

# INSIDE CEC



2014 1st edition



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## John Clancy & Magic Johnson Honored at Turning Point's 12th Annual Gala



"It was a great honor to be recognized by Turning Point as their mission runs parallel to ours – that individuals can break the chains of addiction through the provision of effective treatment services. I am very grateful to have been a part of this special night and want to express my deep congratulations to the Turning Point staff as their efforts give hope to those who need it most."

**- John Clancy,  
Chairman and CEO**

*Story on page 5*

## CEC Expands Services in Three States



**Bernalillo County Complex,  
Albuquerque, New Mexico**

### Illinois, Virginia and New Mexico Welcome New Programs & Services

CEC is pleased to welcome expanded services to its roster of in-prison treatment and secure facilities divisions, which will take place in Illinois, Virginia and New Mexico. The company is proud to be awarded these new services that will be provided to male and female inmates in various capacities.

*continued on page 2*

## Independent Review Confirms Reduction in Recidivism at Philadelphia Reentry Center

### 24% lower rate in recidivism for Hoffman Hall residents

A recent review entitled "Making A Difference in Offender Recidivism: Correctional Treatment Programming," done in conjunction with the Philadelphia Prison System (PPS), CEC, and researchers at Drexel University indicates a 24% reduction in recidivism with a group that completed treatment programs at CEC's Hoffman Hall as compared to a matched group of inmates released from PPS. The two groups studied were composed of PPS offenders referred to Hoffman Hall for evaluation and treatment and those serving their entire sentence in

*continued on page 11*

**INSIDE  
THIS  
ISSUE:**

Contract Re-Awarded in Ohio  
Contract Re-Awarded in Pennsylvania

Chief Justice Kite Special Guest at Casper WY  
Veterans Day National Celebrations

# CEC Expands Services In Three States

*continued from cover*

"We are very honored to have an opportunity to serve Illinois, Virginia and New Mexico with the provision of new programs and services. We look forward to continuing to serve these states and counties in a joint effort to help reduce recidivism and provide inmates with essential tools for a successful reentry into the community."

**- Michael Pelletier,  
Chief Operating Officer**

## GREENE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, BOOT CAMP PROGRAM

CEC welcomes the Greene County, Illinois, Impact Incarceration Program (IIP), which joins CEC's In-Prison Treatment Services to become the seventh member of the division in the state of Illinois. Treatment services began in October and will be provided to 200 males at the facility.

*"We are thrilled with the opportunity to expand our services in Illinois through the addition of the Greene County IIP Boot Camp to the current Jacksonville Center contract,"* said Emily Bond, Deputy Director of the Western Region. *"We have a great working relationship with the Illinois Department of Corrections and this expansion of services reinforces the confidence we share in this partnership."*

Considered a "boot camp" program, its goal is to change attitudes, deter negative behaviors, instill a positive work ethic and create productive members of society. Training to perform tasks as a way to maintain steady jobs and take responsibility is inherent in the program. In keeping with CEC's treatment model approach of changing cognitive thinking patterns, the Impact Incarceration Program focuses on changing negative thoughts and actions into positive behaviors and responses.

## CEC PARTNERS WITH VIRGINIA DOC IN WOMEN'S WORK RELEASE PILOT PROGRAM

CEC in partnership with the Virginia Department of Corrections (VADOC) has developed a Transitional Women's Work Release (TWWR) program now in operation at the Deerfield Correctional Center.

The TWWR program, using evidence-based practices, is designed to assess and prepare clients for work release and assist those eligible to obtain employment in the community.



**CEC Staff of the TWWR Program at the Deerfield Correctional Center. L to R: Kathy Whitfield, Orientation Specialist; Lois Darden, Employment Specialist; Jenny Blythe, Case Manager; Joyce Deberry, Driver; Shionda Clark, Director, (seated)**

*"We are honored to partner with the state of Virginia in this pilot program that prepares residents for reentry to the workforce and community"* said Steve Tomlin, Vice President of the Eastern Region. *"This is an intensive work release program that employs intensive treatment services that focus on changing addictive and criminal behaviors as a way to reduce recidivism."*

The TWWR receives strong support from Warden James Beale, Assistant Warden Dee Copeland and the Deerfield Correctional Center staff, who helped hire the CEC team and assisted during the launch.

## BERNALILLO COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

CEC has also been selected to accommodate overflow inmates from Bernalillo County, New

Mexico to be housed at the IAH Polk County Secure Adult Detention Facility in Livingston, Texas. The county has sought additional locations to house inmates as a result of overcrowding at the Metropolitan Detention Center. Transportation is provided for the inmates to the Texas facility, a modern state of the art building that has a capacity for 1054 inmates.

The IAH Polk County facility has been awarded American Correctional Association (ACA) accreditation, scoring an excellent 100% on Mandatory standards, and 99.3% on Non-Mandatory standards. ■



# Contract Re-Awarded for Continued Operation of Ohio's Columbiana County Jail



"We appreciate the continued confidence that Columbiana County has shown in our company and we look forward to providing the same quality and cost effective quality services that we have done since 1997. I am extremely confident that our staff's efforts will continue to be a source of pride for the county."

**- John Clancy, Chairman and CEO**

CEC is proud to acknowledge that the Columbiana County Jail has confirmed its fourth consecutive successful contract renewal. County commissioners approved the new six year contract and then spoke of the positive working relationship with CEC they have had since 1997 that has provided significant cost savings and benefits to county taxpayers.

The company provides operational services at the county jail including correctional officer staffing, food service and commissary. The contract renewal to operate the jail came after officials reviewed two proposals to operate the 192-bed facility.

CEC currently employs 52 individuals at the county jail and misdemeanor facility. The contract term consists of a two year base period with two, two year option renewals. Several recent initiatives at the jail have led to significant cost savings and public safety enhancements for the county. Since June 2008, CEC has applied the Ohio Medicaid Rate for all incoming medical bills (including the County bills) at no charge resulting in savings of approximately \$816,000.

The company also provides video arraignment security staffing which allows county deputies to perform duties within the community. The company is responsible for all utility bills for the jail facilities as well as electric, water, gas, sewer and trash removal for all buildings of the Sheriff's Department, Coroner's Office, and the Drug Task Force. CEC staff also maintain the grounds and upkeep of the entire complex around the jail.

*"Our work in Columbiana County represents a public/private partnership in the purest sense,"* said John Clancy, Chairman and CEO. *"We look forward to continuing to be a good community partner with public safety always our top priority."*

This year the facility started a pre-release program

designed to assist offenders in community release planning. The full service jail has two housing units consisting of seven pods for male inmates for sentenced and non-sentenced offenders. The jail also contains one post with six pods for sentenced and non-sentenced female offenders. ■

## Staff Honors John Stoffa, Retiring Northampton County (PA) Executive



L to R: Todd Buskirk, DOC Warden; John Stoffa, retiring County Executive-Northampton County; and Greg Gabrielli, CEC Program Director at Northampton County Jail. The staff decided to make a plaque to show their appreciation for Mr. Stoffa's relentless support of the program. Mr. Stoffa is a strong proponent for providing second chances to those who may seek it. He feels that money is better spent on rehabilitation of those who become incarcerated rather than lockup and release. It reads:

*"Thank you for your vision in assisting the incarcerated at Northampton County Jail to reenter their communities as better citizens and for your unwavering support in Community Education Centers programs as part of these accomplishments."* ■

# CEC Re-Awarded Contract for Pennsylvania's Northampton County Jail

## 33% REDUCTION IN RECIDIVISM ATTRIBUTED TO CEC PROGRAMS

CEC is extremely honored to be the recipient of a contract renewal for the Northampton County Jail in Easton, Pennsylvania. The contract will enable services to continue to be provided through the Future Foundations program, the Sister-To-Sister program and the West Easton Treatment Center to offenders recommended from the Northampton County Department of Corrections.

*"We are very pleased to continue our partnership with Northampton County and look forward to continuing to provide specialized reentry treatment services at both facilities,"* said Dr. Robert Mackey, Senior Vice President of Reentry Operations. *"It is rewarding to see our programs yielding positive results that are making a difference in keeping communities safe and contributing to creating productive citizens."*



Northampton County Jail, Easton, PA



The West Easton Treatment Center, West Easton, PA

The CEC programs have been attributed to a substantial drop in recidivism for the county. CEC employs Therapeutic Community (TC) programs at the Northampton County Jail which are yielding noteworthy results. The Future Foundations & Sister to Sister programs in place there focus on right living and "community as method" techniques, with attention to mutual self-help; members act as their "brother's/sister's keepers," and staff act as role models. The CEC program at the West Easton Treatment Center provides extensive assessment and reentry services specializing in substance abuse treatment.

The contract began on January 1, 2014 and will continue for five years with two 1 year extensions. ■

*"Over the course of the last three years the recidivism rate for graduates of the Future Foundations program run by CEC has been effectively reduced from 69% to 36.5%."*

**- Arnold Matos, Director of Corrections, Northampton County**

## CEC Program at Mayo CI Florida Secures Highest Rating on DCF Audit

Congratulations to the CEC team at the Mayo Correctional Institute in Florida on being the recipient of an outstanding 100% score on a recent Department of Children and Families (DCF) audit. The audit is a performance-based evaluation system that examines several areas of operation including licensing standards, quality assurance, level 1 prevention services and program practices, standards for intensive outpatient treatment services and practices and staff training. The CEC program secured a perfect score of 100% on all areas examined.

*"Congratulations to the team at Mayo CI for receiving outstanding results on the DCF audit,"* said Tahnee

Casanova, State Director of Florida. *"We recognize your hard work and diligence in providing reentry services to the inmates in the Florida DOC. We are humbled to be a part of this CEC team and proud to continue to strive to be the best provider of in-prison treatment services in the state of Florida."*

The CEC program at the Mayo CI is a Modality I program, which provides reentry treatment services that include individual assessments, individual and group counseling, substance abuse treatment, relapse prevention, interactive skill-based training, educational services and alumni services. Services are provided to 90 males from the Florida Department of Corrections. ■

## John Clancy & Magic Johnson Honored at Turning Point's 12th Annual Gala



Staff from EHCA and CEC attend the Turning Point celebration honoring Mr. Clancy and Magic Johnson

Pictured L to R: Darren Williams, Delaney Hall Alumni; Sheila Leonardo, Director of Talbot Hall; Keith Hooper, Operations Director Talbot Hall; Mr. Clancy; Magic Johnson; Arthur Townes, Director of Alumni Services; Robert Felder, Supervisor of Operations at the Harbor; Larry DeMarzo, Consultant; Dr. Ralph Fretz, Director of Assessment and Research

John Clancy, CEC's Chairman & CEO and Basketball legend Magic Johnson were honored at Turning Point's 12th Annual Gala, joined by New Jersey's addiction treatment community and over three hundred guests. Mr. Clancy was honored for his dedicated work providing offender reentry treatment services in New Jersey and across the country.

The event was located at The Grove, in Cedar Grove New Jersey. Guests witnessed Magic Johnson at his best, dishing great anecdotes about his basketball career and taking questions from guests about his successful business ventures. When asked what players he thought were the greatest to play the game of basketball, Magic responded with Michael Jordan and Larry Bird to a wave of applause. Leaving the room brighter, Magic then turned the night over to Manuel Guantez, Chief Executive Officer at Turning Point, who introduced Mr. Clancy.

*"John Clancy's dedication to providing rehabilitative treatment services in New Jersey and across the country is unparalleled and reflects his deep appreciation of giving individuals second chances."* said Mr. Guantez. *"Over the years, his support of Turning Point has affected the lives of the thousands of individuals we serve and helped them to rise against the cycles of addiction to become productive members of our communities. Turning Point wishes to thank John for his work and lifelong commitment to changing lives."*

Turning Point is headquartered in Paterson, New Jersey and provides a wide array of treatment services for addicted individuals including family programs, detoxification, outpatient services, short term residential and drug court programs. Turning Point's first substance abuse treatment program – a 10-bed residential program for men – began in March 1975. Since then, they have treated over 40,000 clients and have grown to offer a range of services for adults who are struggling with addiction. ■



Basketball legend Magic Johnson was a special guest and addressed the crowd with humorous anecdotes

# SECURE FACILITIES

## PENNSYLVANIA

### G. W. Hill Staff Rallies for Pup/Holiday Food Drive

"We are grateful to have a caring and compassionate staff at George Hill. Ms. McLaughlin did a fantastic job coordinating the donation effort, and Mr. Brogan, Payroll Manager, did a great job by helping spread the word. It was great teamwork that resulted in a successful donation drive to help the injured animal."

**- Cameron Lindsay, Warden,  
George W. Hill Correctional Facility**

Let it be known that the staff at the George W. Hill Correctional Facility (GWHCF) in Thornton, Pa. has a generous heart, after contributing so selflessly to the aid of a small pit bull puppy that had been abused and left to die. The puppy was rescued and brought to the Stoney Creek Veterinary Hospital located in nearby Morton, Pa.

Amy McLaughlin, Counselor for the Prison Reentry Program (PREP) and self-proclaimed animal lover heard the story on the news and decided to take action to help the animal that had suffered the terrible ordeal. After hearing the story, Ms. McLaughlin put out an email to her co-workers in an effort to collect donations, and yielded enough food, treats, toys and sweaters to fill two large boxes.

*"There was a huge outpouring of support for the injured dog, I am so proud to have great colleagues that were so generous for this worthy cause,"* said Ms. McLaughlin.

Ms. McLaughlin hand delivered the boxes to the Veterinary Hospital, where the pup is expected to have a good prognosis after intensive medical care. ■



L to R: Mike Heneghan, Facility Systems Coordinator; John Swider, Senior Case Manager; Sarah Wielgus, ACA Director; Amy McLaughlin, PREP Counselor; Sgt. Mike Hamre, Sergeant; Joanne Abt, Hearing Sergeant

#### Generous Contributions for Thanksgiving Food Drive



L to R: Sarah Wielgus ACA Director; Joan Skurski TC Program Manager; Jessica Martin, TC Program Counselor; Mike Miller, Corrections Officer

Way to go Joan Skurski, Therapeutic Community Program Manager and Jessica Martin, TC Program Counselor who spearheaded the very successful Thanksgiving Food Drive from generous employees to benefit St. Katherine's Food Pantry in Chester, Pa. Donations of non-perishable food amounted to an incredible 300 items! Residents also did their part by donating food from the commissary that totaled 50 Noodle soups.

Representatives at the food pantry were extremely grateful to receive such a large donation and addressed a letter to Ms. Skurski relaying their heartfelt appreciation. ■



Read an expanded version of this story online at [http://www.cecintl.com/pdf/news/page6\\_Gw\\_hill\\_pup\\_rescue.pdf](http://www.cecintl.com/pdf/news/page6_Gw_hill_pup_rescue.pdf)

# CERT & K9 Teams from G. W. Hill Participate in Local Fair, Host K9 USPCA Certifications, Awarded Top Honors

Members of the Corrections Emergency Response Team (CERT) and K9 units at GWHCF were honored to participate in a local community Safety and Health Fair at the Upper Chichester Township Recreation Center in early October, and also recently hosted their fourth PD 1 Certification on prison property.



George W. Hill Correctional Facility's CERT and K9 Teams



Members of the K9 Unit L to R: Fred Pascale, Sgt. Jamar Brison, Lt. John Miller, Chad Palmer and Damon Schneider

"This was an excellent opportunity for our officers and staff at the jail to give back to the community with giveaways and prizes for adults and children, and to show our gratitude for allowing us to serve and protect the community."

**- Richard Leach,  
Chief of Security for GWHCF**

## Community Event

The CERT and K9 Units presented a demonstration to allow spectators a firsthand chance to see the responsibilities they train for and what they are able to provide for the community. Lt. John Miller, Director of the K9 Unit and Lt. Albert Pleasant, Director of the CERT Unit did an excellent job in coordinating the presentation. At the event, the K9 Unit and CERT held a demonstration about diffusion of a situation and apprehension of a potentially threatening individual.

## K9 Certifications & Awards

The K9 Unit consisting of eleven officers lead by Lt. John Miller and Sgt. Jamar Brison hosted the PD1 Certifications. PD1 stands for 'Police Dog 1', a certification awarded by the United States Police Canine Association (USPCA) for a K9 Team which consists of a dog and handler. Teams must demonstrate proficiency in the areas of obedience and agility by moving through an obstacle course, article search, suspect search and protection work. The facility represents Region 6 of the USPCA, which includes all of Pennsylvania.

The GWHCF has 29 dogs that are used for sentry duty, narcotic detection, patrol and tracking. The predominant breeds are Belgian Malinois', German Shepherds, Dutch Shepherds, and Bloodhounds. The property was the perfect environment for the PD 1 event. With 700 acres to work on, the PD 1 hosted 12 police departments from the region, turning out to be a tremendous success once again. The GWHCF has hosted the event in 2006, 2008, and 2010.

Over the past ten years, the facility's K9 Unit has earned hundreds of trophies. On September 6-8 of this year, the K9 staff recorded exceptional results. Congratulations to all including Sgt. Brison, who earned first place for scent work, 2nd place for obedience, 3rd place for criminal apprehension and 3rd place overall for Top Dog. K9 Officer Damon Schneider placed 2nd for agility and 3rd for obedience. Officer Fred Pascale placed 3rd for scent, Officer Jeffrey Czernik placed 3rd for decoy and criminal apprehension and Officer Chad Palmer received the Sportsmanship Award.

GWHCF's K9 program has become a very successful regional training center for local law enforcement departments to train for the USPCA regulations and certifications. ■

# T E X A S

## A Tribute to Paula Cotten, Correctional Officer,

IAH Polk County Secure Adult Detention  
Facility, Livingston, Texas

Officer Paula Cotten, a veteran detention officer passed away at her duty post on November 27, 2013 of natural causes. She left behind her husband Jeramie, sons Joshua and Zachery and daughter Madison. Officer Cotten was an employee that truly lived for her ability to contribute to a cause, being dependable, encouraging and supportive towards members of her work family. The effect she had on so many in her work life was reflected in the amazing attendance of the staff that attended memorial services for Officer Cotten. She is sorely missed.

In an effort to return the support she gave to so many at the IAH Facility, the IAH Secure Adult Detention family became Santa's Helpers to the Cotten family. The employees of the IAH facility along with staff at the corporate office contributed their time and money to make this Christmas as customary and special under the difficult circumstances.

A substantial outpouring of love and support was bestowed on the Cotten Family, who were overwhelmed with the generosity of the CEC staff. They did an amazing job gathering a plentiful amount of donations which included toys, clothing and many gift cards to help make Christmas as nice as possible.



Mr. Cotten and daughter Madison

Mr. Cotten shared the following with Warden Stacks via text message:

*"We all wanted you to know that we love you and thank you for your kindness and compassion! You put smiles on our children's faces...I thank you for that. You are all special folks and my family will never forget you... and I know Paula is smiling and watching over all of us!"* ■



Generous donations from staff at the IAH Polk County Secure Adult Detention Center for the family of Officer Cotten

## Parker County Jail Conducts Annual Student Tours

The Parker County Jail in Weatherford, Texas is keeping its tradition of community involvement by conducting educational tours of the facility for students from the local high school. An annual tradition that takes place in the beginning of the school year, law enforcement students from Weatherford High School are escorted by staff on tours of the Parker County Jail. Ms. Nancy Sonneveld, Teacher for the Law Enforcement classes, schedules the tours for the approximately 200 students that visit over the course of a week.



*"It is a win-win situation for all involved, it's a learning experience for the students and the community, and a matter of pride for the staff,"* said Warden Ron King.

The tours have been well received by the students, and the staff experience a sense of pride by showing off the facility and explaining what they do and how the jail operates. Each tour averages about 25-30 students and lasts about 45 minutes. The students often express thoughtful questions and gain a greater understanding of how the criminal justice system operates. 2013 is the seventh year that the Parker County Jail provides this service to the school.

CEC provides jail management/detention services to a capacity of 446 males and females that are referred from the United States Marshals Service and Parker County. ■

# EASTERN NEWS

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Look for this mouse icon for the full version of the following stories:



Members of the Agape Foundation of South Korea were given a tour of Talbot Hall in Kearny, NJ as a model of reentry treatment



Hoffman Hall in Philadelphia is experiencing increased success with the educational program, as GED graduations are on the rise



Acting Director Fredric Shapiro of Coleman Hall in Philadelphia presents canned food and Thanksgiving turkeys donated by the staff

of the Coleman-Hoffman Hall Campus to Quetcy Lozada, Office Director for Philadelphia Councilwoman Maria Quinones-Sanchez. The donated food was collected at the 25th Philadelphia Police District and will be distributed to families in the community. The Coleman-Hoffman Hall Campus works closely with Philadelphia Councilwoman Quinones-Sanchez in numerous community service projects throughout the year



Fifteen residents of Tully House, a Newark residential reentry facility held a graduation ceremony to acknowledge the achievement of receiving their GED

Ms. Debra Wilson-Saunders, Manager of Education was proud to award diplomas as family and fellow residents looked on. The ceremony theme was: "A Winner Never Quits; A Quitter Never Wins." The class Valedictorian attained a perfect score on the Reading portion of the test





Volunteers consisting of staff and residents from Tully House and Talbot Hall won the "Golden Broom" Award for the largest amount of trash collected at the annual "Slam Dunk the Junk" clean up in Newark



Staff and alumni from Pennsylvania and New Jersey participated in the annual *PRO-ACT Recovery Walks!* celebration that took place in Philadelphia in September to recognize recovery from substance abuse



Camp Aspen in Columbia, South Carolina hosted the Job Readiness Training Center (JRTC) Grand Opening for the Governor. Ten students received their certificates for the session "Tackling the Tough Skills: Attitude" in the first JRTC class. Pictured are Erin Moffitt, Director; Camp Aspen students & staff; and Bill Latta, SC Dept. of Juvenile Justice with two interns



Al Stuhl, Public Relations Manager for Philadelphia (right) is pictured with Rev. Dr. Clarence Hester, at a banquet commemorating his 20 years of service to the Erie Avenue Baptist Church, which has been a support to residents at Coleman Hall

CEC Alumni members Anthony White (left; Tully House) and Edward Slade (right; Delaney Hall) helped distribute Thanksgiving turkeys to those in need at the Georgia King Village Apartments in Newark

Ms. McRae of the Broad Street facility also helped coordinate similar donation efforts in the Philadelphia area

The Alumni Association also collected donations at a Thanksgiving food drive at the corporate office for two needy Alumni families that are facing the challenges of reentering the community



Staff from Talbot Hall in Kearny, NJ regularly participate in various volunteer efforts throughout the area. Here staff give their time at the Community FoodBank of New Jersey

Read expanded versions of these stories with this icon online at [www.cecintl.com](http://www.cecintl.com)



# Independent Review Confirms Reduction in Recidivism

## 24% lower rate in recidivism for Hoffman Hall residents

*continued from cover*

jail. Conducted between the years 2010 and October 2013, the review tracked offenders post release and served as a comparison between the rates of return to jail custody.

Drs. Kirk Heilbrun and David DeMatteo, with Chris King, Ben Locklair, and Casey LaDuke of Drexel University conducted the program review, which is showing promising results regarding the use of correctional treatment during incarceration as a factor in reducing recidivism. Hoffman Hall, a CEC residential reentry facility in Philadelphia, provides an extensive assessment and treatment program to offenders referred from PPS.

*"We take pride in the community corrections treatment model we deliver, and are pleased to see such promising results regarding its impact on reducing recidivism."* said Dr. Robert Mackey, Senior Vice President of Reentry Operations. *"It is an honor to work with the Drexel University research team which allows for an evaluation of how to refine our programs to best serve our contracted entities, ensure community safety, and lessen recidivism."*

The Hoffman Hall program begins with a comprehensive assessment of the resident that



Hoffman Hall, Philadelphia PA

determines his risk and needs factors. The information gathered in the assessment process serves as a guide to an individualized course of treatment that will assist the offender in creating change to a positive lifestyle. The treatment phase of the program utilizes an evidence-based model that employs a modified Therapeutic Community approach. The focus at Hoffman Hall is on peer-led education, which provides the social skills necessary to successfully reenter society.

The extensive program includes substance abuse treatment, individual and group counseling, educational, GED and vocational training. Hoffman Hall also maintains a strong aftercare/alumni service support group, which consists of former offenders who support individuals transitioning back into the community. ■



Talbot Hall in Kearny, NJ celebrated National Recovery Month with a play entitled "Road to Recovery," about a decision to change one's lifestyle after family cycles of recidivism. The residents enjoyed participating and the event served as a healthy way to learn about breaking the generational experience of incarceration.

## Have a Great Newsletter Story?

If you have good news for an **Inside CEC** story please contact:

**Karen Collins,**

*Corporate Communications Manager,*  
via email

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via phone

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# WESTERN NEWS

## W Y O M I N G

### Casper Re-Entry Center Hosts TC Graduation with Wyoming's Chief Justice Kite as Keynote Speaker



**The Honorable Chief Justice Marilyn Kite (center) Guest and Keynote Speaker at the TC graduation at Casper Re-Entry Center, stands with Rick Catron, Director (left) and James Piro, Deputy Director of Treatment (right)**

The Casper Re-Entry Center (CRC) was the proud host of a very special graduation ceremony of the Therapeutic Community (TC) in October, complete with honored guests and a special gift for all graduates. The Honorable Chief Justice Marilyn Kite of the Wyoming Supreme Court was the distinguished guest speaker for the event, who addressed the graduates, families in attendance and staff of the facility with inspirational remarks and an expression of hope for the graduates. Several other dignitaries were also in attendance, including Merit Thomas, Policy Advisor to Governor Matt Mead; Steve Lindly, Deputy Director, Wyoming Department of Corrections (WDOC); and Dawn Sides, WDOC Field Services Administrator.

A highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of a special gift from Chief Justice Kite. The Chief Justice had personally arranged for each resident to receive a copy of the 10th anniversary edition book "Wherever You Go, There You Are," by Jon Kabat-Zinn. The Chief Justice stated the book had a significant influence on her life, and she autographed each copy and presented it to the graduates.

"We are proud to serve the Wyoming Department of Corrections by providing this specialized TC program that assists residents in a positive transition back to the community. Skills that are provided in the TC program help change lives and make a difference towards reducing recidivism."

**- Rick Catron  
Director, Casper Re-Entry Center**

The graduation ceremony was held in honor of the completion of the TC program that provides training in behavioral therapies through individual and group counseling, substance abuse treatment, peer-led groups, educational assistance, family services and an introduction to an active alumni program.

CRC was honored by additional participants that took part in the graduation ceremony, including representatives from Casper College GED and Work Keys programs that recognized individual achievements of the graduates; Dr. Diana Quealy-Berge, Addictionology Instructor at Casper College, recognized those who attended Red Road Recovery which has an emphasis on recovery from the viewpoint of the First Nation/Native American perspective; Pastor Robert Barnes with Prison Ministry and Pastor Chris Kinner with Celebrate Recovery who passed out certificates acknowledging the efforts of those graduates who attended each support group. James Piro, Deputy Director of CRC did a great job as the Master of Ceremonies. Residents spoke about accepting the responsibilities and duties of living a life of temperance and sobriety while giving back to their families and communities.

*continued on page 13*

# Casper Re-Entry Center Hosts TC Graduation with Wyoming's Chief Justice Kite as Keynote Speaker

continued from page 12



Chief Justice Kite (left) personally arranged for each resident that completed the program to receive a copy of the 10th anniversary edition book "Wherever You Go, There You Are," by Jon Kabat-Zinn

CRC has been fortunate to be a host to several graduations from its TC program as well as its Residential Treatment Program (RTP), that is provided to residents recommended from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

The facility provides a specialized program developed by CEC in conjunction with the BIA in an effort to meet needs specific to Native Americans reentering society.

The facility has a capacity for 400 males and females recommended from the Wyoming Department of Corrections, County & City offenders, as well as Federal Bureau of Prisons offenders. ■



The Arapahoe County Residential Center (ACRC) attended Susan Komen's Race for the Cure for the 11th consecutive year. ACRC staff and residents were able to raise money for Breast Cancer Awareness and were able to participate in an extremely pro-social event. All had a great time and were proud to be part of this endeavor, joining thousands of volunteers from the Denver area

ACRC residents went to the Denver Nature and Science Museum accompanied by staff, as a reward for residents who have shown pro-social behaviors and who have been role models in the facility. Kitchen Manager Audra Gardner does a great job coordinating trips for the residents as a means to expanding their experience.



ACRC provides services for 206 females referred through the Colorado Department of Public Safety, Division of Criminal Justice, Arapahoe County Community Corrections Board, Community Return to Custody (parole revocation) and County Jurisdictions



Residents and staff of Cheyenne Mountain Re-Entry Center in Colorado Springs, CO celebrated with a recorded story book for their children. Staff purchased 20 copies of "Twas the Night Before Christmas" recordable books and assisted the residents as they read the book in their voice that was sent home to their children for the holidays



Residents from Correctional Alternative Placement Services (CAPS) in Craig, CO, brought a strong message to the students at the Craig Middle School about how substance abuse has impacted their lives and contributed to their incarceration

Read an expanded version of this story online at [www.cecintl.com](http://www.cecintl.com)



# EMPLOYEE UPDATES

## CEC Welcomes Back Debra Shannon as General Counsel



**Debra Shannon,**  
General Counsel

CEC is proud to welcome back Debra Shannon as the company's General Counsel. Ms. Shannon first joined CEC as its General Counsel in 2005 and served in that position for the next eight years. With more than fifteen years of legal experience, Ms. Shannon has lead CEC through several high-level corporate transactions, including the acquisition of CiviGenics, Inc. in 2007. She will continue to provide legal counsel to the Chairman/CEO and senior management of CEC. Ms. Shannon is also responsible for the oversight of the risk department and the management of outside counsel and litigation for the company.

*"CEC is very proud to welcome back Debra Shannon to the General Counsel position," said John Clancy, Chairman and CEO. "Her extensive experience and knowledge of our company make her the best choice to lead CEC's legal department and her guidance to the management team has proved invaluable in the past. It is with great pleasure that I make this announcement and remain confident that her leadership will help CEC continue to be a national leader."*

Prior to working at CEC, Ms. Shannon was a Senior Associate for the firm now known as Genova, Burns, Giantomasi, and Webster where her clients included the Turnpike Authority and the Township of Woodbridge. Her legal experience includes litigation with an emphasis in employment law and labor law. Ms. Shannon is a graduate of St. John's University School of Law where she received her Juris Doctorate with honors. Additionally, she is a member of the State Bar of New Jersey and New York, as well as the Federal District Courts in the 2nd and 3rd Circuits.

## Laura Sikora voted Substance Abuse Professional of the Year



**Laura Sikora,**  
M.S.W., ICADC,  
ICCS, ICCDPD

*Congratulations to Laura Sikora, Program Director at the Right Living House in St. George's, Bermuda, for her outstanding accomplishment on being named "2013 Substance Abuse Counselor of the Year" by the Ministry for Public Safety/ Department of National Drug Control & the Bermuda Addiction Certification Board.*

*"Ms. Sikora has done a tremendous job adapting the CEC treatment philosophy into the Bermudian culture," said Steve Tomlin, Vice President of the Eastern Region. "Her professionalism and dedication are beyond reproach."*

Ms. Sikora began her career with CEC as the founding Program Director of the New Horizons program in Delaware followed by the position of Aftercare Coordinator and eventually Deputy Director for the internationally acclaimed Delaware in-prison TC project - Key-Crest. As she earned progressive responsibilities throughout her career, she has consistently created an environment in which inmates and staff from diverse backgrounds feel comfortable and learn to believe they can succeed. She treats all people with courtesy and respect as she challenges and inspires them to realize their fullest potential.



Read an expanded version of this story online at  
[www.cecintl.com/pdf/news/page14\\_Laura\\_Sikora.pdf](http://www.cecintl.com/pdf/news/page14_Laura_Sikora.pdf)

# EMPLOYEE UPDATES



**Angela Dannenbring, Director, New Mexico Men's Recovery Academy  
New Mexico Women's Recovery Academy, Los Lunas/Albuquerque**

Angela Dannenbring brought her talent for leadership to the CEC New Mexico facilities in November after being the Director at Community Alternatives of the Black Hills in Rapid City, South Dakota. Prior to joining CEC, Ms. Dannenbring worked for various other residential treatment centers that held Federal and State contracts. She has earned titles of Program Director and Clinical Director.

Ms. Dannenbring earned her Bachelor's of Science degree in Psychology from Northern State University in South Dakota. She has also earned a Master's Degree in Counseling and Human Resource Development from South Dakota State University.



**Shionda Clark, Program Director for the Transitional Women's Work Release Program, Deerfield Correctional Center, Capron, Virginia**

Shionda Clark has been appointed the Program Director for the Women's Pre-Release program in Capron, Virginia at the Women's Work Center, Deerfield Correctional Center. Ms. Clark is directing the intensive work release pilot program that prepares women for work release and employment in the community.

She has a Master's degree in Social Work (clinical concentration) and has worked in the Human Services field for over eight years.



**Jason Gordish, Director, Alle Kiski Pavilion, Arnold, PA**

Jason Gordish started at the Alle Kiski Pavilion as a Shift Manager in August 1998 and worked his way up through the ranks serving the facility as a Counselor, Case Manager, and Supervisor of Programs until his recent promotion to Director. In addition he has held the position of Facility Compliance Manager since 2007 - helping receive 100% on Mandatory and Non-mandatory standards at ACA audits in 2008 and 2011.



**Paul Persaud, Program Counselor, Talbot Hall, Kearny, New Jersey  
*Congratulations for achieving 100% on the CADC test !!***

Mr. Persaud achieved 100% on the Certified Alcohol & Drug Counselor (CADC) exam that has given him a sense of gratification and confidence. The Social Services field has been his passion and he plans to pursue additional certifications. He is extremely grateful CEC lends its support for the acquisition of CADC certification. Mr. Persaud is convinced the CADC training program provides merit for both the staff and the individuals they serve.

Prior to CEC Mr. Persaud worked in the field of substance abuse treatment. He has a B.S. degree in Criminal Justice from NJ City University and is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Counseling and community-based work at Rutgers University. Mr. Persaud is grateful for the support of the Harmony Unit at Talbot Hall, and extends a special thanks to Ms. Robinette Goins-Arthur, his Unit Manager and mentor.

# CEC CELEBRATES VETERANS DAY

**CEC facilities across the country held Veterans Day celebrations that honored those who served in the armed forces. Special ceremonies took place at Indian Creek Correctional Center (ICCC) in Chesapeake, VA, the Cheyenne Mountain Re-Entry Center in Colorado Springs, CO and the Veteran's Safe Haven in Philadelphia, PA. The following is a letter from Steve Tomlin, Vice President of the Eastern Region, after a visit to the Indian Creek Correctional Center where CEC operates a specialized treatment unit for veterans.**



**Steve Tomlin,**  
VP Eastern Region

On November 8th, I had the honor of speaking at the first anniversary of the Veterans Therapeutic Community Dorm at the Indian Creek Correctional Center. This dedicated unit was developed to serve an identified need through trauma-informed care and responsive programming. As a result of the support we received from the Virginia Department of

Corrections (VADOC), Secretary of Public Safety Marla Decker, VADOC Director Harold Clark, the Virginia Veterans Task Force, Colonel Charles Hoge, MD, US Department of Veterans Affairs, the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program and the fine staff at ICCC and CEC, this unit has made great strides.

Riding along today with my 10-year old, he shared with me his recent struggle with spelling a couple of words. This taps into my cue dependent memory and I flash back to the first grade, and spelling a word I struggled with complete with the smell of purple mimeograph study sheets. Fresh from the experience at the incarcerated veterans event in Chesapeake, I began to wonder. What must it be like if your cue dependent memory contains flashes of the ravages of war? As my memory brought a smile to my face, what happens to your mood, your day, your life - when these thoughts sit waiting to manifest?

At this time of thanksgiving, we are grateful for the opportunity to give back to the men and women who have given so much. I am blessed to work with a company that while being correctional experts, we are committed to being treatment-driven; agents for change in the criminal justice system. The leadership at CEC, many of whom are veterans themselves, have given us the opportunity to develop programs that serve the men and women that have served

our country. We are proud of our partnerships with the Virginia DOC, the incarcerated veterans therapeutic community in Chesapeake, the Veterans Administration in Philadelphia at the Safe Haven Shelter program for chronically homeless vets, and Pennsylvania DOC Community Corrections for returning vets in Reading, PA.

In my role as VP, my region has numerous states that have embraced the civic duty of assisting those veterans that have given so much for our freedom. Their experiences abroad and our failed reentry efforts to successfully reintegrate these individuals over the years, have led many of them to sacrifice the very freedom they have fought for.

Kudos to the Pennsylvania DOC, Virginia DOC, Florida DOC, to name a few, that have developed veterans specific housing and programming. I/we are proud to be a small part of these efforts to give back.

- Steve Tomlin, Vice President Eastern Region ■

**Veterans Safe Haven in Philadelphia had a pizza party hosted by Thank-A-Vet and the vets received a gift of a TV**



**Indian Creek Correctional Center in Chesapeake, VA held a ceremony that included an empty table, honoring the veterans that are not with us today**