



# NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION ON CORRECTION

## 2008- 2009 ANNUAL REPORT



**Helping People with a Past ...Build a Future**



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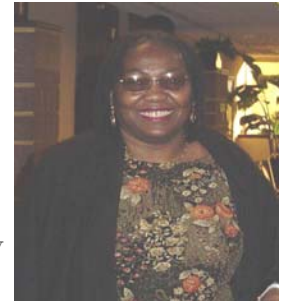
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**A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



**T**his past year has been a satisfying one for the New Jersey Association on Correction. We have largely weathered the worst financial downturn by preserving most of our existing projects, and even opening new ones. Our newest Resource Centers in Asbury Park and Lakewood, along with a new transitional housing project, affiliated

with the Passaic County Women’s Center, are soon to open; while a lead abatement program has been completed at the Paterson Shelter. NJAC has taken ownership of the Camden County Scattered Sites homes. Meanwhile, the Camden County Outreach Office, PALS program, and Broughton House have all moved to newer quarters.

**W**e are looking forward to two new projects expected to begin shortly – A PATH parole project for women and Jennie’s Place, a transitional/permanent housing program for formerly incarcerated women in Essex County.

**A**t this writing, the residents of the Garden State have just elected a new Governor. It is too early to know what positive or negative changes this will bring to our concerns. We all wish the Governor-Elect the best; and NJAC stands ready to assist and educate policy makers, media representatives and the general public on the issues facing the poor and vulnerable among us.

**I**t is sometimes frustrating to feel as though every two steps forward are followed by one step backwards. However, that does represent progress. We have lost count of all of the prisoner re-entry conferences that were held just in the past year by various government and private entities. While sometimes short on action, this indicates that there is no longer a dispute as to whether this effort is necessary. It is irrefutable that keeping families together while a loved one is incarcerated, is a vital part of that offender’s re-integration into the community. It is no longer a debatable point as to whether a higher level of education correlates to a lower recidivism rate. It is progress to note that, while these and other truths were not widely acknowledged even a few years ago; they are nearly universally held views today.

**I**t is possible, that in the current economic climate, that our elected leaders will begin to embrace lower cost, more efficient, common sense models of how to deal with social justice problems. Those of us who are providing practical solutions to issues of poverty, HIV/AIDS, addictions, criminal justice, penal reform, domestic violence, and the problems endured by victims of crime, stand ready to assist in any sincere efforts to correct, restore and heal. Attending the recent Dessert Party held to benefit the Camden County Women’s Center, and listening to the testimonials, served as a reminder of the significant good effect that our dedicated staff, volunteers and community partners have on the lives of the people we help.

**W**e are proud of our accomplishments and optimistic for our Association in the future, because of NJAC’s consistent dedication to service. We will continue to demonstrate the strength of treatment, alternative sanctions and restoring the dignity and health of those we serve.



Awards for Exceptional Service go to Lola Patterson, Yvonne Williams, Carol Rogers, Mercedes Rolon, Kim Brown, Denise Henry, JoAnne Colsher, and Celeste Danzey



The New Jersey  
Association on Correction

Proudly presents this

**VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD** to

**TERRI FITZGERALD**  
*Domestic Violence Liaison Officer*  
*Haddonfield Police Department*

*And*

**ROBERT J. MAURIELLO**  
*Director of Building Operation*  
*Camden County*

In sincere appreciation of your outstanding  
commitment to helping the women and children of  
Camden County Women's Center



Angel Perez, Deputy Director, accepts his award for thirty years of service from Jim Hemm, Executive Director.

**NJAC**

**2008**

**ANNUAL**

**MEETING**

**AWARD**

**WINNERS**



**2** Two Year Service Award winners

The New Jersey  
Association on Correction

Proudly presents this

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S AWARD** to

**DIANE HOBBS**

In recognition and sincere appreciation of your  
commitment and selfless dedication to the New  
Jersey Association on Correction

*And to*

**HELENA TOMÉ**

In recognition and sincere appreciation of your  
commitment and thoughtful dedication to the  
clients and programs of the New Jersey  
Association on Correction



**5** Five Year Service Award winners

The New Jersey  
Association on  
Correction

Proudly presents this

**SANDRA VAUTERS**  
AWARD to

**JUANITA WILLIAMS**  
for  
Overcoming  
Adversity



# RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS

## SANFORD BATES HOUSE

Also known as the Parole and Aftercare Transitional House (PATH), this is a 20 bed residential program in New Brunswick that assists male homeless parolees with positive reintegration back into the community through assistance with finding permanent housing and other activities that reduce their risk of criminal recidivism.

*Sanford Bates House has some exciting programs that help the men become more stable in their community. Every last Tuesday of the month is the **Night of Hope**. On this night, speakers come to share their experiences, strength, hope and knowledge with the residents. A **Round Table** is a resident-run discussion group that gives the residents the opportunity to take part in problem solving program issues and to implement consequences to negative and positive behaviors. Residents can give back when they contribute to **The Box**- a bank of resident's cash donations whose primary purpose is to assist other residents who lack income for things such as transportation, employment attire and educational fees. The box was initiated by the residents. The **Transitional Housing Program (THP)**, reopened in March 2009, is a continuum of Sanford Bates House and offers affordable housing, a supportive environment, group counseling and case management to eight graduates.*

## BROUGHTON HOUSE

A 25 bed residential pre-release program in Newark that assists men with HIV and other special needs with positive reintegration back into the community through activities that reduce their risk of criminal recidivism.



*On October 28, 2008, Broughton House completed an American Corrections Association (ACA) accreditation. Broughton House received a 100 percent on the mandatory standards and 98.4 percent on non-mandatory standards. In January 2009, Mariah Morrison, Helena Tome, Lola Patterson and Jennifer Sheahan attended the ACA conference in Orlando, Florida. On January 12, 2009, they accepted the Broughton House Accreditation Certificate.*

## CLINTON HOUSE

A 40 bed residential pre-release program in Trenton that assists male inmates with positive reintegration back into the community through activities that reduce their risk of criminal recidivism.

*In November 2008, Clinton House completed an American Corrections Association (ACA) accreditation. On January 12,*

*2009 Program Supervisor Qasim Nathari accepted the Certificate of Accreditation from the American Correctional Association, certifying that Clinton House met the ACA standards as an accredited residential community release program. This was a milestone in the history of Clinton House, NJAC's first halfway house, opened in 1966.*



NJAC Clinton House staff: Ben Richardson, Alex Pearson, Kathy Dennis, Rise Dawson, Robert Dixon, Qasim Nathari, and Deborah Carson

## MILLICENT FENWICK HOUSE

A 50 bed residential pre-release program in Paterson that assists women with a history of substance abuse with positive reintegration back into the community through activities that reduce their risk of criminal recidivism.



## WINIFRED CANRIGHT HOUSE

A 12-18 month residential program in Asbury Park that assists up to eighteen HIV positive men recover from addiction, improve their health care, and stabilize in the community.

## PASSAIC COUNTY WOMEN'S CENTER (PCWC) DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER

A sixty-day confidential shelter in Passaic County for up to fifteen women and children that have become homeless as a result of leaving a domestic violence situation and also serves as the location for the 24-hour hotline.

*PCWC shelter was shut down for approximately 8 months this past year due to lead paint. Due to the lead abatement, NJAC renovated the entire facility and it is now working better than ever.*

(Continued on Next Page)

## Residential Programs Continued...

### **CAMDEN COUNTY WOMEN'S CENTER (CCWC) DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER**

A sixty-day confidential shelter in Camden County for up to thirty women and children that have become homeless as a result of leaving a domestic violence situation and also serves as the location for the 24-hour hotline.

### **CAMDEN COUNTY SCATTERED SITES PROGRAM**

A subsidized permanent housing program for 10 families with at least one HIV-positive resident. A Case Manager works with each family to maintain stable housing within one of ten units within the community.

### **ESSEX WOMEN'S TRANSITIONAL HOUSING**

In operation since late 2006, this program provides 10 women who would otherwise be homeless after leaving prison with transitional housing to assist in their reintegration process. Residents are all participants in the Essex County Day Reporting Center. Women in transition are taught life skills that are needed to be successful members of the community.

## NON-RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS

### **CCWC OUTREACH CENTER**

Serves as the center for non-residential support services to survivors of domestic violence in Camden County and includes counseling, referrals, legal advocacy, community education, support groups, and accompaniment to hospitals, police, and courts.

### **CORRECTIONAL AIDS PROJECT (CAP)**

Provides discharge planning to inmates within three months of release at five area correctional institutions and assists them with linking to community services once they are released.

### **ESSEX COUNTY WOMEN'S DAY REPORTING CENTER:**

In operation since late 2006, this program provides an array of services to 20 female ex-offenders in their reintegration process. Program participants are provided with opportunities to gain employment and employment skills, and increase their educational, vocational and technical skill sets. They are also assisted in developing life skills, life management, coping skills and making positive community contacts in Essex County.

### **PALS Program (Peace A Learned Solution)**

P.A.L.S. is operational in both Passaic and Camden Counties and targets youth ages 4-12 that have been exposed to domestic violence, either as victims or witnesses. The program utilizes music therapy, art therapy, play therapy and other expressive therapies to facilitate children's recovery from their traumatic experiences. The goals of all the expressive therapies are to enable children to gain mastery over their feelings that are affecting behaviors and performance in educational and social environments.



### **PCWC OUTREACH CENTER**

Serves as the center for non-residential support services to survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence in Passaic County and includes counseling, referrals, legal advocacy, community education, support groups, and accompaniment to hospitals, police, and courts. The Batterer's Treatment

Program, a program of the PCWC, serves men that have battered women and subsequently been court ordered to treatment in order to break the cycle of domestic violence.

### **The PUBLIC EDUCATION AND POLICY PROGRAM**

Focuses on tracking legislative action affecting NJAC populations and advocating for those policies that advance the mission of the Association, as well as educating the public, through media and other mediums, about criminal justice and related issues.

### **THE RESOURCE CENTER**

A walk-in center in New Brunswick that assists offenders and ex-offenders with meeting emergency needs, becoming productive citizens, and stabilizing in the community. Project Reunion is a program of the Resource Center which assists offenders, ex-offenders and other parents in need of support with parenting skills training and facilitates positive interactions between parents and children separated due to incarceration.

*The Resource Center remains very active in the local community. They were able to provide temporary emergency housing for 12 men that were relocated from living on the banks of the Raritan River; 8 of those men were able to obtain permanent housing. They also ran a voter registration drive for ex-offenders and homeless individuals. Through attending the Middlesex County Drug Court Program, Resource Center Case Managers have been able to assist participants with successful completion of the program. Five Human Rights Workshops were conducted this year, which introduced the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, presented the Constitutional Counterparts, and discussed Civic Response/Responsibility. The expert panels were well received and the attendees were provided with certificates for Continuing Education Credits.*

To see the full text of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights go to:

<http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/>

# FUTURE OUTLOOK



⇒ **Monmouth and Ocean County Resource Centers:** NJAC received a grant to replicate the Middlesex County Resource Center in Ocean and Monmouth counties. One of the locations was shut down due to a conflict in zoning. However, NJAC is currently looking into leasing a different building and hopes to be up and running by February 2010.

⇒ **Jennie's Place:** NJAC received a grant from HUD to provide 8 units of permanent housing to disabled ex-offender women in Newark. It will service women who have exited the criminal justice system and are homeless and have a disability, such as a mental health diagnosis, substance abuse history or AIDS. The housing will be permanent,

allowing the women to remain there for as long as they wish. Women in the program will also receive case management/supportive services while in the program. The facility and has been undergoing renovations and should be up and running by February 2010.

⇒ **PCWC Transitional Housing:** Renovations have been completed and NJAC is currently awaiting inspections on this 2nd stage housing for women that have been victims of domestic violence. Residents will live in a congregate living environment and will have access to case management services, including advocacy, accompaniment, community referrals, transportation assistance, assistance with DYFS/DCF cases, individual and group therapy, parenting skills classes, budget planning and other needed services to assist them in finding permanent housing while remaining safe. They length of stay will range from 6-18 months. NJAC hopes to celebrate the Open House in March 2010.

⇒ **Parole Aftercare and Transitional Housing (PATH)** is in the process of being duplicated in Perth Amboy for women ex-offenders. Similar to Sanford Bates House, the facility will house 20 ex-offenders who are homeless and provide case management services.

“Once social change begins, it cannot be reversed. You cannot uneducated the person who has learned to read. You cannot humiliate the person who feels pride. You cannot oppress the people who are not afraid anymore. We have seen the future and the future is ours.”

~ Cesar Chavez (Founded the National Farm Workers Association)

## Broughton House and Clinton House

NJAC's newest programs to receive accreditation from the American Correctional Association



*On January 12, 2009, staff accepted the Broughton House and Clinton House Accreditation Certificates in Orlando, FL. Broughton House received a 100 percent on the mandatory standards and 98.4 percent on non-mandatory standards, with Clinton House attaining similar results.*

# Thank You to our 2008-2009 FUNDING PARTNERS

Camden County Community Development Block Grant

Camden County Department of Human Services

Camden County Welfare

IOLTA Fund of the Bar of New Jersey

Middlesex County Human Services Advisory Council

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs:

⇒ CSBG Program

⇒ Division On Women

⇒ Shelter Support

⇒ Women's Shelter Grant

New Jersey Department of Children & Families (DCF)

New Jersey Department of Corrections

New Jersey Department of Health & Senior Services

New Jersey Department of Law & Public Safety:

⇒ VAWA Grant Program

New Jersey Housing Mortgage Finance Agency (NJHMFA)

New Jersey State Parole Board

Passaic County Department of Human Services

Passaic County Freeholders

Passaic County Welfare

United Way of Central Jersey

United Way of Camden County

US Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD)

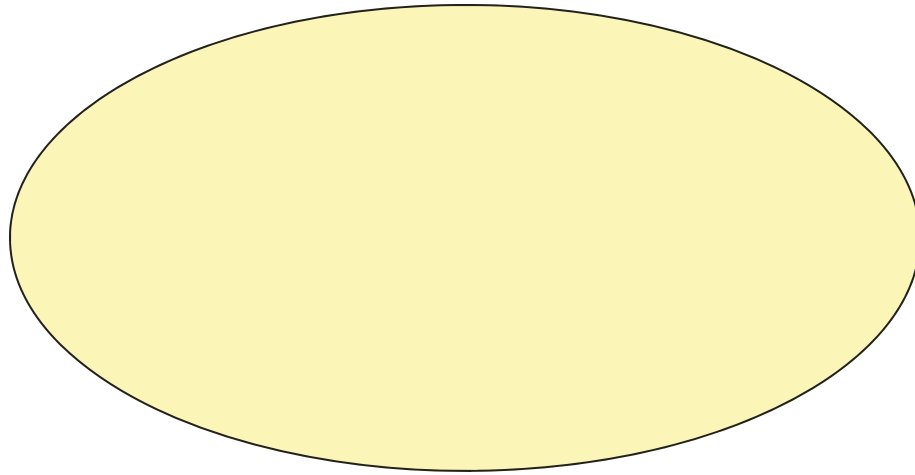


Working together to offer respectful and dignified solutions that help individuals make positive changes.



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*Helping People with a Past Build a Future*



***NJAC MISSION STATEMENT***

To promote social justice and human dignity in the policies and institutions which govern offenders and victims of crime through educational, legislative, and rehabilitative programs.



**NJAC PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT**

**NJAC believes that, although individuals are sometimes caught in circumstances beyond their control, they are capable of making change in their lives and being re-directed to more positive behaviors when provided with the tools necessary to do so. We also believe that people are best served in a respectful and dignified manner in the community, rather than in an institutional setting, in order to reach their highest potential for independent living.**

For more information, write or call the New Jersey Association on Correction.

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