moving forward with the proposed program," said Mr. Clancy.

*(Continued on Page 8)*

## Corporate Corner

CEC would like to welcome two new staff members to its corporate office in Roseland, NJ. In February, **Anthony VenGraitis** joined our staff as Safety/Risk Manager. Anthony is responsible for ensuring that each CEC facility meets with the highest standards of safety. **Vinod Sharma** joined the CEC Corporate management team in January as Manager of Food Services. Vinod is responsible for food services at all CEC facilities to ensure compliance with all appropriate standards. ■



**HR** From left to right: Vinod Sharma and Anthony VenGraitis.

### Announcements

#### **Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998**

In 1998, the federal government enacted a law that mandates certain health coverage for breast reconstructive surgery in any health program that provides medical and surgical benefits for mastectomies. This law is known as the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act .

If a covered person is receiving benefits in connection with a

mastectomy and elects to have breast reconstruction along with that mastectomy, the policy must provide in a manner determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient, coverage for the following:

- Reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy was performed,
- Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance, and
- Prostheses and physical complications at all stages of the mastectomy, including lymphedemas.

These benefits will be provided subject to deductibles and coinsurance to the same extent as for any other illness under your coverage. All other features and benefits of your program remain the same, and are not affected by this annual notification.

#### **401(k) Retirement Plan Interest Rate Change**

MetLife has announced that the new rate of interest for the Guaranteed Interest Investment option will be 4.5%. This rate will be credited to all money coming forward as of January 1, 2003, and on all new deposits in 2003.

This means that any "old" money you elected to invest in the Guaranteed Fixed Income Account (also called the Guaranteed Interest Contract) will begin to receive interest of 4.5% as of January 1, 2003. Further, any new money being deposited on an ongoing basis from each of your paychecks directly into the Guaranteed Fixed Income Account will also be credited with 4.5% interest.

There are nine investment options available under the 401(k) Retirement Plan. The Guaranteed Fixed Income Account is only one option. If you have any questions about the available options, please call the Human Resources Department in Roseland, NJ at (973) 226-2900. ■

## Recidivism Study Shows CEC Programs Work

**R**esearch from a recent study attests to the success of CEC's programs. A study conducted by the New Jersey Department of Corrections (DOC) revealed that treatment in CEC's programs is effective in lowering recidivism rates.

"The final results of the study have not been fully analyzed, but the preliminary findings are very encouraging," said **Dr. Robert Mackey**, Chief Operating Officer of CEC.

The New Jersey DOC conducted outcomes research by following 177 residents who had completed treatment in a CEC Assessment Center (Talbot Hall or Bo Robinson) and had then graduated to a work release program at either Tully House or The Harbor. All participants had been evaluated as having serious substance abuse problems and extensive criminal histories and were therefore considered to be the highest risk population. The New Jersey DOC collected outcomes data to determine whether a subject had been rearrested or committed a violation while on parole.

#### **PROGRAMS LOWERED RECIDIVISM RATE**

The data results were analyzed by professors from Penn State and Drexel University. Recidivism rates for this CEC sample were compared with those from a Bureau of Justice national sample, which included prisoners released from 15 states in 1994, including New Jersey.

Prisoners in the national sample were not screened for substance abuse, a factor that increases the risk of recidivism. Analysis of the data revealed a statistically significant difference between the CEC group and the Bureau of Justice Statistics sample. CEC residents recidivated at a rate one-third lower than the national average.

The study results are from offenders who resided in CEC facilities in 1999 and 2000, soon after the start of our New Jersey programs. "We are pleased with the preliminary findings and are confident that more recent studies will show an even more dramatic improvement," said John Clancy, CEO and President of CEC. ■

## Delaney Hall's Family Night Program Helps Reunite Families

### Part 2 of a series on CEC's family programs

Family service is a key component of CEC programs. "Criminality and addiction are family problems as well as individual issues. Our efforts to reach the family through the Family Services Program, not only enhance the long-term recovery of our residents but will hopefully reduce the inter-generational nature of the social problems addressed by CEC's programs, said **Dr. Robert Mackey**, Chief Operating Officer of CEC. "The research speaks clearly to the need for recovering people to be involved in family and community support networks," added Dr. Mackey.

Delaney Hall's Family Night program meets every Wednesday from 7:00 - 8:00 PM and is conducted as a support group for residents and their family members. About 75 to 95 participants attend. Each week focuses on a different topic. Issues discussed include: drugs, alcohol, family communication, rebuilding relationships, breaking the cycle of criminal behavior, grief and loss, family denial, anger management and parenting skills.

"We try to make the groups personable and treat families with respect," said **Megan Duffy**, Family Services Coordinator, who supervises the group. She begins each group by welcoming participants and giving new families the opportunity to introduce themselves. She also announces the topic to be discussed and hands out literature. "We have good participation in our program. Families attend the meetings come rain, snow or sunshine," she said.

*"Coming to family counseling has removed a lot of anger and frustration in my life, and has opened up my mind and heart to helping my significant other with his recovery."*

—**Beverly H.**

The group is led by an experienced and knowledgeable senior counselor. **Hector Smith**, a Pastor who is pursuing a Master's degree in counseling, and **Howard Hill**, who is working towards a doctoral degree in education, take turns leading the groups. "Both speakers are excellent and the families really love them," said Ms. Duffy. "The group meetings stir up a lot of emotions and we provide residents and their family members personal time after the meetings to share with each other," she added.

"Coming to family counseling has removed a lot of anger and frustration in my life, and has opened up my mind and heart to helping my significant other with his recovery," said Beverly H., a Family Night participant.

A children's therapy group is held while residents participate in the family meeting. The group is designed to be educational and uses play therapy to help children identify and express feelings such as anger they may have towards a parent. Activities may include coloring or drawing pictures that express the child's feelings. The group leader also talks to children about the danger of drugs. The group is open to children ages 4 to 12. Children over 12 years can participate in the adult group.

Following both groups, families are invited to spend time together and have the opportunity to speak with counselors and make arrangements for additional family counseling. ■

## Coleman Hall: Providing Treatment and Work Release

Coleman Hall is a 300-bed residential treatment facility for male offenders referred by the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections and the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole. The program focuses on substance abuse treatment, education, life skills, employment and community reintegration.

Coleman Hall residents receive counseling in the form of individual and group therapy, didactic lectures and workshops, community meetings, morning reflections and Alcoholics and Narcotics Anonymous meetings. Throughout treatment, residents are monitored for behavioral or other issues, as well as for drug or alcohol use. The theoretical basis for the curriculum at Coleman Hall is cognitive behavioral therapy, which states, "Changing the way an individual thinks will ultimately change behavior."

Coleman Hall has a Mental Health Program that provides community corrections services to severely mentally ill residents. The Mental Health Program is administered by a diverse group of service professionals who establish linkages to aftercare in the community.

A community advisory board has been established at Coleman Hall. The Board serves as a link between the facility and the Philadelphia community in which it is located.

Coleman Hall operates according to standards established by the Pennsylvania DOC and the American Correctional Association. ■

### Who Was Mr. Coleman?

Coleman Hall was named in honor of Joseph E. Coleman, who is remembered as a "Public Servant Extraordinaire". Born in 1922 in West Point, Mississippi, as the tenth child of Reverend and Mrs. Coleman, Joe experienced firsthand the brutality and hatred of racial prejudice and injustice. It was in these early years that Joe committed himself to working towards the betterment of mankind.

After graduating from high school in 1941, Mr. Coleman served the U.S. Army from 1943-1946. He went on to receive a Bachelor's of Science degree from Albright College and his LL.B. degree from Temple University School of Law in 1963. Mr. Coleman was a member of the Philadelphia and Pennsylvania Bar Association and admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court. He was also conferred honorary doctorate degrees from several national colleges and universities.

Mr. Coleman loved Philadelphia and spent his life serving those most in need. He was also a member of the City Planning Commission, Trustee of the Philadelphia Housing Development Corporation and creator and first Chairman of the Urban Homesteading Program. As the President of City Council, he ushered in the most socially progressive legislation in the history of Philadelphia. ■

## Northeast Site News



### BO ROBINSON

**Trenton, NJ**—Bo Robinson recently welcomed three new assessment counselors to the Assessment Department, including **Marvin Trotman, Evelyn Wallace-Byrd**

and **Eric Gross**. During February, Bo Robinson celebrated Black History month by inviting speakers who addressed both the resident population and staff. Mr. Joseph Lee, a Tuskegee Airman, spoke about his experiences as an Airman. Dr. Szabe Ishtai Zee, PhD, Director/Administrator of the Masters of Human Services program at Lincoln University and Adjunct Faculty at Fielding Graduate Institute's Educational Leadership and Changes Doctoral Program, delivered a motivational speech to the residents. Former Intern, Elaina Snell returned to read her poetry and perform a modern dance.

This May the following staff members will graduate from various Master's Programs: **Deborah Rhodes**, Unit Manager, **Nefertiti Towns**, Senior Counselor and **Julie DeLuccey**, Unit Supervisor.

### COLEMAN HALL

**Philadelphia, PA**—Coleman Hall recently hosted two seminars given by the Mayor's Community Service Committee. The Mayor spoke to residents about an entrepreneurship program that provides knowledge, skills and funding to help participants start their own small businesses.

In other news, Coleman Hall is excited to announce that it now has an Alumni Association. Alumni meetings are held once a month on the first Monday of the month. The Alumni Association has approximately 80 participants and 15 speakers. Coleman Hall's Family Services Program continues to be well attended and meets weekly on Thursdays. Coleman Hall is also very pleased with its progress in helping residents obtain employment and in increasing residents' enrollment into schools and vocational training programs following their release from the program. Many residents have participated in a variety of community service projects, including clean-up of schools and the local community and snow removal projects. Residents have also visited schools in Philadelphia and given inspirational speeches to students.

Several staff members received promotions during the past few months. **Francis Smith** was promoted to Operations Supervisor, **John Hale** was promoted to Director of Program Activities, **Lisa Desamour** was promoted to Director of Classification and **Juliet Bradley** was promoted to Director of the Business Office. Congratulations to all!

### DELANEY HALL

**Newark, NJ**—Delaney Hall has begun using Passpoint, a sophisticated new system that can screen residents for drug use in less time than traditional urine screens. The Passpoint technology works by measuring the eye's reaction to light. This measurement is compared to a baseline measurement taken of the resident and a urine screen,

which is used to ensure the resident was clean when the initial measurement was taken. The Passpoint software then analyzes the information, compares it to the baseline and determines which drugs, if any, the subject has used. The new system will help decrease the cost and time associated with traditional urine screens. At any time, a resident can be asked to submit to the test, which takes only 30 seconds to perform.

In other news, **Joseph Trabucco**, Director of Delaney Hall, was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation by the Union County Drug Court Program and Judge Katherine Dupuis. The award recognized the work that Delaney Hall has accomplished in helping the Union County Drug Court program address legal matters involving narcotics.

"Delaney Hall has been very beneficial in helping participants in the Drug Court Programs and in reducing the overall drop-out rate among participants in the Drug Court Programs. Delaney Hall has been a blessing and has helped the Drug Court Programs to be successful," said Colin Lochner, Coordinator of the Union County Drug Court Program.

### LIPMAN HALL

**Newark, NJ**—Lipman Hall's resident basketball team is off to an impressive start. The team, known as the Lipman Hall Lions, is currently undefeated in the New Jersey Residential Recreation League, which consists of public and private children's residential treatment facilities throughout the State. The team is coached by two of Lipman Hall's Recreation Specialists: **Duane Jordan**, a former captain of the Seton Hall University Pirates men's basketball team who played professional basketball in Australia and South America, and **Lance Jackson**, a New Mexico State graduate who played with the Charlotte Hornets of the National Basketball Association (NBA) from 1995 to 1997.

In other news, **Kellie Warren, PsyD**, was appointed the Lipman Hall Director of Treatment. Dr. Warren began her career at Lipman Hall as the Clinical Supervisor and was subsequently promoted to Treatment Administrator. **Dr. Lee Underwood, PsyD**, who was serving temporarily as the Director of Treatment, will resume his responsibilities as the Corporate Clinical Director of Treatment but will continue to provide technical assistance, consultation and support to Lipman Hall as needed.

The Board of Adjustment of the City of Newark recently approved CEC's proposal to convert existing warehouse space for use as a community-based residential facility. CEC plans to open a girl's treatment and education facility at the approved site, which will be similar to its Lipman Hall facility for boys.

The proposed 52,276 square foot facility, located on Frelinghuysen Avenue in Newark, will provide 106 beds as an alternative to incarceration. According to the Board of Adjustment, the unanimous decision was based on the belief that "the granting of a variance for this beneficial use will benefit the City, the County and its residents."

*(Continued on Page 7)*

## CEC Launches New Satellite Monitoring Program

A new Satellite Monitoring Program (SMP) has been instituted for Union County inmates. “The Union County Satellite Monitoring Program is an extension of Delaney Hall in Newark and provides qualifying inmates the opportunity to return home and continue their treatment while being electronically supervised at all times,” said **Steve Zeldin**, Program Director of the SMP.

Located in Elizabeth, the outpatient SMP consists of 24-hour a day, seven days a week monitoring via an electronic bracelet, or Portable Tracking Device, which is worn on the ankle and once affixed, cannot be removed by the inmate. SMP participants must meet stringent admission criteria, which includes a full clinical assessment. They must also receive a positive behavior evaluation, have been a resident of Delaney Hall for at least two weeks, reside in either Union, Essex, Morris, or Middlesex County and have been approved by Union County in advance of their release.

Once accepted into the SMP, inmates must report to the facility Monday through Friday from 9 AM- 2 PM. Inmates participate in

individual and group counseling as well as several other structured activities, including job searches. Inmates are required to attend four NA or AA meetings per week and are subjected to random and regular drug screens. Ancillary services are provided via links or referrals. All Delaney resources are available to SMP participants.

When residents are not at the SMP office, a 12-step meeting or work, they must be at home. Any deviation from the above must be approved in advance by an SMP staff member. Inmates who violate program rules and policies are subject to an immediate return to custody. Violations include entry into a prohibited geographic area, failure to maintain a pre-determined schedule, tampering with the Portable Tracking Device and other program violations, including exhibiting any type of disruptive behavior.

“Residents are able to reach the monitoring staff by phone or toll-free pager at any time. We encourage residents to reach out prior to any situation escalating into a crisis that could result in a program violation and return to custody,” said Mr. Zeldin. ■

## Alumni Spotlight: Shelley Perry Reaches Out to Help Other Alumni

Shelley was just trying to “fit in with the crowd” when she started doing drugs in her early 20’s. But what initially started as recreational drug use turned into a 10-year addiction. To support her drug habit, Shelley turned to shoplifting. About a year ago, Shelley realized she needed help. “I was so tired of everything. Tired of getting in trouble. Tired of letting my family down and tired of what my life had become. I knew there had to be a better way,” she said. Shelley looked for a drug program to enroll in, but lacking health insurance and money, she became discouraged.

Then she was arrested for shoplifting. While in prison, Shelley heard about treatment programs like Delaney Hall in Newark. At her court appearance, she pleaded with the judge to allow her to attend the program. On April 8th 2002, Shelley was sent to Delaney Hall and spent about three months in the program. Looking back, she says she feels getting caught shoplifting and having the opportunity to go to Delaney Hall was “an answer to my prayers.” At Delaney, “I learned that addiction is a disease that I could overcome,” Shelley said. “It’s a really good program but you need to want to change. You need to put the same energy you put into getting drugs into staying clean.”

While at Delaney, Shelley helped tutor other residents. She also worked as a hairdresser and office assistant. “I’m grateful for Delaney Hall. There should be more facilities like it for women,” she said.

One of the classes that Shelley found most valuable at Delaney Hall was Women in Transition. “This class really helped me understand my disease, its affect on me and what I needed to do to control it. The parenting class also had an impact on Shelley. “This class taught me what I was putting my family through and what my daughter must be feeling. There are lots of times now that I look

back on this class and it helps me with my daughter,” said Shelley. “The Relapse Prevention class helped prepare me to deal with my disease. It gave me the tools and taught me how to use them in this fight for my life,” she added.

Since being released from Delaney Hall, Shelley has become very involved in the Alumni Program. She volunteers her time by attending weekly alumni meetings and by providing assistance with housing, education and job searches to CEC program graduates. “People need a safe environment to go to when they leave the program. It’s a struggle to go back to the same environment and not go back to the drug habit,” she said. Shelley uses her computer at home to locate shelters, halfway houses and extended care programs for alumni. She also helps alumni with their resumes and contacts businesses in an effort to get them to hire people who complete the program at Delaney Hall. Shelley calls Delaney alumni twice a month to check on them. She also speaks about her experiences to counselors-in-training at Tully House.

On weekends, Shelley works as a hairdresser at a salon in North Plainfield, NJ. She also takes care of her 82-year old grandfather who is recovering from chemotherapy and with whom she lives. Shelley hopes to find a full-time job that would allow her to spend more time on the weekends with her 11-year-old daughter. Her ideal job would be to work as a counselor and continue to assist with the Alumni Program at Delaney Hall. Her long-term goals are to become a certified drug and alcohol counselor and eventually open up a half-way house/resource center in Union County for women.

Shelley’s message to others with drug addictions is: “There is hope. If you want help, you can get it. You just have to open your mind and your heart.” ■

*“It’s a really good program but you need to want to change. There is hope. If you want help, you can get it. You just have to open your mind and your heart.”*

–Shelley Perry

## Mid-West Site News



### COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVES OF EL PASO (CAE)

**Colorado Springs, CO**—Two dedicated volunteers came to CAE every Sunday in November, December and February to

assist the women in quilting and fabric art projects. Women made dolls, a patchwork quilt, wall hangings and pillow shams. The women were quite pleased and proud of their accomplishments.

The sewing projects offered the opportunity to learn and to practice patience, perseverance, planning, creativity, delay of gratification, focus, negotiating and sharing. During the second phase of the program, each woman made a fabric art square that depicted a happy time in their lives. After this square was completed, the women picked another topic to depict with another square. The process reinforced the meditation that **Karen Dannewitz, MS, RN, CNS**, Women's Program Coordinator at CAE, has been teaching the women. "It is a walking meditation in which a mantra is used. With every step the mantra is "one foot in front of the other....one foot in front of the other. One square at a time and one foot in front of the other, the women are learning new skills," said Ms. Dannewitz.

### COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVES OF CASPER (CAC)

**Casper, WY**—**Mr. John Ordiway**, Substance Abuse Counselor, successfully passed the National Associate of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors (NAADAC) Level 2 exam in January. Also in January, **Dr. Karen Jones**, Assessment Director, provided statistical consultation services for a Casper College BOCES research project. In other news, the Food Service Department has completed the final inspections with the County Building Inspector, County Fire Marshal and the County Health Department.

### CORRECTIONAL ALTERNATIVE PLACEMENT SERVICES (CAPS)

**Craig, CO**—In recent months **Cynthia Reynolds**, Case Manager, and other volunteer residents have attended speaking engagements with local community agencies that monitor at-risk juveniles. CAPS has received positive feedback from individuals and other community agencies that attended these programs. In other news, **Dianna Guthrie** celebrated her twelfth year anniversary with the company.

### WILLIAMS STREET CENTER

**Denver, CO**—In November, **Don McClendon** was promoted to the position of Director of Williams Street Center. Mr. McClendon began working in community corrections in 1989 with Community Alternatives of Casper. He then started the Community Alternatives of the Black Hills program in Rapid City, SD. Before relocating to Denver, Mr. McClendon opened the Community Alternatives of El Paso County program in Colorado Springs, CO.

In other news, the Denver Community Corrections Board

approved a new pilot program with Williams Street Center to serve homeless and indigent parolees in Denver County. The purpose of the pilot is to provide increased risk management to this population by placing them in a more structured setting in the community.

### TOOLEY HALL

**Denver, CO**—Tooley Hall sponsored several special events for residents and their families over the holidays. They hosted a holiday dinner party for resident's families and loved ones. During the party, children of residents received a gift and all residents received a journal and a pen. Many staff members attended the party and helped prepare and organize the event.

In other news, Tooley Hall recently implemented a community service component to its program. Under the program, residents are required to complete community service projects prior to their discharge. This gives residents an opportunity to give back to their community. Among the new support groups that have been added to the treatment schedule are Crystal Meth (CMA), Co-Dependents Anonymous (CODA) and a three-part series on domestic violence and sexual trauma. Tooley Hall has also implemented a new core class that provides an introduction to 12-steps, REBT and Emotional Management. Residents have also benefited from a host of new guest speakers and volunteers who have come to Tooley Hall to speak on various topics, including Hepatitis C, HIV, domestic violence, sexual abuse, employment opportunities, drug and alcohol abuse and arts and crafts.

### LIBERTY HALL

**Indianapolis, IN**—The Indianapolis Metropolitan Board of Zoning Appeals recently granted zoning approval to Community Education Centers (CEC) to increase the number of residents at its Liberty Hall facility from 250 to 500. The variance also allows for the expansion of the parking area located west of the building and for the provision of a work release program for up to 100 residents.

Liberty Hall has introduced a 22-bed work release program through Marion County Community Corrections. In addition, Liberty Hall is collaborating with Monroe County to develop a Community Transition Program that will allow for up to six offenders to be housed in the facility.

Liberty Hall has added two new Residential Counselors to its team, including **Richard Shumar** and **George Darden**, and a new Business Office Manager, **Tom Dyer**. Thanks to the hard work of **Kirby Cochran**, Operations Manager, for helping to launch Liberty Hall's new Internship Program. Liberty Hall currently has one intern from Indiana University but expects to take another 4 or 5 interns during the summer. "We have been working to establish a relationship with Indiana University and are very excited about this program," said Mr. Cochran. Students, including psychology majors and law enforcement/correctional majors, will receive credits through the University by contributing work hours at Liberty Hall.

*(Continued on Page 7)*

## AYA Site News

### AYA-MONTROSE

**Montrose, CO**—In an effort to expand their services, AYA-Colorado has obtained Residential Treatment Center (RTC) licensure, and can now bill Medicaid for treatment services. This has allowed the program to work with referrals from the Department of Social Services and individual counties more readily.

AYA staff and students received national recognition from the Nature Conservancy for their work towards a service project they completed in collaboration the Bureau of Land Management. **Dr. Edith Johnston**, Clinical Director, representing AYA, established a certification program for Mental Health Youth Care Workers in Western Colorado. **Jim Omer**, Operations Director, was placed on the board of the Outdoor Behavioral Health Industry Council.

The heavier snowpack this year will hopefully help reduce the drought and the high number of forest fires, both of which greatly affected the program last summer. AYA-Colorado is looking forward to further growth and expansion of their services as they enter their third year of operation in Montrose, Colorado.

### AYA-SOUTH CAROLINA

**Columbia, SC**—AYA residents continue to participate in community service projects, including maintaining the trails in Lynches Woods and restoring the Congress Swamp campsite. Several employees recently celebrated their fourth year with AYA, including: **Erin Moffitt**, Education Director, **Marcus Terry Sr.**, Instructor, **Curtis Johnson**, Kitchen Manager and **Michael Mayfield**, Teacher. **Greg Linke**, Program Administrator, has been with AYA for 6 years. ■

## Mid-West News

*(Continued from Page 6)*

### Community Alternatives of the Black Hills (CABH) Rapid City, SD

For two the past two years, CABH has been a 69-bed facility because of federal space requirements that limit what would otherwise be a four-person room to three residents. However; since November 2002, the Rapid City area has experienced an increased need for community corrections beds, and due to the space requirements, many potential residents have been turned away. In a move that should lead to an increase in census, the Federal Bureau of Prisons recently gave temporary approval to place a fourth resident in its three-man rooms. CABH had a resident count of 73 in December.

January was a big month for anniversaries. **Donna Anderson**, **Cindy Blasy**, **Gary Cole**, **Cathy Leathers**, and **Cathy Svarstad** celebrated one-year anniversaries with CEC. **Steve Evans** reached two years, and **Mike Cavenah** completed his 11th year with CEC. ■

## Northeast Site News

*(Continued from Page 4)*

### THE HARBOR

**Hoboken, NJ**—The Harbor was featured in Hoboken's *Jersey Journal* for the work the residents are doing at the local catholic church. Residents at The Harbor have been participating in community service projects, including cleaning and polishing the floors, washing and painting classroom walls at Our Lady of Czestochowas Church and building stands and displays for the annual "Spring on Sussex Street" Fair, which will be held in June. Many residents also participated in holiday events, including decorating the church and singing Christmas carols.

An Alternative to Violence program is slated to begin at The Harbor in the next few months. Several renovations were recently completed at the facility, including updating the bathrooms and showers.

### TALBOT HALL

**Kearny, NJ**—The Family Program at Talbot Hall, which meets on Tuesdays from 7 PM to 9 PM, continues to flourish under the direction of **Kurt Hesse** and **Robinette Arthur**. This program offers residents an opportunity to spend time with their families. Activities include playing games, eating dinner and special activities such as holiday parties.

The following staff members received promotions over the past few months: **Tanya Cabrera** was promoted to Assistant to the Director, **Savitré Bettencourt** was promoted to Regional Accreditation Manager, **Danny Constantino** was promoted to HR Coordinator and **Felix Perez** was promoted to Director of Program Activities. Congratulations to **Jennifer Henry**, Assessment Counselor, who recently earned her Master's degree in Forensic Psychology from John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Thanks to the following Talbot Hall staff members, **James Piro**, **Marlene Dolan**, **Leopold Diaw**, **Abdussalaam Logan**, **Bob Connors**, **Keith Hooper**, **Roibnette Arthur** and **Angela Boyette**, for providing training classes to CEC employees throughout the year. Their knowledge and expertise is greatly appreciated.

Congratulations also go out to the following staff members who earned their Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor (CADC) certificate in March, including **Jose Raoso** and **Amin Ali**.

### TULLY HOUSE

**Newark, NJ**—An American Correctional Association (ACA) mock audit was recently conducted at Tully House. The facility scored 100 on mandatory and 94.5 on non-mandatory standards. In other news, the alumni meetings at Tully House, held on the second Wednesday of each month, continue to offer valuable experiences and assist residents with reintegration to their communities. The meetings are well attended with an average of 15 to 20 residents participating in each meeting. ■

## Colorado Beds

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Community Education Centers has extensive experience treating offender populations through its 29 contracts at nine locations in the State. "CEC presently provides community corrections services to the Colorado Department of Corrections and to Community Corrections Boards within the State. This experience demonstrates our ability to respond to the local concerns and needs of offender reintegration within the State," added Mr. Clancy. ■

## JCAHO Accreditation

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and CEO of CEC. "Achieving accreditation demonstrates CEC's commitment to quality and safety. Our goal is to continually strive to improve the care and services we provide to the individuals who participate in our programs," added Mr. Clancy.

Founded in 1951, the Joint Commission is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to continuously improving the safety and quality of the nation's health care through voluntary accreditation. The Joint Commission stimulates health care organizations to meet these rigorous standards through accreditation and the teaching of quality improvement concepts. ■

### Community Education Centers

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## Letters From CEC Program Participants

To Mr. Stone and Doc. Johnson:

I can't put into words how much I think of Liberty Hall, how you two affect my life along with the classes and the structure of the program. My way of life is changing. It feels good to know I'm a functional person in this world we live in.

Thank you for sharing and for the expression of wisdom that you have and for understanding people like me and reaching out to an alcohol addict like me.

**-James M.  
Liberty Hall Resident**

My Caring Staff,

I'd like to take this time to say thank you for allowing me to come here and rebuild myself. I thought I could come clean on my own. But by being here at Delaney Hall, I've learned many things about myself, my habits, reasons to be grateful and my awareness of how strongly my spiritual being can influence positive changes for a lifetime. It has also reiterated strongly the things I've already known but was too irresponsible to do.

I've been enlightened by some programs. I plan to use what I've learned to ensure a bright, positive future for myself and my children. So thank you again from the bottom of my heart. I don't consider this a rehab, but truly a rescue.

**-Frank W.  
Delaney Hall Resident**