

PHILLY MAYOR GETS HELP FROM COLEMAN HALL VOLUNTEERS

The Piccoli Recreation Center in Philadelphia was completely transformed by residents of CEC's Coleman Hall as part of Mayor Michael Nutter's 2nd Annual Cleanup Day.

A beautiful day in April provided the backdrop for approximately 30 work release residents that participated in a cleanup day where a group of volunteers from Coleman Hall of Philadelphia, PA painted the recreation area and filled over 100 bags of trash as part of the cleanup effort.

Coleman Hall is one-half of CEC's building in North Philadelphia that is also home to Hoffman Hall which provides 400 reentry beds for the Phila-



L to R : Mayor Michael Nutter of Philadelphia, Mrs. Michael Nutter, and Councilwoman Quinones-Sanchez

delphia Prison System. Mayor Nutter spoke at the dedication of Hoffman Hall last fall.

Mayor Michael Nutter arrived as one of his first stops of the day where he greeted and spent some time with the residents to support their volunteer efforts and encourage them on their new paths. Mayor Nutter was presented with a T-shirt given to him by CEC and thanked the volunteers.

"We so appreciate the Mayor stopping by – the guys really got a boost from his visit. He took the time to talk to our guys from Coleman Hall and be supportive of their efforts," said

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FLORIDA PRODUCES 38 PROUD GRADUATES

38 women were bursting with pride at their graduation ceremony that was held at Hernando Correctional Institution, located in Brooksville Florida to honor their completion of a reentry program back to the community. The residents delighted in a joyous celebration at their graduation from the 4-6 month reentry treatment program that is designed to be gender-specific to assist women to return to society and lead productive lives.



Clifton Rider, Director, Modality Reentry (left) with staff at HCI, Florida

The special day was celebrated with speakers, testimonials, presentation of an award, music and a presentation of the graduates. One resident had written a song which she sang for the occasion, providing a meaningful touch for all in attendance.

The keynote speaker was W.L. Vallier, a Psychiatric Specialist whose experience includes work as Commander of the Manatee County Sheriffs Office. As a result of his accomplishments a resolution was passed by both the Florida House of Representatives and the Senate

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CEC OREGON RATED TOP 6% NATIONWIDE

"Synergy," a CEC substance abuse treatment program located within Oregon State Penitentiary Minimum Security (OSP-M), received an unprecedented overall program rating of 96% on its Correctional Program Checklist (CPC) site review. The program successfully scored the highest rating of "Very Satisfactory" (above 90%) in all five of the ratings categories, including top 100% ratings for both Quality Assurance and Assessment. The evidence-based correctional program checklist is a tool developed to assess correctional

*"The good news is that this validates what we within CEC have known for some time – we have a highly dedicated and competent clinical team at the Synergy program in Oregon."
– Ed Roberts, Director of Treatment Operations for CEC*

intervention programs.

The glowing review also commended the CEC Synergy program for creating a method that has "met so many of the research-based criteria for interventions that have shown to have a positive impact on recidivism."

CEC provides services for 48 male residents at OSP-M for substance abuse and cognitive behavior programming in conjunction with the Oregon Department of Corrections. Services have been in effect since July, 2006 in the Salem facility.

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ACCREDITATIONS

CONGRATULATIONS IAH TEXAS!!

Congratulations to IAH (Polk) Secure Adult Detention Facility in Livingston, Texas!!

After a tremendous amount of hard work on the part of IAH (Polk) Secure Adult Detention Facility staff and the CEC ACA Accreditation Team, the facility had the great honor of being awarded their initial American Correctional Association (ACA) Accreditation Certificate during the ACA Commissioners Panel Hearing on April 4, 2009.

An audit of the facility took place on Feb. 9-11. The facility yielded a perfect score of 100% on mandatory standards and 99.6% on non-mandatory standards. A huge effort was put forth by the staff to prepare IAH for the audit, and all the efforts paid off immensely. The audit experienced an added challenge during that time when the Texas Commission of Jail Standards (TCJS) arrived for their unannounced annual audit on the same day. IAH rose to the challenge and received zero deficiencies, or a perfect score on the TCJS, resulting in a superb achievement.

The award was presented in Saratoga, NY, the site of the ACA Commissioners Panel

Hearing that took place over a weekend in April. An awards luncheon was held on Sunday, and present to receive the Accreditation Certificate were honored members of CEC and IAH staff John Gilbert, Regional Deputy Director for CEC; Eugene Harbin, IAH Senior Warden; Michele Coffin, IAH ACA Accreditation Manager; and Lisa Nichols, IAH ACA Assistant Manager.

"I said it through the ACA process and I repeat it now. I am extremely proud of Eugene Harbin, his staff, and the entire CEC



L to R: John Gilbert, Michele Coffin, Lisa Nichols, and Eugene Harbin with their initial ACA Accreditation Certificate at the ACA Awards Luncheon

ACA team. It is appropriate that this facility should be the first to achieve ACA accreditation within the Secure Division. From the opening date through the ICE contract award

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LIBERTY HALL INDIANA RECOMMENDED FOR RE-ACCREDITATION AT PERFECT 100% SCORE

Liberty Hall, CEC's 300-bed residential reentry center in Indianapolis, Indiana, was recommended for American Correctional Association (ACA) re-accreditation, after a two day audit on May 18-19. The facility scored a perfect 100% on all mandatory and non-mandatory

standards. During the audit, committee members reviewed the standards based on written documentation, observations, and interviews with staff and residents at each facility.

"I'm proud of CEC's accomplishments. We will continue to strive to meet and exceed the national standards set by ACA. I'd like to express my gratitude to all those who helped us reach our accreditation goals," said Tina Price, Accreditation Manager.

American Correctional Association Standards (ACA) are nationally recognized as a benchmark of excellence for correctional facilities in the United States. Unprecedented throughout the industry,

CEC maintains an outstanding accreditation record with our facilities scoring an average of 99.9% ratings on all non-mandatory standards, with 16 out of 18 facilities scoring a perfect 100% rating. CEC centers illustrate the com-

pany's commitment to a safe environment for both residents and personnel.

"I am so grateful for the hard work of each employee and very proud of the staff at Liberty Hall. I want to thank Don Thomas, Operations Manager; Heath Brant and Brad Burton, Unit Managers, for working hard to get the facility ready, and Tom Dyer, HR/Business Manager for his diligence on the ACA files," says Curt Langhammer, Director of Liberty Hall.

Liberty Hall is a residential reentry center that provides reentry treatment services to female offenders from Marion County, Indiana. Liberty Hall recognizes that female offenders have different treatment and reentry needs and provides services such as sexual abuse and domestic violence treatment, trauma and single parenthood education, substance abuse treatment, all-female Women's Issues groups, and family services.



RESEARCH & PRESENTATIONS

NJ LEADS THE WAY WITH EFFECTIVE ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION BY DR. ROBERT MACKEY

The following article was printed in the New Jersey Association of Counties Newsletter, April 29, 2009 by Dr. Robert Mackey, Senior Vice President for Clinical Services, Quality Assurance and Research for CEC.

As state budgets tighten across America, some lawmakers are forced to make tough decisions about the early release offenders. It's a tough balancing act that pits public safety against fiscal realities.

Not so in New Jersey. The New York Times (March 25, 2009) reported that New Jersey is ahead of most other states when it comes to managing its prison costs. As the article reports, due to budgetary problems some states are forced to consider releasing certain offenders without the benefit of information from evidence-based risk assessments or an effective system of alternatives to incarceration. For over a decade, New Jersey has focused on effective alternatives to incarceration including the utilization of community corrections. A critical component of New Jersey's model has been the adoption of an assessment/treatment model.

The New York Times article states:

New Jersey recently began a program for some offenders on parole with technical violations, like failing to report to a parole officer or changing their address without the officer's

approval. Rather than being returned to jail, those former inmates are sent to a center for a clinical assessment of their risks and needs. With that change, the state is on track to save \$16.2 million this fiscal year.

On March 31, 2009, further confirmation that New Jersey is on the right track was received when the federal Bureau of Justice Statistics released its 2008 report which found that the State's prison population had fallen to a new eight year low and was down 11% from 2000 (West and Sabol, 2008). Community Education Centers, Inc., the largest provider of reentry treatment services in New Jersey has provided unique assessment and treatment services to the New Jersey Department of Corrections (NJ DOC) since 1994 and the NJ State Parole Board (NJSPB) since 2002.

Highlighting the success of New Jersey's assessment/treatment model is a 2006 NJ DOC study that found halfway house participants were nearly 39 times less likely to walk-away from halfway houses in 2003 than in 1997 (Wojtowicz and Liu, 2006). In 1998, CEC, in partnership with the NJDOC, developed and opened the assessment and treatment centers in the above-cited study. The authors concluded that "the result on annual walk-away rate quantitatively confirmed the positive impact of the New Jersey DOC's policy regarding the establishment of assessment and treatment centers as the pre-halfway house filter for the



Dr. Robert Mackey, Senior Vice President for Clinical Services, Quality Assurance and Research for CEC

walk-away risk."

Another example of the effectiveness of New Jersey-based reentry programs came from research conducted by the NJ DOC and Drexel University. In this study conducted in 2004, the recidivism rates of a sample of male offenders who completed CEC's New Jersey continuum-of-care programs were compared with a control group (no treatment) of male offenders. The researchers found that the CEC group had a 30% lower rate of recidivism than the control group. A comparison of CEC's recidivism rates were also compared with the same results. It should be noted that the CEC group were

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DR. RALPH FRETZ PRESENTS "HALFWAY BACK" PROGRAM AT MHCC

Dr. Ralph Fretz, Ph.D., Director of Assessment and Research for CEC, presented at the annual Mental Health in Corrections Conference (MHCC) in late April. The presentation, "Parole Violators: Assessment and Treatment as an Alternative to Reincarceration," was based on a recent outcome study conducted by the John Jay College of Criminal Justice on the CEC "Halfway Back" programs. The "Halfway Back" programs address the inmate treatment needs and skill deficits prior to and after release from incarceration. The needs of the program participants were identified by program staff such as substance abuse, mental health issues, physical ailments, and employment and education issues. These programs are often utilized as an alternative to reincarceration for techni-

cal parole violators. During his presentation, Dr. Fretz also described the Regional Assessment Center (RAC) project, the newest addition to CEC's innovative approach to the assessment and treatment of technical parole violators.

The study, conducted in collaboration with the New Jersey Parole Board and John Jay College of Criminal Justice professors, found that technical parole violators who completed a CEC program reoffended at a statistically significant lower rate than a matched group of technical parole violators who did not complete a CEC program.

Dr. Fretz also highlighted the findings of the cost-benefit analysis that the John Jay College professors conducted as a subcomponent of their outcome study. The findings from the analysis indicates that Halfway Back programs

are a cost-effective way of increasing public safety through reduced recidivism and reduced reincarceration of technical parole violators.



Dr. Ralph Fretz, Director of Assessment and Research for CEC

The mission of The Family Services Program is to maintain family connection during incarceration while anticipating and addressing the issues families will face upon reentry. Below are some of the creative therapeutic programs our facilities offer to help strengthen family functioning through education, counseling and the maintenance of healthy family rituals.

Dr. Lou Barretti,
Director of Family Services Program



Hoffman Hall
Philadelphia, PA

We are just starting out, our numbers are consistently rising. We encourage communication and understanding of the topics presented. We allow family members to work with each other on critical thinking questions on the topic and how it applies to their individual experiences. In honor of Mother's Day, we had the children work with their fathers to create poems and letters of appreciation. This allowed the fathers and children to reflect on the worth of these women, and let them know what they mean to them on this special day!

Alayna Gallen, Family Services Coordinator



Tully House
Newark, NJ

Tully House has had consistent success with Family Services on Tuesday nights throughout the years. We average approximately 475 participants per month on Family Night. Family members are served a special meal that they share together and fathers are afforded time spent with their children to do homework and engage in play therapy, while their significant others attend Family lecture. The Family Services staff at Tully House steadily acknowledges holidays and special occasions, such as providing children with presents during the Christmas holiday. Mother's Day this year consisted of pinning each mother with a carnation and providing the children an opportunity to create Mother's Day cards.

Ramona Tranculov, Senior Counselor



Liberty Hall
Indianapolis, IN

On April 9th, we held a graduation ceremony for those that completed the program. Certificates of completion were distributed and each member discussed significant information/group dynamics that was most helpful to them. A guided imagery was implemented that focused on forgiveness and letting go.

On Mother's Day, residents were provided opportunities to play games, color, and use face paint with their children. Additionally, refreshments were served and all participants enjoyed the day.

Janet Pottoroff, Case Manager



Tooley Hall
Denver, CO

Tooley Hall sponsored a spring event that focused on Easter. There were 22 residents involved and there were 49 individuals from families and sponsors that joined us. We started the day decorating Easter eggs and baskets in preparation for an Easter egg hunt. It was great to see all the families and residents have fun with the events. One of the best parts of the day was having a resident dress up as a bunny. A few residents created a bunny costume out of random items found in the facility. We took family photos with the bunny, the resident, and their children.

Angie Riffel, Program Director

Phoenix Center
Henderson, CO

During the May Family Orientation we had approximately 15 residents' families attend our Family Orientation. Due to the large number of residents requesting to have their families attend, we will conduct another Family Orientation so that everyone may attend. We talked about the expectations of a sponsor and also talked about the rules and expectations of the facility. At the close of Family Orientation, we had a couple members from the community speak about the programs they offer for residents and families.

Amy Beckman,
Case Manager Supervisor, Phoenix Center



Casper Re-Entry Center Casper, WY

On April 11, 2009 the gentlemen at Casper Re-Entry Center hosted an Easter celebration for the families and children of the residents. Many of the residents, including those who do not have children, donated money to provide generously filled Easter baskets for each child. One of the residents parents donated stuffed animals as well. Forty baskets were filled; each with assorted pastels of Easter grass, a chocolate rabbit, and eggs filled with candy, toys and jewelry. Of course, a fluffy stuffed animal was provided to every child. The residents hosted games, dyed hard boiled eggs, had egg hunts and served cookies and ice cream. Naturally, there were plenty of willing participants to pose for pictures. A great time was had by all.

Jill Shire, Clinical Director



Talbot Hall Kearny, NJ

There seemed to be something for everyone at Talbot Hall's Family Services night on March 9th. Tubs of ice cream and an assortment of fun toppings and sauces enticed children and adults alike to make their own sundaes. A staff member fashioned animals, hats and other playful objects out of balloons. Yet another table invited children and fathers to play brief but exciting beat-the-clock games, punctuated by cries of glee or disappointment. Happy chatter filled the room as residents and loved ones relaxed with ice cream, watched or participated in the games, and played with the balloons.

On March 23rd, design-your-own-cupcakes was a highlight of the evening, as residents and their children and adult visitors selected from a variety of cupcakes, icings, and sprinkles to make their own one-of-a-kind treats. Meanwhile, fathers brought up eager children for a staff member to provide rub-on or hand-painted "tattoos." The Quality Assurance Committee prepared and staffed these special evenings to help model healthy family activities, and seemed to have as much fun as the residents and visitors.

John Williams, M.M.F.T. Sr. Counselor



Long Beach Community Correctional Re-Entry Center Long Beach, CA

Family reunification services have afforded an opportunity for families to come together and reunite to mend the hearts that have been broken. It has been an experience working with the families to enhance growth in making a better life for change. Residents share that it can allow them to stay stable physically, mentally and spiritually. They are grateful to actually experience the blessing that they get from being in recovery. Tears were shed along with laughter and joy. Life is what you make of it and for us it is to stay together.

Antoinette Tutt, Director



Logan Hall Newark, NJ

The Family Service Program offered at Logan Hall provides residents and their loved ones the opportunity to work on vital family relationships while incarcerated. In collaboration with Seton Hall University, interns from the university's Marriage & Family Therapy Graduate Program gain experience by offering family/couples counseling at no cost. In addition to the private sessions, residents and their family members are also encouraged to participate in the facility's Family Night Program. Lecture topics include, but are not limited to, communication, trust, intimacy, & parenting.

**Alyson Van Derhoef,
Family Service Coordinator**

Cheyenne Mountain Re-Entry Center Colorado Springs, CO

The Re-Entry Family Program at CMRC has been very well received by both residents and families. The program offers an opportunity for residents and families to re-connect in a therapeutic environment prior to release. Co-facilitated by two Licensed Professional Counselors, the curriculum includes psychoeducational exercises interspersed with group processing on a multi-family level. An exercise on stubbornness usually elicits some laughs from the group, while a brainstorming session about trust generates excellent ideas and group participation. In the words of an anonymous family member, "I think this is a wonderful program! I learned a lot. I can also see a huge change in my loved one!!"

Skye Hough, Mental Health Coordinator

NORTHEAST NEWS



TULLY TEAM NJ AT BAT FOR HIGHER EDUCATION



Team from Tully House Sharlene Harmon, left, Director of Education and Leighton Newlin, right Director of Special Services

The number of residents enrolled in the higher education program at CEC's Tully House has nearly tripled, thanks to the efforts of a dynamic team of dedicated staff members. Leighton Newlin, Director of Special Services and Sharlene Harmon, Director of Education for Tully House in Newark, NJ join forces in an attempt to encourage and

support the education of as many residents as possible. Darryl Hooper, Director of Tully House believes that education is the key and puts much emphasis on getting his residents on the education track.

Mr. Newlin started with CEC 13 years ago as Activities Director and Deputy Director before becoming Director of Special Services. He feels that he has helped get more than

500 residents entered into college. With the help of Ms. Harmon who does assessments, teaching, and tutoring this dynamic team have helped many to enter college and some have continued into graduate studies. One former resident has attained a Masters degree and is currently employed as an Educational Opportunities Fund Counselor at Mercer Community College.

All residents at Tully House are tested on a weekly basis and must attend school. Residents attend daily lectures and are tested with key questions. Counselors often call Ms. Harmon to discuss the progress of their residents and what areas they may need extra help or tutoring. Ms. Harmon comes from a clinical background where she worked as a Senior Counselor and Unit Supervisor before becoming the Director of Education. She sees the correlation between clinical treatment and education to be addressed, not just one or the other.

"Historically we put emphasis on behavior modification and treating anti-social behaviors. We utilize holistic approach with education, treatment and training as a means to create an effective measure to prepare for

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CEC ACKNOWLEDGES NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

CEC recognized National Nurses Week with the slogan "Our Nurses Make a Difference". Each facility celebrated in a variety of ways recognizing the exceptional service our nurses provide.

National Nurses Week took place May 6 – 12, ending on the birthday of Florence Nightingale, a pioneer of modern nursing, statistician and writer, born in 1820.

CEC is positioned to recognize, identify and respond to the challenging healthcare needs of the populations served in correctional facilities. By providing medical assessments, treatment and educational services for the various populations served, CEC focuses on providing offender healthcare services which meet and/or exceed community standards, as well as ACA, Federal, State, and local standards. This is accomplished through identified goals and objectives specific to

CEC's mission aimed at improving healthcare quality and access by providing diverse on-site services rendered by experienced medical, dental, mental health, and nursing staff

with integrity, respect, and a commitment to working efficiently and collaboratively within correctional settings.



Members of the Medical Staff at George W. Hill Correctional Facility in Delaware County, PA celebrate National Nurses Week

NORTHEAST NEWS



REVERED STAFFER IS GUIDING FORCE AT NJ'S TALBOT HALL

This spring will mark a decade of service for one of Talbot Hall's most seasoned staff. Mrs. Robinette Goins-Arthur is a Unit Manager at Talbot Hall who is credentialed as a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) and Licensed Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor (LCADC). Mrs. Goins-Arthur brings this expertise to work each day to Harmony Unit where she leads two supervisors, five Senior Counselors and five Unit Counselors. Under her leadership, this group helps prepare 140 residents for reentry as well as residents on the Mental Health Special Needs Roster – a group which poses a particular challenge to her staff as they work to prepare these residents for community release.

Even more noteworthy than the effort she puts forth with the residents and the staff she supervises is the time and effort she puts into promoting the professional growth of other CEC staff. Mrs. Goins-Arthur takes time to assist staff in the company Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor (CADC) Acad-



Talbot Hall staffers L to R:
Mark Yacker, Bertha Reels, Jermaine Jackson and Raymond Polk

emy. Often, Mrs. Goins-Arthur takes these students under her wing to coach and motivate them to succeed in this credentialing process. Two Talbot employees, Mark Yacker and Jermaine Jackson have recently passed the CADC oral examination under the tutelage

of Mrs. Goins-Arthur. Not coincidentally, under her supervision, both of these staff have been promoted to a treatment and a supervisory position respectively. These staff are just the most recent examples of those Mrs. Goins-Arthur has helped push towards advancement.

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ALUMNI HELP BEAUTIFY RUTGERS NEWARK CAMPUS

On a damp and windy Saturday in April members of the CEC Alumni Association arrived at Rutgers University in Newark to help beautify the campus by planting trees. Altorice Frazier, Alumni Coordinator for CEC, Arthur Townes, Alumni Director for CEC, and alumni members were joined by residents of Logan Hall and partnered with the New Jersey State Parole Board, Rutgers University, and neighborhood residents for this springtime

event. Approximately 48 trees were planted outside the Robeson Center Cafeteria on Bleeker Street at the campus.

Sponsoring the event was the NJ Tree Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion, enhancement and development of urban and community forestry activities in New Jersey through education, volunteerism, community outreach, partnerships, and grants. The State Parole Board and Rutgers University were also sponsors of the event.

Despite the windy conditions volunteers appreciated an opportunity to enhance the community and bond together planting trees that will blossom to provide years of memories and enjoyment on the campus.

The same act of kindness was duplicated in the Camden, NJ area by Alumnus Clifton King, an active member of the Alumni from Coleman Hall. He was accompanied by other alumni from the Philadelphia area.





REVERED STAFFER IS GUIDING FORCE AT TALBOT HALL

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"She is very supportive. She was always willing to provide time, effort and encouragement, and she continues that today," says Mark Yacker, Senior Counselor, Harmony Unit at Talbot Hall. Mr. Yacker feels strongly that attaining certification is a rigorous process that involves on-site work hours, writing papers and completing an oral exam. Without Mrs. Goins-Arthur to be there for him he doesn't know if he could have continued on towards his goal of becoming a certified counselor.

Mrs. Goins-Arthur has prepared numerous people for the CADC exam and those individuals have passed the test. She further supports candidates for their certification by giving extra time on her own and staying with them throughout the application process.

"She assisted me with my transition from Unit Counselor to Senior Counselor; she is a mentor to me. Mrs. Goins-Arthur is a caring, nurturing, fun-loving person who never tires of giving her time to assist others with professional or personal challenges for advancement, says Bertha Reels, Senior Counselor for Harmony Unit at Talbot Hall. While Mrs. Reels was completing her M.A. from Lincoln University Mrs. Goins-Arthur was there to help by critiquing her papers and offering support.

"Mrs. Goins-Arthur not only cares about the residents but she cares about the staff. Anytime anyone needs help she doesn't hesitate to step up to lend a helping hand. She is a very valuable resource here at Talbot Hall."

**– Sheila Leonardo,
Director of Talbot Hall**

"Mrs. Goins-Arthur not only cares about the residents but she cares about the staff. Anytime anyone needs help she doesn't hesitate to step up to lend a helping hand. She is a very valuable resource here at Talbot Hall," says Sheila Leonardo, Director of Talbot Hall. Mrs. Goins-Arthur has a B.A. degree from Rutgers University, is a Certified Chemical Dependency Counselor, a Certified Criminal Justice Specialist, a Certified Social Worker, and has an M.A. in Addiction Counseling from Fairleigh Dickinson University.

Have a Great Newsletter Story?

If you have an idea for an Inside CEC story please contact
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**COMMUNITY EDUCATION
CENTERS**

TULLY TEAM NJ AT BAT FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

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reentry into the community. CEC pioneered the promotion of education and matriculation through college," says Mr. Newlin.

After diligent research Mr. Newlin has been able to foster valuable partnerships to assist the college bound. The Next Step Program (NSP), works in conjunction with Essex County College in Newark, NJ, and the Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF). NSP is funded by the Nicholson Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to reducing intergenerational poverty by providing opportunities to those in urban centers. The goal of NSP is to target individuals who have a history of incarceration and/or substance abuse issues, and to assist those that are transitioning back into the community with higher education opportunities and job placement. Mr. Newlin launched the association of these programs for CEC residents. The program will take 30 people from different facilities this year. If a

"Residents say how thankful they are, many want to continue with higher education."

**– Leighton Newlin,
Director of Special Services for CEC**

student shows interest an interview will be conducted to determine if the student is ready to enter into higher education programs.

"Residents say how thankful they are, many want to continue with higher education. I would never have gotten into college – you never know what's in store for you," says Mr. Newlin.

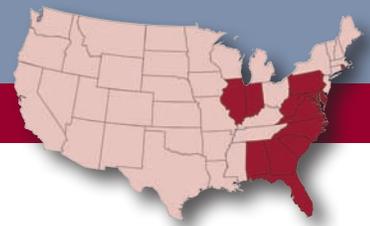
Ms. Harmon finds her work very rewarding. She feels Tully House provides a positive atmosphere for learning, and peer support is strong.

"Residents encourage each other about assignments and tests. When they take their GED we are just as excited as they are about passing," says Ms. Harmon.

Both Mr. Newlin and Ms. Harmon feel that unfortunately in the urban setting students can often "fall through the cracks" as early as the third or fourth grade. They believe that education is critical in preparing for reentry to society, and endorse the need for educational support for residents.

"There is a magnificent support system at CEC, which includes special recognition at the end of the semester. The higher education program becomes a great continuum of care. The guys become good role models for others. They are making quality decisions that will affect the rest of their lives," says Mr. Newlin.

SOUTHEAST NEWS



PHILADELPHIA'S COLEMAN HALL COORDINATOR WINS CCAP AWARD

A big honor is rightfully bestowed on Dawn Lynch, Treatment Coordinator at CEC's Coleman Hall, the recipient of the Contracted Community Corrections Professional of the Year Award – Private Agency.

Sponsored by Community Corrections Association of Pennsylvania, (CCAP), the award is presented to professionals who have contributed to the field of community corrections in an outstanding way.

Ms. Lynch has proven a tireless and dedicated worker for CEC's Coleman Hall, a 300-bed residential reentry facility located in Philadelphia, PA. In less than a year Ms. Lynch has substantially increased in-house programs available to residents for education, vocation, parenting, life skills, and job skills. In addition to these developments, the award winner has also reconfigured job search procedures which resulted in higher employment percentages, started a resident library, and is presently pursuing a Masters degree.

"I am honored to receive the CCAP award. I am very excited to work for a company that inspires growth, and I love the mission statement of CEC," says Coordinator Lynch.

Currently the CCAP Award winner is working on a pilot program based on CEC's risk-need-responsivity model, which will incorporate the Recovery Oriented Integrated System (ROIS) model of reentry in conjunction with the CEC criminal justice curriculum.

Bob Pollock, Director of Coleman and Hoffman Halls, Philadelphia, accepted the



Dawn Lynch, Treatment Coordinator at CEC's Coleman Hall, receives Contracted Community Corrections Professional of the Year Award from Bob Pollock, Director of Coleman and Hoffman Halls

"When Dawn started in June of 2008 she hit the ground running and hasn't slowed down since. Her energy and enthusiasm are infectious affecting staff and residents alike. She is a true professional and a pleasure to work with."

– Bob Pollock, Director, Coleman and Hoffman Halls

CCAP Award on Ms. Lynch's behalf, as she was busy preparing Coleman Hall for a Department of Corrections Audit.

"When Dawn started in June of 2008 she hit the ground running and hasn't slowed

down since. Her energy and enthusiasm are infectious affecting staff and residents alike. She is a true professional and a pleasure to work with," says Director Pollock.

FLORIDA PRODUCES 38 PROUD GRADUATES

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recognizing him for his contribution to the betterment of the Florida Youthful Offenders programs.

This is one event in line of several graduations taking place over the last year for CEC, who have provided reentry services to thousands of individuals that are successfully returning to the community or progressing to the next step in their correctional plan.

The services include a 12-Step program associated with AA and NA, and a comprehensive life skills education course focused on the unique needs of female offenders to overcome emotional damage caused by addictions, physical, emotional and sexual abuse, rape, abandonment, prostitution, and violent crimes.

"The women felt that in this CEC program

there was absolutely non-judgment by the staff and that the staff genuinely cared about the residents and their success with both their sobriety and life," says Clifton Rider, Director, Modality Reentry, Hernando Correctional Institution.

Equipped with a new set of tools and support, the newly emerging residents were grateful to have an opportunity to have a new focus on themselves and firmly believe they have a new way of life.

"Personally I attribute the great success we are having with our program to the outstanding work that is being done by Ms. Clemens and Ms. Rosario-Grinnan, Substance Abuse Counselors, and certainly not least to the inmates themselves who put so much hard work and effort into reclaiming their lives," says Mr. Rider.

This program, referred to as a "Behind the Walls" treatment program, appears to successfully address the unique gender-specific needs of female offenders, including addictions, physical, emotional and sexual abuse, rape, abandonment, prostitution, and violent crimes. Based on the testimony of HCI Modality graduates, these women will lead more productive lives when re-entering society.

CEC is currently the largest in-prison provider of reentry program services in Florida. Services are administered in conjunction with the Florida Department of Corrections. CEC's programs are devised to foster each offender's successful reentry into the community.

SOUTHEAST NEWS



ATEF (ALABAMA) CELEBRATES OUTSTANDING FIRST YEAR



"We offer a program based on right living. Our residents are better prepared to return to society after the six month training programs we provide here at ATEF. These skills give the resident a better chance of creating a positive path forward, thereby decreasing chances of recidivism."

– Ike Hadley, Director, ATEF

After opening just one year ago, The Alabama Therapeutic Education Facility (ATEF), in Columbiana, Alabama, has experienced an extremely successful record in its first year.

After graduating approximately 400 male and female residents during the year, only four have been found to have disciplinary complications. With this exceptional record in their first year, ATEF has reason to celebrate an outstanding success since opening in March, 2008.

Residents have completed six month programs that consist of life skills, substance abuse treatment, education and vocational skills. Having these skills will increase residents' chances of being successful at work release programs upon completion of the ATEF program.

Ike Hadley, Director of ATEF, feels strongly that providing residents with skills that allow them to participate in the family and professional environment is a necessary step in the changeover from criminal lifestyles.

"We offer a program based on right living. Our residents are better prepared to return to society after the six month training programs we provide here at ATEF. These skills give the resident a better chance of creating a positive path forward, thereby decreasing chances of recidivism," says Director Hadley.

The Alabama Therapeutic Education Facility is a collaborative effort with Community Education Centers, Inc., the Alabama Department of Corrections, and Department of Postsecondary Education.

ALABAMA THERAPEUTIC EDUCATION FACILITY

First Year of Operations
at a Glance

398

ATEF GRADUATES

755

INMATES ADMITTED
TO ATEF

(297 currently in program)

1389

INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING
SESSIONS

1022

LECTURES THAT INCLUDE:

Addictive & Criminal Thinking
Addiction & Recovery
REBT

Problem Solving Skills
Self Avocation & Regulation
Interpersonal Communication
Moral Recognition Therapy (MRT)
Meth Matrix

1092

SMALL GROUPS SESSIONS
THAT INCLUDED:

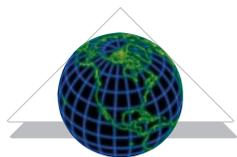
Anger Management
Domestic Violence
Parenting Skills
Life Skills
Age Specific Groups
Gender Specific Groups
Caseload Groups



RHODE ISLAND EXPANDS CEC SERVICES

The CEC StraightAhead Program, located at the State's only juvenile correctional facility, the Rhode Island Training School for Youth, (RITS) has been awarded a renewal and expansion of its services as of March 1, 2009. This makes CEC the sole provider for substance abuse treatment for the entire facility for young adults. For several years, CEC has provided services for boys in a Therapeutic Community (TC) setting at RITS. With the current expansion, CEC will now serve both boys and girls in outpatient in-prison treatment programs across the institution.

"We are pleased about the expansion and appreciate our partnership with DCYF/Division of Correctional Services which has enabled us to enhance and continue providing successful treatment services to both young men and women. This award is reflective of our staff's dedication and commitment to those we serve. We appreciate the opportunity to now provide an outpatient in-prison level of care," says Mary Rose Worthington, Southeast Regional Director for CEC.



COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTERS

PHILLY MAYOR GETS HELP FROM COLEMAN HALL VOLUNTEERS

continued from page 1

Al Stuhl, Community Relations Manager for CEC in Philadelphia.

District Councilwoman Maria Quinones-Sanchez also made an appearance for support, grabbed a paintbrush and went to work, and also took time to thank the volunteers. Ms. Quinones-Sanchez acknowledged the improvement of the Piccoli Recreation Center, located in a district of Philadelphia that is part of Ms.

Quinones-Sanchez's jurisdiction.

"The gentlemen from Coleman Hall made a substantial contribution to our work at Piccoli today, the residents of the 7th district are thankful for their support," stated Councilwoman Quinones-Sanchez.

At the end of the day the Recreation area looked greatly improved and ready to celebrate summer, thanks to the work of the Coleman Hall cleanup crew.



Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter, 2nd from right (front), joins with volunteers from CEC's Coleman Hall for the Mayor's 2nd Annual Cleanup day

PHILADELPHIA EXPANDS USE OF HOFFMAN HALL

Hoffman Hall of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, a CEC residential reentry facility, has been granted an increase for 100 beds by the Philadelphia Prison System (PPS). The facility opened last July to service 300 PPS offenders. The first year of operation has gone well and PPS has agreed to increase usage with an additional 100 residents.

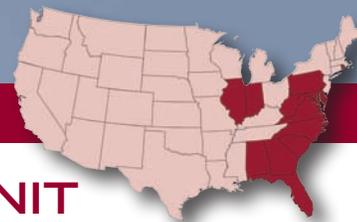
"I am extremely pleased with the progress made at Hoffman Hall with our residents and the CEC program. I am grateful to the PPS for this opportunity to expand our operation and



continue to serve the residents and our community here in Philadelphia," says Bob Pollock, Director of Coleman and Hoffman Halls.

The facility addresses the reentry needs of each individual resident and utilizes CEC's continuum of care model that is proven to reduce recidivism.

The goal of Hoffman Hall is to provide an intensive treatment program that consists of individual assessments, individual and group counseling, substance abuse treatment, educational services, vocational training, skills-based trainings, and aftercare services.



ICCC VIRGINIA DEBUTS NEW REENTRY UNIT

Indian Creek Correctional Center (ICCC) in Chesapeake, Virginia proudly added a new reentry unit March 2 to its treatment of substance abusing offenders in a Therapeutic Community (TC) setting. The new reentry unit will consist of 160 beds, within a 984-bed facility; one of the largest TC's in operation in the United States.

Operationally, Warden James V. Beale, Virginia Department of Corrections, provided CEC ample opportunity for input to changes in ways that are clinically sound, resulting in a higher overall level of community functioning. One such example of this collaboration was the opportunity to address new venues for preparing offenders for transition to the community.

CEC has operated the Indian Creek TC program for the Virginia Department of Corrections (DOC) since August 2004. The TC program at ICCC is non-voluntary for offenders in need of substance abuse and mental health treatment, work skills, vocational apprenticeships, GED/post GED education, anger management, and community transition placements.

Developed in collaboration with the Virginia DOC and the Institute for Behavioral Research at Texas Christian University (TCU), the CEC program at ICCC is an innovation in correctional treatment. The program was engineered using an "adaptive treatment model," which allows for greater individualization of service delivery within a Therapeutic Community framework. The program was featured in CJ-DATS research and pub-



Front row, fourth from left, Jim Willis, Program Director with CEC Staff

lished in the peer-reviewed journal, *Criminal Justice and Behavior*.

Another innovation of the Indian Creek TC program is an Intensive Training Unit (ITU). The ITU can accommodate up to 48 male residents and is designed for offenders resistant to treatment who participate in specialized motivational enhancement and hostility reduction programming designed by TCU.

The newly added reentry unit is designed to prepare men to transition back to Virginia's communities. The reentry unit also incorporates the adaptive treatment approach into its design to address the unique needs of each individual. Partnerships with community based agencies such as the Urban League, Office of Human Affairs, Goodwill Industries, Second

Chances, Branch Banking & Trust, Children of Incarcerated Parents, probation and parole districts, and community housing support groups culminate in wrap-around services critical to successful community reentry.

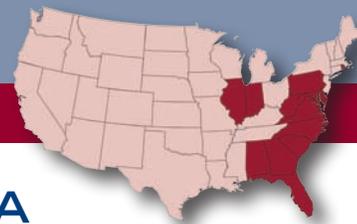
CEC staffs monitor program quality by tracking the characteristics, treatment milestones and outcomes of program participants utilizing a state of the art web-based Offender Treatment Data System.

The Virginia DOC refers to the CEC program as being "an optimal correctional opportunity to impact recidivism." The program received an exceptional 96 percent rating on an internal audit of fidelity to evidence-based principles for Therapeutic Communities. Chris Petrozzi, Director of Program Accountability for CEC, the Audit Chair noted "that it was quickly evident that there is outstanding collaboration and integration of VDOC and CEC staff." This observation was validated by audit results from the administration of the TCU Organizational Readiness for Change, (ORC) instrument. An analysis of the ORC results by TCU's Kevin Knight, Ph.D. indicated positive ratings of resources, adaptability and organizational climate.

Indian Creek Correctional Center - a model public private partnership!



**Indian Creek Correctional Center
Chesapeake, Virginia**



NORTHAMPTON COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA CELEBRATES GRADUATION

10 male inmates were the first to graduate CEC's reentry program at the Northampton County Prison that was launched last September. April 1 marked the day for the "Future Foundations" graduation, which celebrated the completion of a six month Therapeutic Community (TC) program undergone by inmates in an attempt to assist in reentering society as productive and crime-free individuals. The 64-bed TC at Northampton County Prison aims to reduce recidivism through addressing substance abuse and criminality issues by assisting the resident with counseling, treatment, educational and extensive life skills training.

The graduation ceremony consisted of addresses and remarks by Rebecca Duke-Walker, Director; Todd Buskirk, Warden; Robert Meyers, Deputy Warden; Jane Pennington, Counselor; and Jacqueline Suarez, Aftercare Counselor. Supportive speeches were made by Judge Barrata and President Judge Kim McFadden at a reception held after the ceremony for the graduates families.

"I am extremely proud of this first graduating class and their completion of this reentry program that marks an important milestone on their journey to leading productive and law-abiding lives. It was a day of completion not only for the graduates, but for the CEC program as well," says Director Duke-Walker.

Director Duke-Walker expressed her gratitude to both the DOC Administration

and Prison Advisory Board for their confidence in effect of the treatment program, to the correctional officers who work the unit for their cooperation and joint efforts, and to the CEC counselors and Administrative Assistant Lacey Jiorle for their hard work and

all the hard work of the county, CEC staff and most of all, the residents!" says Steve Tomlin, Director of Program Accountability for CEC. Mr. Tomlin is among others who anticipate more graduates for the future and hopes to see more graduation ceremonies on

"This was an exceptional day for our graduates and for our Therapeutic Community program. We are confident that this program will do well at Northampton and believe that there will be many others that will graduate back to the community as productive individuals embracing a crime-free lifestyle."

– Mary Rose Worthington, Southeast Regional Director for CEC

dedication in implementing the program and helping provide inmates with an opportunity to change.

"This was an exceptional day for our graduates and for our Therapeutic Community program. We are confident that this program will do well at Northampton and believe that there will be many others that will graduate back to the community as productive individuals embracing a crime-free lifestyle," says Mary Rose Worthington, Southeast Regional Director for CEC.

The graduates are encouraged to continue their recovery on the outside, and the CEC Counselors support them in attending CEC Aftercare groups.

"Graduation could not have gone better. It is rewarding to see the culmination of

the grounds of Northampton County Prison. Melissa Weglarz, Pennsylvania Director of In-Prison Treatment for CEC was also proud of the first graduating group from Northampton County Prison.

"This graduation day was absolutely fantastic. It's a great opportunity to see residents change through their participation in the program, and know that the CEC program works and can make a difference, says Ms. Weglarz.

Ms. Weglarz attributes the success of the program to great teamwork, and is grateful for the involvement of the county and support they are given at Northampton County Prison.

TCE TRAINING ALL-AROUND SUCCESS IN ILLINOIS

Two more successful rounds of Therapeutic Community Experiential (TCE) Training were held at Southwestern Illinois Correctional Center (SWICC) in East St. Louis, Illinois.

Both four day sessions had approximately 35 participants, consisting of CEC staff and outside vendors. These two sessions were the first TCE training sessions that included outside agencies, extending the TCE experience to encompass even more professionals that make up the corrections experience.

The training was extremely well received, and many attended felt it had made a profound difference in their approach to relating to residents and fellow professionals.

"It was a productive experience – the main objective of the training was to give all participants a better understanding of the therapeutic community model. Each member of the training community experienced the importance of how being an accountable and responsible individual enhances community growth." says Bruce Morrison,

Assistant Director of Operations for SWICC.

A representative from Treatment Alternatives for Safer Communities (TASC), an organization that deals with Aftercare attended, as well as a representative of the SAFER Foundation, an organization that deals with job preparedness for the residents, attended the training sessions.

"It built more communication between counselors and the external agencies," says Ms. Kirsten Olsteen, representative from the SAFER Foundation.

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MOUNTAIN NEWS



WYOMING WOMEN MAKE QUILTS FOR NATIONAL GUARD



Several beautiful and colorful quilts were handmade by the residents of CEC's Wyoming Women's Center as donations to various organizations. 32 residents at the Intensive Treatment Unit in Lusk, Wyoming created the extraordinary quilts made of fleece. The quilt-making project gave the residents an opportunity to crochet and show others how to crochet and work with the fabrics to design the multi-colored quilts.

The National Guard was the chosen charity to receive the fleece-tie quilts, destined for children whose Mom or Dad are being deployed on assignment. The residents at the Wyoming Women's Center

felt that the quilts would act as a comfort strategy for the children while their parents are away.

The project not only benefited the recipients of the quilts, it also helped the residents.

"Several ladies feel the quilt-making project is great for maintaining patience and calmness. It's a good stress reliever," says Keri Bennett, Counselor at the Wyoming Women's Center. Ms. Bennett reports that the women also enjoyed an opportunity to give back, and were enthusiastic about giving to the children of the National Guard.

WSC RESIDENTS VOLUNTEER AT DENVER GARDEN SITES

Residents from CEC's Williams Street Center in Denver, Colorado, enjoyed a day outdoors volunteering at local area garden sites. The Williams Street Center houses 84 male residents and is a residential reentry center that emphasizes volunteer work for the community. On this day in February volunteers from the center participated in the Denver Urban Gardens program, (DUG), a non-profit organization that creates and manages over 80 metro-area community gardens and small parks.



Robert Cole, (L), and Michael Flynn, (R), of Williams Street Center volunteering for Denver Urban Gardens Project

Current and prior residents of the Williams Street Center volunteered to help with irrigation upgrades and repairs, pathway construction, soil amendments, and fence repair and installation.

The residents expressed feelings of accomplishment as well as a sense of giving back to the community. Those volunteers that have moved on from Williams Street Center maintain enthusiasm for volunteering and are still passing that along to current residents.

Volunteers from Williams Street Center were Robert Cole, Michael Flynn, Dennis Vigil, Ronald Lukovich and Antonio Prien. The alliance between Williams Street Center and DUG has been so successful more opportunities are planned throughout the year.

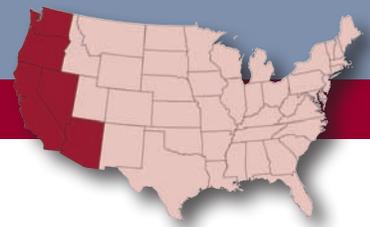
COLORADO VOLUNTEERS IMPRESS HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

It was a cold March day with a snowstorm pending in Denver, Colorado. That did not deter the residents from CEC's Williams Street Center from their day of volunteering for Habitat For Humanity. The organizers of the Habitat for Humanity project were impressed to learn that 15 residents of the Williams Street Center had signed up to help. The residents were taken to the site and supervised by Resident Manager Jantha Reeves, Non-Resident Case Manager Brooke Rash and Administrative Coordinator

Brigitte Dolan. Residents included Gerald Sease, Curtis Davis, Lee Cotton, and Lyle Lynch, who spent their day installing insulation within a building.

While other volunteers dropped out due to travel concerns regarding the weather, the Williams Street Center residents didn't complain about the weather and arrived and went right to work. The staff also pitched in and found they were going to be completed with the pre-planned work well ahead of schedule.





CEC NURSE PRACTITIONER AWARDED “NURSE OF THE YEAR” IN ARIZONA

Congratulations to Brother Rudy Valenzuela, MSN, RN, FSP, FNP-C, a nurse practitioner at CEC’s San Luis Regional and Support Detention Center for winning the “Nurse of the Year” award in Arizona. The annual award, hosted by the Arizona Nurses Association and the Hispanic Nurses Association, is selected from fourteen nominees from Yuma County. The award was presented to Brother Valenzuela at the Yuma County Nursing Recognition Banquet and Awards Ceremony that took place during National Nurses Week on May 7th, 2009.

“We are very fortunate to have someone of Br. Valenzuela’s ability at our facility, he is a loyal, dependable, and very competent nurse practitioner.”

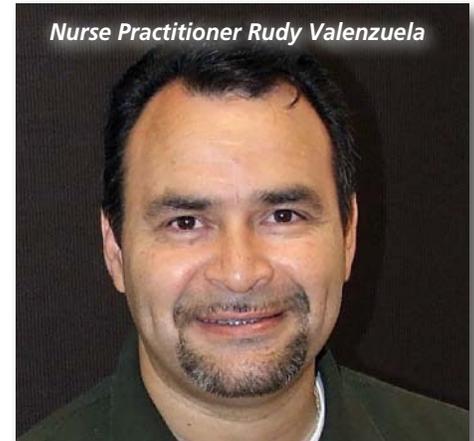
– Marlene Riordan, Corporate Director of Healthcare Services for CEC

Brother Valenzuela, a remarkable man who appears to be right for his calling has cared for innumerable individuals that require medical assistance and support at CEC’s San Luis Regional and Support Detention Center, a 450-bed facility in the Secure Facilities Division.

“We are very fortunate to have someone of Br. Valenzuela’s ability at our facility, he is a loyal, dependable, and very competent nurse practitioner,” says Marlene Riordan, Corporate Director of Healthcare Services for CEC.

In addition to being on call 24/7 for CEC’s San Luis Center as a nurse practitioner, he has a free clinic for the sick in Mexico, a full time private practice walk-in clinic in San Luis, AZ, volunteers at a methadone clinic and a homeless shelter, and is a Friar of the Sick Poor, a religious order of men in the Catholic Church dedicated to serving the underprivileged.

“In all my years of nursing, I have never seen a more dedicated individual when it comes to giving his time and effort. This is a challenging atmosphere, and when the medical department was going through changes Rudy stuck it out and never gave up. Despite



Nurse Practitioner Rudy Valenzuela

difficulties Rudy kept seeing patients. He is one of the most special, humble, giving people,” says Diane Duenas, LPN, Facility Health Administrator for San Luis Regional and Support Detention Center.

In addition to the above callings Br. Valenzuela is presently pursuing a Ph.D. in Nursing at the University of Arizona, that will make him the first and only Ph.D. in Yuma County. His doctoral research is focused on diabetes amongst the Mexican population.

CEC OREGON RATED TOP 6% NATIONWIDE

continued from page 1

The CPC is evaluated by interviews with Cindi Scott, Program Director for CEC, staff, and program participants. Examination and review of files, treatment manuals, and a group session observation are among the means of determining the rating. The CEC staff did very well, noting that they were “highly dedicated,” and met every criterion in areas of education, experience, and personal qualities. The report also highlighted Oregon DOC security staff for their great support of the program.

“Congratulations to the Synergy team and a big ‘Push Up’ for a job well done. The good news is that this validates what we within CEC have known for some time – we have a highly dedicated and competent clinical team at the Synergy program in Oregon. This just verifies it and lets everybody else know it as well,” says Ed Roberts, Director of Treatment Operations for CEC.



Paul Billeci, Western Regional Director for CEC, right, shakes hands with Cindi Scott, Program Director for Synergy, CEC at OSP-M, with CEC staff

“The CPC score for the Synergy Program at OSP-M accurately reflects the exceptional quality of clinical work being provided by Cindi Scott and her treatment team. Our Synergy clients also recognize how fortunate they are to have access to the services that they are receiving,” says Paul Billeci, Western Regional Director for CEC.

The CPC report notes that out of 509 programs assessed nationally, only 6% have been classified in the “Very Satisfactory” category, making CEC’s Synergy a successful demonstration of evidence-based practices.

“In light of budgetary constraints around corrections programming, this score brings attention to the fact that offender treatment is a valuable and quality endeavor for the state and its citizens to support. We are all in the business of changing lives and it is programs like ours that help to do this. I am proud of the work we do and thank all that help support us in doing so,” says Ms. Scott.

CEC’s services include assessment to analyze and deliver specific needs for each resident. A six-month treatment program is designed for the resident which includes substance abuse treatment, addressing anti-social behaviors, criminal thinking, and relapse prevention.

JOHNSON COUNTY TEXAS PRODUCING HONOR STUDENTS



"CEC is all about personal achievement, building self worth, and understanding that the pursuit of excellence is a choice before it is an accomplishment."

– Jim Shaw,
National Director, CEC
Secure Facilities Division

Johnson County Law Enforcement Center. "While we encourage residents to get an education and do what we can to assist them, it's ultimately back to personal responsibility. That's why residents seem to take such pride in their work when they do get that GED."

Many staffers at CEC's Johnson County work together to meet the challenges of administering educational support to the residents. The facility offers classroom instruction two times weekly that lasts throughout the day. A teacher comes in from the outside and must be skilled at handling the "open-ended", multi-level student concept. This means that students come in and out throughout each semester, some transferring to other facilities before much progress has been made. Others remain long enough to take the GED exam,

continued on page 19

JACK HARWELL CENTER PROGRESSES WELL IN TEXAS

Construction is progressing smoothly on the newly named Jack Harwell Detention Center in Waco, Texas. An 816-bed CEC facility scheduled to open in February, 2010, the Center receives its name from Sheriff Jack Harwell, a long-time highly regarded Sheriff of McLennan County. The facility will house mostly county inmates as well as some federal detainees.

The Jack Harwell Detention Center will be located adjacent to the current county jail, McLennan County, and will be sharing food service as well as other services.

What will make the Jack Harwell Detention Center unique will be a visitation center with an off-site location that will have video visitation capabilities.

"We have video conferencing at other jails, often used for parole hearings, but this

is the first video visitation in any of our facilities," says Bob Prince, Business Development and Government Liaison, Secure Facilities Division for CEC.

The Jack Harwell Detention Center will become the 19th member of the Secure Facilities Division for Community Education Centers.



SECURE FACILITIES DIVISION NEWS

CEC WELCOMES NEW WARDENS



Kenneth Karl
Fannin County Correctional Facility (Scheduled to open in August 2009)
Bonham, Texas

Warden Karl has vast experience in the criminal justice field and is accomplished in the areas of corrections, holding various positions with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) for almost 28 years. A native of Central Texas, Karl began his career in 1981 as a corrections officer and progressed through the ranks from Sergeant to Major of the Security Division. He continued to advance while working at different facilities to Warden and completed his career with TDCJ as Senior Warden of the Johnston Unit in Winnsboro, Texas, a substance abuse unit.

Warden Karl feels his experience working with multiple entities such as the U.S. Marshals Service

and federal and county agencies will be a strength for him at Fannin County. He is used to dealing with different policies amongst different agencies, and understands the need for flexibility in working with these agencies.

His educational background provides him with a degree in Criminal Justice. He calls Fannin County home as he resides there with his wife and three children.

"This is an opportunity of a lifetime. There is nothing I am not willing to do to create the best for the residents of Fannin County Correctional Facility, CEC, and the County which we serve," says Warden Karl.



David Rivas
Warden: San Luis Regional and Support Detention Center
San Luis, Arizona

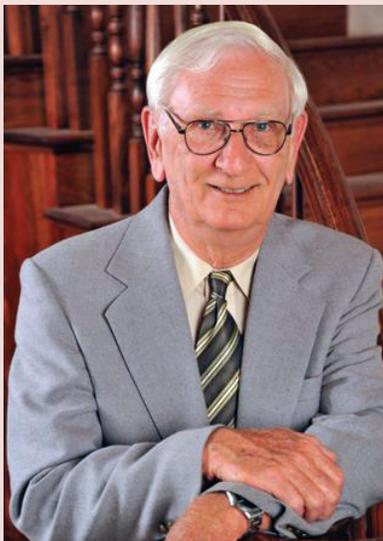
Warden Rivas brings extensive corrections experience to CEC and advanced experience as a Warden to the CEC Arizona facility. He worked for many years with the Arizona Department of Corrections where he held many positions including Warden for the Arizona State Prison Complex in Lewis which consisted of six units housing 4700 inmates. He was also Warden of the Douglas Complex, and Deputy Warden of Operations at the complex in Phoenix.

Warden Rivas served in the United States Marine Corps for 20 years, where he was a Drill Instructor at Parris Island, South Carolina and retired as a Gunnery Sergeant. He completed his

degrees while in the Marine Corps finishing with a Master's degree in Administration of Justice.

He is a Certified Correctional Executive for the American Correctional Association (ACA) and has also worked with the ACA as a Certified Auditor. Warden Rivas has experience teaching as an Adjunct Professor in Criminal Justice at Chaminda University in Hawaii, and was a Curriculum Writer for "Corrections in the 21st Century" at Anthem College.

"I am extremely excited to have joined CEC and I look forward to this new and exciting venture," says Warden Rivas.



Phil Huber
Warden: Lufkin Detention Center
Lufkin, Texas

Warden Huber comes to CEC as a seasoned professional familiar with Lufkin Detention Center and has been associated with the facility since 2005, where he has held positions that include Chief of Security, Administrative and Training Captain, and Corrections Officer. He brings a varied background to his present position and has also worked with the Texas Department of Corrections in assorted capacities. Warden Huber has 23 years of College Level Teaching Experience

at Angelina College and has taught Basic County Corrections classes with a successful 98% First Attempt Pass Rate.

Warden Huber has a law enforcement degree, is an Air Force Veteran, and is married with children and grandchildren.

"I love my job and all the people that I have met since coming to Community Education Centers in December, 2005," says Warden Huber.

TCE TRAINING ALL-AROUND SUCCESS IN ILLINOIS

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"By the end of the week we learned the structure of the TC, and were amazed at how well we were working through the lines of communication with everyone," says Stephanie Nevilles, TASC representative.

The sessions were conducted by Ed Roberts, Director of Treatment Operations for CEC, Jim Piro, Deputy Director of CEC's Casper Re-Entry Center, and Bret Youngblood, Deputy Clinical Director at Cheyenne Mountain Re-Entry Center.

"I've spent 28 years in the Corrections field and this is the first time I learned how the structure works in a TC. It's a different approach – it opens lines of communication and holds the inmates accountable for behavior," says Sgt. Darrell Evans, Correctional Officer for the Illinois Department of Corrections.

TCE Training is designed for staff to gain experience firsthand on how a TC functions.

"For me it created more empathy for what the resident goes through on a daily basis. As a counselor it was very useful. I feel I am a better group facilitator because of the training," says Danielle Barton,

Counselor for CEC.

"Different service providers, both internal and external have a basis in common to work from after going through the training – I think we can hold each other accountable, and be more supportive of each other after having gone through this together," says Doug Wilkerson, Counselor for CEC.

"Success is dependent on everyone working together, we have to rely on one another and work as a group. We have to depend on lines of communication," says Mr. Morrison.

Ms. Nevilles added that she has witnessed an important transition with residents in that they are listening more than reacting, and that it has become easier to talk to residents.

Many of the professionals who went through the training said learning "self-

correction" is a more effective method than disciplinary actions in changing criminal thinking patterns.

"It's much better for the community, the TCE training convinced me the TC is a remarkable method for working with our population," says Sgt. Louis Brinkley, Correctional Officer for the Illinois Department of Corrections.

All involved felt that it was a great experience that enhanced their professional approach, and would like to see TCE training repeated at least once a year or more, with more participants from the field involved. The participants enthusiastically agree they would recommend TCE training to all professionals in the corrections field that are involved with the TC community.

"Each member of the training community experienced the importance of how being an accountable and responsible individual enhances community growth."

– Bruce Morrison, Assistant Director of Operations for SWICC

CONGRATULATIONS IAH TEXAS!!

continued from page 2

and even through this process, IAH has been consistently faced with challenge after challenge. On each occasion they have risen to meet the challenge and have raised the bar for all who follow. Congratulations and my Thanks to this fantastic assembly of Correctional professionals," says Jim Shaw, Director, Secure Facilities Division for CEC.

IAH (Polk) Secure Adult Detention Facility

in Polk County, Texas, is a 1,054-bed facility and is the second largest facility of CEC's Secure Facilities Division.

"The staff would like to thank all of those who have helped to achieve this goal. We are very proud of this certificate and plan to do greater things in the future; not only for CEC, but for our facility, our staff, and our residents," says Michele Coffin, ACA Manager

at IAH Secure Adult Detention Facility. Ms. Coffin continued to give credit to the staff at IAH and relay what a great group she works with, and how eager they were to always help give the extra effort when preparing for the inspection.

"We are very proud of this certificate and plan to do greater things in the future; not only for CEC, but for our facility, our staff, and our residents."

**– Michele Coffin,
ACA Manager at IAH Secure
Adult Detention Facility**

**IAH (Polk) Secure Detention Facility,
Livingston, Texas**



JOHNSON COUNTY TEXAS PRODUCING HONOR STUDENTS

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which is administered quarterly by Hill Community College.

This diverse resident group enters with Tests of Adult Basic Education (TABE), followed up by study at their particular level and on to the Official Practice Test before the 7.5 hour GED exam is administered. Residents and staff have overcome some substantial challenges to learning at Johnson County. In the beginning, classrooms were made from storerooms that existed right between cell blocks.

The residents of JCLEC were in the classroom amidst so many distractions – heavy steel doors slamming, noise generated by constant traffic in the hallways as normal jail business was conducted. Loud voices and clanging doors just had to become normal background noise. It was a catch-all room, shared with the drug program. Then they received actual classrooms, and everyone wanted to use them for a variety of purposes.

“It is surprising how many here are interested in pursuing educational goals, so many wanting to learn in order to get better

jobs and to be able to help their children and grandchildren with homework. When you look someone in the eyes and tell them scores are in and they have passed that GED exam, it is solid gold rejoicing. Both for the education staff and the residents. It makes every effort worthwhile, and brings a tear to the eye. So many have written heartfelt thank yous for a chance at bettering themselves. It’s truly a joint effort. We have wonderful support from Warden James Duke and all our administrative staff, many of the guards, and Sheriff Bob Alford, who has fought hard to keep the programs going for many years,” says Ms. Jetsel.

“CEC is all about personal achievement, building self worth, and understanding that the pursuit of excellence is a choice before it is an accomplishment. It is obvious that JCLEC emulates those qualities and Pam Jetsel is the catalyst that makes it real to offenders. My congratulations to all who participate in this very worthwhile effort,” says Jim Shaw, Director, Secure Facilities Division for CEC.

NJ LEADS THE WAY WITH EFFECTIVE ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION

continued from page 3

deemed higher risk for recidivism than the control group and the national sample in critical variables (Heilbrun, 2004). Drexel University and the NJ DOC conducted a more recent study on female offenders from the Bo Robinson facility and found that the CEC group averaged a 50% reduction in recidivism compared to a similar group of female offenders from the NJ DOC (Fretz, 2006).

The results of these outcome-based studies show how effective reentry programming can reduce recidivism. These results also illustrate how the State of New Jersey has reaped cost-savings benefits as less male and female offenders have been incarcerated and reincarcerated. New Jersey ex-offenders who do not recidivate provide substantial benefits to the State of New Jersey including an increase in public safety and a reduction in the prison population. Effective reentry programs increase the likelihood that ex-inmates become taxpaying citizens. Family members of offenders who have suffered through a member’s incarceration are able to reunite through the member’s

successful transition back to the community. Effective reentry programs significantly lower incarceration rates and social services costs and reduced recidivism also provides added budgetary capacity that can be used to further the missions of our State.

About the author:

Dr. Mackey is Senior Vice President for Clinical Services, Quality Assurance and Research at Community Education Centers. With more than 30 years experience, Dr. Mackey has provided therapeutic services to adult and juvenile offenders in public and private sector operations. He is a Licensed Psychologist and former law enforcement officer.

Dr. Mackey has overseen CEC’s outcome-based research efforts which have shown significant reductions in recidivism for participants in CEC’s reentry programs. He is a graduate of Trenton State College, where he received his BA in Psychology. He is also a graduate of Seton Hall University where he earned a MA in School Psychology and Rehabilitation Counseling, and a PhD in Clinical Psychology.

NEW CORPORATE EMPLOYEES



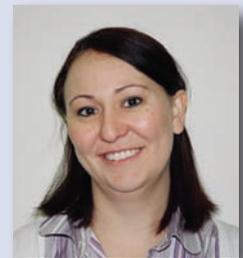
Julie Appleton,
Research & Project Manager

Julie Appleton is an attorney and worked for many years in the field of commercial real estate. Ms. Appleton joined CEC in April after being with the firm of Riker, Danzig, Scherer, Hyland & Perretti in Morristown, NJ. Previous to that Ms. Appleton was Counsel at Linens ‘n Things, and worked as an analyst at Starbucks in Seattle, Washington.



Zoraida Esquilin,
Accounts Payable Coordinator

Zoraida Esquilin joined CEC in April after working in the field of Accounts Payable for five years. Ms. Esquilin comes to CEC from a pharmaceutical background. She also has been trained in the culinary arts.



Kate Rucinski,
Senior HR Specialist

Kate Rucinski, a Human Resources specialist comes to CEC with HR experience from pharmaceutical advertising. She has a Bachelors degree in History and Secondary Education from the University of Colorado in Boulder, and has traveled and lived in different areas of the world, including Australia and Singapore.



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CEC ALUMNI PAGE DEBUTS ON



The CEC Alumni Association launched a page on the popular social networking site, Facebook, providing a centralized online location where alumni can stay connected. The Alumni Facebook page gives alumni from CEC's community corrections programs the opportunity to post all upcoming events and happenings such as alumni meetings, community service projects, and speaking engagements. Additionally, jobs and other reentry resources are shared.

"Facebook is the perfect tool for the Alumni Association to keep alumni in the loop. It's a great way to share information with our ever expanding base of active

alumni members," said Arthur Townes, Director of the CEC Alumni Association.

The CEC Alumni Association assists offenders in their transition from treatment back into the community through the provision of supportive services as they face the obstacles and difficulties associated with remaining pro-social members of their families and community. The Association is comprised of former offenders who have successfully completed a CEC program.

SWICC SPOTLIGHTED DURING APRIL CONFERENCES

April was a busy month for conferences in Illinois, as Cristi M. Payne, Director, Program Accountability and Support Division for CEC, facilitated a panel presentation at the Sixth Annual Southern Illinois Methamphetamine & Other Drug Conference. This year's convention focused on the Corrections Recovery Program at Southwestern Illinois Correctional Center (SWICC) in East St. Louis, a 671-bed facility where CEC manages a program for 200 beds fully dedicated to treating methamphetamine addicted offenders in a Therapeutic Community (TC) setting. Accompanied by Lori Moore, Deputy Director for SWICC, and Ron Vitale, Assistant Warden of Programs for the Illinois Department of Corrections, Ms. Payne made her presentation regarding the uniqueness of treating methamphetamine abusers within a correctional environment.

CEC's Correctional Recovery Program at SWICC is the only one in the country that addresses treatment needs of methamphetamine offenders, making it unique in the corrections industry. Dr. Richard Rawson acts as a collaborative partner and has adapted the matrix model for the most effective treatment for methamphetamine addiction and adapted it for the setting at SWICC. Ms. Payne hopes to increase awareness of the CEC program and is

hopeful that SWICC will become the premier national In-Prison TC Training Institute.

During the latter part of April, Lori Moore represented CEC, as a follow-up to the earlier presentation, at the Metro East Coalition Against Methamphetamines (MECAM) Conference. Ms. Moore is actively involved in the Coalition and will continue her efforts advocating for methamphetamine treatment in the correctional environment during monthly public meetings.

Both conferences went extremely well and all involved felt the presentations provided valuable information.



Cristi M. Payne,
Director of Program Accountability and Support Division for CEC