



INSIDE CEC

Wyoming Governor Dedicates New Facility

Community Education Centers (CEC), held a site dedication ceremony for the Casper Re-Entry Center in Casper, Wyoming on May 19.

WYOMING'S FIRST TC OPENS

Wyoming Governor Dave Freudenthal and Bob Lampert, Director of the Wyoming Department of Corrections (DOC) led a gathering of local, county, state, and federal officials attending the dedication ceremony.

"This is a great facility...my real purpose is to thank you, to thank Mr. Clancy and CEC for their work and patience with getting this done... I look forward to great things from this facility and to a future when Wyoming has fewer and fewer recidivists," said Gov. Freudenthal.

The Casper Re-Entry Center is a 400-bed state-of-the-art residential facility that opened in February 2005 to provide substance abuse treatment services to offenders referred by the Wyoming DOC. The building houses two separate programs under one roof, including a work-



CEC President John Clancy and Gov. Dave Freudenthal unveil the dedication plaque for the Casper Re-Entry Center.

release program and a therapeutic community (TC). The 200-bed community corrections and work-release program has been providing services to adult male and female state and federal offenders since 1985 at a site adjacent to the new Casper Re-Entry Center building.

The 100-bed secure TC program provides
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To submit story ideas and comments for **INSIDE CEC**, please e-mail Editor at doconnor@cecintl.com.

Grand Opening Ceremony Held in Colorado

On June 23, Colorado officials gathered for an unveiling and dedication ceremony of Community Education Centers' (CEC) newest facility—The Cheyenne Mountain Re-Entry Center (CMRC). Located in Colorado Springs, The CMRC is a 750-bed state-of-the-art medium security facility that will provide quality assessment, treatment, and correctional services to pre-release male offenders and parole violators.

"Our expectation is that the CMRC will be an important new component of Colorado's comprehensive effort to reduce recidivism among pre-release offenders and parole violators," said Joe Ortiz, Director of the Colorado Department of Corrections.

According to Robert Hood, Director of the CMRC, "The facility will provide a climate that permits, encourages, and facilitates

self-evaluation, personal growth, awareness, and change, all of which will contribute to a resident's successful return to the community." He added, "A well-trained, loyal, and highly disciplined staff will be our most important asset. Staff praise, encouragement, and constructive criticism, in the right proportions, will make champions out of our residents. CEC is a caring company. We care about our mission and the individuals that are placed in our custody." Further, "Public, staff, and inmate safety and compliance with professional standards of security, control, and rehabilitation will be a priority."

Mr. Hood recently retired as the former Warden for America's highest security prison, Florence's Administrative Maximum United States Penitentiary. He has 31 years of experience working with the federal government. ■

Corporate Corner

CEC Welcomes New Staff

During the past few months, several new staff members have joined CEC's corporate office in Roseland, New Jersey. **William (Bill) Palatucci** joined CEC in May as the company's new Senior Vice President and will be spearheading CEC's business development efforts into new markets. Bill was a partner of the law firm Dughi, Hewit & Palatucci, where he founded and headed the firm's government affairs department. He has worked as an advisor and lobbyist for CEC for the last 15 years.

Also joining CEC in May was Attorney **Debra Shannon**. Debra comes from a local law firm where she specialized in employment law.

In March, **Erin Turtle** joined CEC as a Recruitment Manager and will assist us in identifying qualified senior managers for our company.

Allison Montick, a former member of the assessment team at Talbot Hall, recently joined the corporate office as a Proposal Writer.

Stan Stec has joined the company as Purchasing Manager and will assist us in our effort to centralize the company's purchasing efforts.

Other additions to CEC's Roseland office include **Chris Greeder**, Business Research Specialist, and **Darlene Bell**, Accounts Payable Coordinator.

CEC Publishes Reentry Article

An article entitled "Step Down Programs: The Missing Link in Successful Reentry," was published in the April edition of *Corrections Today*. Written by **Ralph Fretz, PhD**, Assessment Director, the article describes CEC's reentry continuum of care model, which incorporates a step-down or transitional approach to preparing offenders to successfully reenter their communities.

"As part of that continuum, a step-down phase plays an important role in terms of assessing the offender's current risk/need level, orienting him or her to treatment and community standards, and developing a master treatment plan," according to Dr. Fretz.

To maximize the program's effectiveness, treatment must be tailored to individual needs, Dr. Fretz asserts. For example, "Parole violators need special programming tailored to their unique situation," states Dr. Fretz. Since the most frequent violation of parole is correlated with a substance abuse relapse, treatment is focused on relapse triggers and learning more productive ways of coping with the outside community.

The article also describes outcome research published by Fretz et al. in *Corrections Compendium* last year that supports the effectiveness of CEC's continuum of care model. The research, which was coordinated through Drexel University and the New Jersey Department of Corrections (DOC), found that offenders who completed a CEC program experienced a 30 percent reduced rate of rearrests, reconvictions, and reincarcerations compared with DOC offenders who did not participate in a CEC program. ■

Casper Re-Entry Center Opens in Wyoming

Continued from page 1

intensive substance abuse treatment, education, and support services to help residents achieve meaningful goals. Peer influence is an important component of the program. Residents interact with peers through a variety of group processes used to help individuals learn and assimilate social norms and develop more effective social skills.

"The majority of people in prison engage in risky behaviors including substance abuse. Those with the highest risk for future substance abuse can most effectively be treated in a residential program like the Casper Re-Entry Center," said Wyoming DOC's Director Lampert. "This particular facility will provide immediate treatment for inmates who would otherwise not receive this service and would continue to engage in risky behavior upon release."

"This facility is the first of its kind in Wyoming and will be serving a much needed purpose in the State," said Gary Starbuck, Director of the Casper Re-entry Center.

The Casper Re-Entry Center consists of counseling rooms, two dining rooms, day rooms, an indoor gym, and outdoor recreation areas for both populations.

Mr. Starbuck joined CEC in September 2004 after a 22-year career with the Wyoming DOC. "His strong leadership background and expertise in corrections has been instrumental in preparing for



The Casper Re-Entry Center, Casper, Wyoming

the opening of the Casper Re-entry Center," said John Clancy, President of CEC.

Mr. Starbuck served as the President of the Wyoming Corrections Association and is a decorated Vietnam veteran who served in the U.S. Army. ■

Alumni Program Inspires Hope, Helps Maintain Recovery

Abdussalaam Logan's cell phone won't stop ringing. One day he might field fifty phone calls from CEC program graduates looking to join the Alumni Association. The next day local officials may call looking to partner with the Association, according to Mr. Logan, the Director of Aftercare for CEC's Alumni Association. Created in the late nineties at The Harbor, the Alumni Association represents the after-care component to CEC'S continuum of care model.

"The Alumni Association provides a resource for all the residents who leave our facilities, helping them find jobs, housing, education, and self help groups like NA, AA, and GA. The Alumni Association also helps get participants reintegrated in the community," said Keith Hooper, Chairman of the Alumni Committee. "Anyone who has been incarcerated wants to change. CEC and the Alumni Association provide a window of opportunity to help them through the process," added Mr. Hooper, who is also Supervisor of Operations at Talbot Hall in Kearny, New Jersey.

Residents interested in joining the Alumni Association meet with Mr. Logan prior to their release to determine their long-term career aspirations. The Alumni Association helps place individuals in the Essex and Hudson County College Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) programs, which help ex-offenders. Those interested in vocational training can connect with DeVry, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, auto-mechanic schools, and culinary arts classes. Providing alumni with linkages to these programs redirects individuals away from a life of criminality by providing the security of a job or an education.

PARTNERING WITH THE COMMUNITY

The Alumni Association partners with Pathmark, local construction companies, and the City of Newark to help alumni find jobs. Last year during the holiday season, the Alumni Association partnered with the Newark City Council and Don King to distribute over 3,000 turkeys to needy people in Newark.

"We are trying to show that we (the alumni) are different people than we were the last time we were out in the community. The alumni want an opportunity to work," said Mr. Logan.

Last year, the Alumni Association held a job fair for ex-offenders—the first of its kind in New Jersey—which drew over 300 CEC Alumni. Among the sixteen vendors in attendance were the City of Newark, Dunkin Donuts, and the Newark Mayor's Office of Employment and Training.

ALUMNI PROVIDE HOPE AND UNDERSTANDING

Ex-offenders face many situations upon returning home that challenge their continued recovery. Some return to situations where enablers increase the likelihood of a relapse. Others feel isolated after their incarceration, finding it difficult to share their feelings with family and friends who may not understand the emotions involved during a period of incarceration.

"The Alumni Association provides a foundation of support and helps residents get through the process of change. It also helps residents to know that there are other people who can relate to their experiences," said Mr. Hooper.

The Alumni Association also holds monthly meetings at CEC's New Jersey facilities, including Tully House, Delaney Hall, Talbot

Hall, and Bo Robinson, as well as at the Coleman Hall facility located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

"When residents hear alumni talk about how they've changed their lives, it helps them buy into the process," said Mr. Hooper. Alumni meetings have been instrumental in the continued recovery of many program gradu-

ates, including Jenette Thomas, a former Delaney Hall resident who attends the majority of the alumni meetings.

"Somebody told me that if I chased my recovery like I chased drugs, I would survive, so that's what I do," said Ms. Thomas, who has been drug-free for two years, is a Certified Public Accountant, and operates her own business. "It's important that people know that I'm clean and sober and I'm showing up because that consistency might help somebody."

While the Alumni Association is a crucial aftercare component for the residents, the meetings are also beneficial for CEC staff, according to Mr. Hooper.

"I think it's very important that the staff comes to these Alumni meetings and picnics so they can see how they have helped in the residents' recovery," said Mr. Hooper. "Seeing a resident reconnect with their family or just doing the right thing is an amazing experience," said Mr. Hooper. "It is rejuvenating to witness a resident's success. Their success is our success." ■

"The Alumni Association provides a foundation of support and helps residents get through the process of change. It also helps residents to know that there are other people who can relate to their experiences,"

—Keith Hooper,
Chairman of the Alumni Committee.

Treatment Programs Curtail Prison Growth in New Jersey

In sharp contrast to national trends, the New Jersey state prison population has declined by 12% since 1999 when it reached an all-time high of 31,962, according to data from the Bureau of Justice Statistics. The decline has been attributed to a large drop in parole violators sent back to prison and a substantial increase in parolees. The increase in the number of parolees is primarily the result of an increase in treatment programs, like those operated by CEC, that help treat underlying causes of criminal behavior and better prepare offenders for successful reentry into the community. ■

Northeast Site News



BO ROBINSON

Trenton, NJ—Bo Robinson recently started an Extended Treatment Program for women. The program is designed to provide an alternative to reincarceration for women with substance abuse histories that have relapsed in the halfway house setting. Participants in this six-month program are referred by the Department of Corrections (DOC). Throughout their stay at Bo Robinson, Extended Treatment Program residents participate in a structured and in-depth relapse prevention curriculum. Each participant is assigned a Senior Counselor and Assessment Counselor to identify areas of need and monitor progress throughout treatment. Upon completion of the program requirements, participants are referred to the DOC Classification Committee for reconsideration of halfway house placement. The Extended Treatment Program is coordinated by Assessment Manager, **Melissa Gould** and Assistant to the Director, **Dr. Angela Mims**.

The Assessment Department at Bo Robinson celebrates the addition of four new staff members, **Brianna Persichetti**, **Cheryl Winnicki**, **Emmanuel Onokolah**, and **Aneesha Locke**. Other new hires include: Operations Counselors **Sandra McGuinness** and **Johnson Olowe**; Senior Counselor **Caitlin Sullivan**; and in the Medical Department, **Georgette Davis, LPN**.

DELANEY Hall

Newark, NJ—In honor of Mother's Day, Delaney Hall gave flowers to the female residents. To celebrate the beginning of Summer, Delaney Hall hosted a Memorial Day Cookout for residents. The staff took to the blacktop to face residents in their first intramural basketball game; the residents outscored staff 98 to 62.

Congratulations to **Ellen Gannon** who was recently received her LPC, and to **Terri Patterson** who recently obtained her CADC.

In other news, Delaney Hall has entered an agreement with Seton Hall Criminal Justice/Psychology Department to have senior students intern with Senior Counselors. The interns will have the opportunity to work with residents from intake to aftercare. A similar program is being developed with Jersey City University.

Essex County Division of Training and Employment has agreed to visit Delaney Hall monthly to take applications from residents ages 18 to 21 for vocational and educational training.

Hoboken Housing Authority sponsored a Teen Mixer and three State parole violators were invited to speak on behalf of Delaney Hall to share their experiences, strengths, and hopes.

Teen Challenge Choir, which is comprised of recovering addicts and ex-offenders, recently provided Delaney Hall residents with an inspirational musical selection and personal stories of recovery and change.

Residents of Delaney Hall have created a bi-weekly newsletter, which includes articles written by residents and staff members. The newsletter was started on the Freedom Unit and will now expand to include the Honesty and Hope Units. This publication is designed to provide information to new residents and allow them to express their creativity through poetry and various articles.

THE HARBOR

Hoboken, NJ—The Harbor has been conducting monthly Alternatives to Violence workshops and has trained 14 residents as facilitators. Currently, these residents are conducting the workshops with staff and community assistance. The program has been very successful. Additionally, resident volunteers from The Harbor assisted with several activities at OLC church in Jersey City, NJ during the Easter holiday season.

In employee news, **Hector Santiago** began attending Supervisors Training in April. The facility recently welcomed two new employees: **Khadijah McNair**, who will be working in the Business Office and **Nafessa Simmons**, who has joined the Program Activities department.

TALBOT HALL

Kearny, NJ—Talbot Hall staff members continue to participate in a variety of charitable endeavors. Talbot Hall recently collected \$260.00 for the American Heart Association and is currently organizing a staff donation to the Saint Jude's Children's Hospital. The facility's Volunteer Work Crew was recognized in the 2004 Paterson Habitat for Humanity Annual Report for their hard work and dedication to various community service projects. Thank you to all of the individuals who have assisted in these achievements. Talbot Hall also organized a staff outing to a local ice skating rink. The event was attended by many staff members and their families.

Congratulations to Talbot Hall staff members celebrating achievements in 2005. **John Voltarelli** was promoted from Senior Counselor to Unit Supervisor of the Harmony Unit and **Jennifer McCarthy** was promoted from Senior Counselor to Assessment Counselor. **Courtney Carmen**, Senior Counselor, earned a Master's degree in Forensic Psychology from John Jay College in New York, NY. In addition, the following individuals were awarded for exemplary job performance with recognition as Employee of the Month for January, February, March, and April, respectively: **Sherry Brooks**, Shift Supervisor; **Jennifer McCarthy**, Senior Counselor; **Robert Green**, Operations Counselor; and **Phil Torrisi**, Facility Director.

TOLER HALL

Newark, NJ—Toler Hall's Halfway Back program is in full step, thanks to the efforts of the Program Activities Department, staffed by **Barry Grant**, **Saundrine Cooper**, and **Jamale Brown**. The Program Activities Department plays an instrumental role in the orchestration of the employment, educational, and service-oriented opportunities available to residents. Currently, there are 208 residents eligible to participate in employment and educational opportunities. Of that number 110 are employed, 6 are in school and 66 are looking for a job.

One exciting development offered at Toler Hall is the PAID (Progressive Academic Incentive Development) program. PAID addresses the academic needs of residents age 25 and under seeking a GED or high school diploma.

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Women's Program at Bo Robinson Thriving

The Albert M. "Bo" Robinson Education and Training Center in Trenton, New Jersey has opened its doors to women in need of treatment services. There are currently 95 women participating in the program, including female parole violators referred by the New Jersey State Parole Board and female offenders from the New Jersey Department of Corrections.

Community Education Centers, which owns and operates Bo Robinson, also runs successful women's programs at several other sites, including: Delaney Hall in Newark, New Jersey; Tooley Hall in Denver, Colorado; Community Alternatives of El Paso in Colorado Springs, Colorado; and Community Alternatives of Casper in Casper, Wyoming.

These gender-specific programs were developed to meet the unique needs of women with substance abuse problems. Research has found that women are more likely to have suffered from physi-

cal and sexual abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder, and depression. They are also more likely to use drugs to help manage emotional pain and they are more likely than men to have dependent children. Further, programs that address the specific needs of female offenders are more successful in helping women recover and in preventing relapse.

"The Women's Program at Bo Robinson provides specialized groups on anger management, self-esteem, emotional management, domestic violence, alcohol and substance abuse, and parenting skills. These groups are designed to address issues commonly faced by female offenders," according to **Dr. Angela Mims**, administrator of the program.

Because many of the female program participants have children, Bo Robinson also holds weekly parenting classes that are designed to be educational and supportive. ■

Alumni Spotlight: Ralph Horne



Prior to 1996, Ralph Horne had never held a job long enough to file income taxes or qualify for unemployment. Today, he is an established employee of Talbot Hall, celebrating 18 months of service as an Operations Counselor for CEC.

"Before, my life was unmanageable," Mr. Horne recalled, "but then I learned to live life on life's terms." He acquired this life-changing philosophy during his time as a resident of CEC's The Harbor, from December 1994 until January 1996. Incarcerated as a result of drug sales, Mr. Horne had previously taken the "fast route" to earn money. At The Harbor, he developed patience and a better understanding of himself. "The Harbor helped me to become a better brother, father, son, and friend," he said.

Among the many influential people he encountered at the facility, he was most empowered by the words of one staff member. "I really owe so much to Counselor Shaheed Shabazz. He taught me to stop projecting and to assume responsibility," he noted. Mr. Shabazz is currently a Unit Manager at CEC's Bo Robinson facility in Trenton, NJ.

Mr. Horne also cites the program as an instrumental factor in his success. Aside from the vocational, educational, and employment assistance that the Alumni Association offers, he feels that the most important aspect of the program is that it provides the opportunity for residents without family to go home to a strong support system. "[The Alumni Association] was like a second fam-

ily to me," he said. "I have always kept in touch with Alumni." He continues to participate in Alumni meetings and enjoys sharing his experiences with current residents.

Through his work, he has seen many individuals that he knew from the days prior to his incarceration. He strives to show them how well CEC programs can work. To these individuals, he offers a word of advice, "Take one day at a time, give yourself a chance, and be open-minded. That's what I did."

*"Take one day at a time,
give yourself a chance,
and be open-minded."*

**—Ralph Horne, Operations
Counselor and
Harbor Alumnus**

Mr. Horne is also involved as a member of the Talbot Hall Quality Management Team, a multidisciplinary committee working to continuously improve the experience the facility provides for both staff and residents. This is just one example of his dedication to the mission and growth of the company that gave him so much.

"They need a lot more of these programs, especially for younger people. I am so grateful for these programs. CEC definitely helped me a lot."

Mr. Horne continues to set and achieve goals in his life. In September, he will resume his studies at Passaic County Community College, where he has already accrued 35 credits toward an Associate's Degree in Human Services. He also aspires to obtain his Certification in Alcohol and Drug Counseling (CADC), a degree in Sociology, and to become a Senior Counselor at Talbot Hall. ■

Mid-West Site News



CASPER RE-ENTRY CENTER (CRC)

Casper, WY—The Casper Re-Entry Center opened in February 2005 and currently has 70 residents in the Therapeutic Community program (TC). An additional 30 residents are anticipated to arrive by the end of June. The

CRC has started Rational Emotive Behavior Therapy (REBT) training and is in the process of instituting a new computer program, CorTrac, which will facilitate the storage and organization of resident information.

In April, the CRC welcomed **Connie Miller** as Executive Assistant/Human Resources/Officer Manager. In addition, two new hires joined the staff: **Kristina Nettles**, a Senior Counselor in the work-release program and **Penny LeFevre**, a Resident Manager in the TC program. Congratulations to **Darby Goodspeed**, Counselor in the TC program, on the receipt of her Master's Degree. The CRC staff sends best wishes to **Mary Follette**, former Work Coordinator, who has left the facility after 16 years of service. She was recognized during the Dedication Ceremony in commemoration of her exemplary professional performance.



COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVES OF EL PASO (CAE)

Colorado Springs, CO—Community Alternatives of El Paso County recently completed the ACA re-accreditation process. The

facility is proud to announce scores of 100% compliance in both mandatory and non-mandatory areas.

Additionally, CAE welcomed **Rick Catron** as the new Facility Director. Mr. Catron is a retired Associate Warden from the Federal Bureau of Prisons and has 31 years of experience in government service, including 28 years of correctional experience. He specialized in prison industries, vocational training, education, and recreation.

CORRECTIONAL ALTERNATIVE PLACEMENT SERVICES (CAPS)

Craig, CO—Correctional Alternative Placement Services is pleased to announce the addition of three new employees to the staff. **James Dodd** and **Gerry Beene** were hired as Resident Managers and **Gayle Packard** has begun work as a Food Services Worker. Additionally, **Tammy Boutwell** was promoted to the position of Head Cook and **Mary Boughan** was promoted to the position of Resident Manager. CAPS congratulates Tammy and Mary for their achievements.

TOOLEY HALL

Denver, CO—In May, Tooley Hall passed its American Correctional Association (ACA) audit with a score of 100% on mandatory and non-mandatory requirements. Also in May, Tooley Hall adopted a bus stop through RTD, a local bus company. This provides an opportunity for residents to participate in community service. As a token of appreciation, RTD will provide 25 one-way vouchers for residents using bus service.

The staff at Tooley Hall would like to extend a heartfelt farewell and thank you to **Mary Romel**, who served as the Quality Management Coordinator. Mary's last day of service was May 27.

WILLIAMS STREET CENTER

Denver, CO—Williams Street Center was recently audited by the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice and received very high ratings of compliance. Congratulations to **Rick Berry**, the former Director at Williams Street Center, on his promotion to the position of Colorado Community Corrections Operations Officer.



LIBERTY HALL

Indianapolis, IN—In March, Liberty Hall began receiving Level 1 offenders from the Department of Corrections. These residents arrive at the facility from prison in order to

participate in programs designed to facilitate successful reentry into the community. Level 1 offenders may be eligible for a "time cut" contingent upon successful participation in the program. The length of time spent at Liberty Hall is dependent on the resident's performance and compliance with the program.

Liberty Hall's staff is expanding. The facility recently enjoyed the addition of the following individuals: **Jeanne Edwards**, **David Gibson**, **Roger Hall**, **Tony Jeffers**, **Loren Johnson-Byrd**, **Rashad Mitchell**, and **Johnathan Taylor** as Operations Counselors; **Tom Zinski**, **Bobby Majors**, **Nikki Ledgerwood**, **Karen Jonke**, and **Debra Gregory** as Case Managers; **Debbie Fulkerson** as an Administrative Assistant; and **Dwight Graves** as an Operations Manager. Staff members celebrating recent promotions include **Joe Russell**, who was promoted to the position of Shift Supervisor and **Steve Stone**, who was promoted to the position of Senior Case Manager.

COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVES OF THE BLACK HILLS (CABH)

Rapid City, SD—Congratulations to **Lori McClure** on her promotion to the position of Assistant director of CABH. Lori began her career with CABH as a Resident Manager in June 1997. After only a year, she was promoted to Case Manager. In October 2004, she was promoted to the position of Operations Supervisor and in December she was appointed as the Assistant Director. Lori's extensive knowledge of CEC's treatment and clinical services will be invaluable as CABH moves forward in its desire to expand into substance abuse treatment. Lori will complete her Master's Degree in Counseling in December 2005.

CABH also wishes to welcome the following new employees: Case Managers **Sage McGuire**, **Dorothy McGurdy**, and **Shayla Scherr**. Other new hires include: Resident Managers **Kenneth Morgan**, **Jennifer Price**, **Matthew Moorhead**, **Holly Stanley**, **Susan Sherman**, **Nathan Kruger**, and **Lonnie Holt**. CEC would like to thank the following individuals for continued dedication and service as they celebrate five or more years of employment with CABH: **Scott Schulz** (12 years), **Lori McClure** (8 years), **Martin Tschacher** (8 years), and **Jamie Nickel** (5 years). ■

Northeast Site News

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The program provides a structured educational environment where a resident's progress is monitored by Program Activities staff and his Senior Counselor, Unit Manager, and Parole Agent. Vocational training is available to Toler Hall residents through a variety of colleges and organizations. Participants can acquire skills in varied areas from culinary arts to welding.

Recently, Toler Hall residents provided volunteer services at a local church in Newark's West Ward. Other community-based initiatives on the horizon include participation in the Township of Irvington's "Operation Jumpstart," an apprenticeship program designed to increase vocational skills and job marketability.

In other news, Toler Hall would like to congratulate the following employees attending supervisor training: **Antonnikka Owens**, **Sadiq Muhammad**, **Robert Bolden**, and **Joey Timberlake**. Additionally, the facility welcomes Senior Counselors **Rosamary Hadley** and **Lina Haji** and Counselors **Jason Hill**, **Wayne Clark**, and **Shawn Crosbie** to the Toler Hall team.

TULLY HOUSE

Newark, NJ—Tully House continues to offer its population excellent opportunities to enhance their spiritual growth. Three times a week, residents may attend Christian bible studies. Additionally, pastors from a community church conduct Sunday morning Christian Services. Residents may also request to attend services at a Roman Catholic church in the community. Tully House also boasts an outstanding Gospel Choir. Hispanic residents may attend services at a local Hispanic Christian church on Sundays. In addition, Christian bible studies are offered in Spanish once a week. To service the Muslim population, an Imam conducts services twice a week. Additionally, residents may attend Jumah at a Masjid in the community on Friday afternoons.

The Family Services Program at Tully House is another successful service available to residents. The goal of the program is to reduce risk factors that impede on the progress of successful reintegration by promoting healthy communication between residents and familial supports and enhancing the relationship between residents and their children. Family Night is held once a week and is attended by pre-approved members of residents' families and support system. With the coordinating efforts of Unit Supervisor **Danielle Darby** and Unit Supervisor **Afiya Crawford** and support of Counselors **Lorne Lawrence**, **Amie Hernandez**, **Stephanie Craig**, **Denise Baker**, and **Michael Myers**, the group empowers families by creating a forum where family and primary supports can share their experiences, successes, and failures in addressing issues with residents.

The Parenting Skills Workshop, held once a week, is coordinated by Senior Counselor **Amie Hernandez**. This small group session, consisting of no more than 10 families, provides insight on how to discipline, reward, and bond with children based on the Strengthening Families curriculum. Additional services offered by the Program include individual and family counseling and a Domestic Violence Group, which is facilitated by **Janet Devereaux**, a Family Services intern and Senior Counselor.

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AYA Site News



AYA-SOUTH CAROLINA/CAMP ASPEN

Columbia, SC—AYA South Carolina (Camp Aspen) celebrates its sixth year of operation. Additionally, June 2005 marks the first-year anniversary of Camp Aspen becoming a substance abuse treatment program. Camp Aspen is pleased to announce that eleven students graduated from high school or obtained a GED this school year.

During the last several months, numerous employees have celebrated anniversaries of five or more years of service with the program. Congratulations and thank you to **Curtis Johnson**, **Michael Mayfield**, and **Erin Moffitt** (6 years), and **Tara Hopkins** (5 years).



AYA-MONTANA

Boulder, MT—This summer, AYA-Montana celebrates 10 years of treatment and outdoor behavioral program services to at-risk youth in the State of Montana. AYA-Montana continues to expand their service array and inspire the journey of at-risk adolescents and their families, one step at a time.

AYA Montana welcomes new employees **Rosanna Gannon**, Adolescent Therapist for AYA's Day Treatment Services, as well as new direct care staff: **Valeda Williams**, **Janie Smalley**, **Sarina Helton**, and **Theresa Jandert**. Over the next few months several employees will have anniversaries with AYA-Montana. Congratulations to employees celebrating five or more years with AYA: **Kimberly Gardner** (9 years); **John Madsen** and **Bruce Helton** (8 years); **Anthony Zufelt** (7 years); **Tonna Fadness** and **Bob Byrd** (6 years); and **Rhonda Byrd**, **M. Angela Johnson**, and **Denise Sutherlin** (5 years).

Congratulations to **Kimberly Gardner**, Administrator, for her new appointment as Chair of the Committee on Inquiry for the State of Montana National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Chapter. The committee is responsible for reviewing and processing ethics complaints regarding social workers in Montana. Kimberly will oversee the mediation process and determine which complaints are sent to adjudication. Thank you for promoting the highest ethics in the profession for the State of Montana and for CEC.



AYA-COLORADO

Montrose, CO—AYA-Colorado continues to serve the needs of troubled adolescents of the Rocky Mountains and surrounding areas. Their working relationship with the State of

Utah has expanded, with students from Utah now accounting for approximately 15 percent of total placements. Further, their students completed over 2,200 hours of community service with the guidance and assistance of the AYA field staff.

Personnel additions to AYA include **Sam Barnes**, Admissions Director, **Greg Pies**, Education Director, and **Ali Taylor**, Treatment Coordinator. In other news, **Jim Omer**, Operations Director, will celebrate ten years of service with AYA in June. ■

Northeast Site News

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**COLEMAN HALL**

Philadelphia, PA—Coleman Hall recently hosted a Career Links Job Fair. Many companies were represented at the fair, including Citizen's Bank, Health Partners, Hertz, Horizon House, Sunoco, Inner Community

Action Inc., Jewish Employment and Vocational Services Supports for Independence, Philadelphia Opportunities Industrialization Center, and the Mayor's Commission on Services to the aging.

Additionally, the facility has established new resources for resident employment, education, and vocational development. Collaboration with the Greater Philadelphia Cares E-Citizens, an organization represented by Ms. Chinita Bradshaw, has increased the number of community service sites that are available to residents.

Apprenticeship opportunities have been developed through the Carpenters Journeylevel Advancement Craft (JAC) Training and Re-Training Programs in areas such as carpentry, mill/cabinetmakers, mill rights, floor layers, wharf and dock builders, lathers, and drapery workers. Apprenticeships are also available through the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades and the District Council 21 Memorial Training Center Apprentice Training and Education Committee. These programs allows residents to gain training, education, and experience related to the electrical industry or through Plumbers Union Local No. 690, Roofers Local 30 Training Center, Ironworkers Local 401 (JAC), Operating Engineers Local Union, and Bricklayers & Allied Craft workers.

In employee news, Coleman Hall is pleased to announce the addition of new staff members. **Lillie Jefferies** and **Joseph Mauro** accepted positions as Shift Supervisors. Furthermore, **Theodore Culpepper** was hired as a Counselor, but has since been promoted to a Shift Supervisor. The following individuals were recently hired as Senior Counselors: **Marjorie Griffin**, **Tiffany Malone**, **Paul Reed**, **Adam Cooper**, **Chandal Williams**, and **Vincent William-Bey**. Additionally, **Cynthia Davis**, **Laura Little**, **Darian Nafis**, **Kim Roberts**, **Donald Roston**, and **Donald Thompson** were hired as Counselors. Other new hires include **Monique Rogers**, assuming the position of Assistant to the Business Office/Classification; **Norma Vargas**, hired as a Secretary; and **Dorothy Woodard-Blythe**, joining the staff as a Registered Nurse.

In an effort to reach youth who have been identified as at risk, selected Coleman Hall residents will meet with adolescents from the Philadelphia Youth Advocate Program and share their experiences.

Congratulations to the following staff members celebrating recent achievements. **Sholanda Profit** obtained a Master of Arts degree in February. Ms. Profit has also been selected by her immediate supervisor to participate in CEC's supervisory training program, which began in May. **Terrance Means** and **John Hale** both obtained a Master of Human Services degree in May. Additionally, **Pamela Brown** received her Master's degree in Criminal Justice and has been promoted to a Unit Manager position. **Nicholas Angers** received his Master's degree in Counseling and has been promoted to the position of Unit Supervisor. ■

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