

2013-2014



**New Jersey Association
on Correction**

*Mental Illness: A
Life Sentence?*



Annual Report

Helping People with a Past Build a Future



A message from the Board President & Executive Director

2014 Annual Meeting

Mental Health and Reentry

Featuring a panel of speakers discussing mental health services in reentry programs including day-to-day service delivery, national trends, and the role of trauma and stigma surrounding the ex-offender and mentally ill population.

Dr. Beth Angell

Associate Professor, Rutgers University

Dr. Wendi Williams

Associate Professor, Long Island University

Patricia McKernan, MSW, LSW

Chief Operating Officer, Volunteers of America Delaware Valley

The discussion of mental health in the United States has historically been a silenced conversation. Until the increased tragic incidents of violence that have appeared throughout our country – in our schools, public spaces and even our homes – mental health and its untreated consequences were thought of as “isolated incidents”. Episodic events of harming one’s self or others were dismissed until the conversation slowly began to change. Many blamed the increase of these occurrences on the closing of mental health institutions. Some believed it is an individual’s inability to maintain continuous treatment and access to medication. The list continued: post-traumatic stress disorder, post-partum depression, chemical imbalance, substance abuse. Despite the reasoning, the discussion of mental health has taken on a new shape and form. Its prevalence among Americans has become more profound – affecting both adult and adolescent men and women.

In the realm of community corrections, the conversation becomes particularly pervasive when considering the reentry process of mentally ill ex-offenders. Ex-offenders are already faced with an abundance of challenges, including lack of positive social support and difficulty acquiring gainful employment and safe housing. These challenges become increasingly daunting when an individual is suffering from a mental illness. Individuals who are labeled as both “ex-offender” and “mentally ill” are often stigmatized. These individuals may find it difficult to overcome this stigma as well as struggle to obtain services that will properly diagnose and treat them. Without the necessary support systems to assist this population, their environmental and medical issues jeopardize their reentry success, and unfortunately may contribute to recidivism.

The New Jersey Association on Correction recognizes the contributing factors that puts the reentry process of offenders at increased risk. We welcome the conversations to be held at the 2014 Annual Meeting and encourage the dialogue to continue – openly and honestly. It is our intent to carry this conversation into 2015 and beyond to increase the amount and types of tangible assistance ex-offenders can receive to better the course of their reentry. Our commitment to this endeavor is revealed in the choice of our esteemed panel of speakers at this year’s Annual Meeting. Reflected by our mission – to promote social justice and human dignity – we remain steadfast in the establishment of policies and institutions that govern both victims and offenders through educational, legislative and rehabilitative programming.

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NJAC’s mission is 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.

2013 Annual Meeting

December 5, 2013

“Gun Control in NJ: Past, Present, & Future”



Board President Charley Flint presents an appreciation award to Nicola Bocour after her presentation on gun control.

Presentation by Nicola Bocour

Nicola Bocour’s presentation on gun control explored current trends in New Jersey, touching on both legislative activity and the changing public opinion. She discussed how New Jersey has addressed gun control in the past, as well as what is expected in the future.

Ms. Bocour has been an active member of the gun violence prevention community for over 10 years. She co-founded Students for a Safer Tomorrow at Montclair High School, a student association dedicated to advocating for common sense gun legislation and spreading awareness of the effects of gun violence. She returned to the program as a Director and Advisor upon graduating college, and currently serves as the Director of Ceasefire NJ, New Jersey’s longest standing gun violence prevention organization.

Certificate of Appreciation

-Camden Community Advisory Board
-Lola Paterson, Qasim Nathari, Ania Jarmulowicz, Gloria Gonzelez, Jacqueline Boyden

Sandra Vauters Award

-Debra Jabbie

Volunteer of the Year

-Cathie Havlin
-Vickie Jengo

Members of PCWC DVRT team

Exceptional Service Awards

Daisy Beckett, SRPW
Donald Carson, MCRC
Tyrone Laws, WCH
Stacy Hampton, WCH
Gloria Gonzalez, CH
Anabel Pacheco, CCWC
Julie Janis-Moran, MFH
Brianna Marte, PCWC
PALS
Jennie Vega, PCWC
Alberta Pinnick, PCWC
Jean Nolan, GM



Diane Hobbs presents Jo Anne Colsher with her 15 year award. Charley Flint presents Angel Perez with his 35 year award.



Exceptional Service Award recipients Daisy Beckett and Alberta Pinnick.



Dr. Flint and recipients of the 5 years of service award. Debra Jabbie speaks after receiving the Sandra Vauters award.

Years of Service Awards

2 Years
Linda Dandridge, GM
Sheila Trapp, GM
Julie Janis-Moran, MFH
Lisa White, MFH
Maria Pintar, PCWC
Michele Pollock, CCWC
April Cain, CH
Phil Cason, CH
Sharon McKay, PCWC
Gerardo Espinoza, PCWC
Chico Williams, CCWC

5 Years
Daisy Beckett, SRPW
Sheila Lindsay, CCWC
Noreen Sherwood, GM
Philadelphia Shipman, SRPW
Marie Snow, CCWC
Beautelle Thomas, CCWC
Angela Byers, WCH
Glen Lawhorn, SBH

10 Years
Ruth Haines, CCWC
Dawn Abate, CCWC

15 Years
Jo Anne Colsher, GM

35 Years
Angel Perez, GM

Honored, but not present: Edward Martone, Executive Directors Award; Julia Aleman, Certificate of Appreciation; Ben Richardson, Certificate of Appreciation

NJAC Programs and Services

2013-2014 Review

Specialized Reentry Program for Women

Newark, NJ

40 New Admissions

24 Successful Completions

35 Clients Placed in Employment

CRC Program

8 New Admissions

2 Successful Completions

2 Clients Placed in Employment



Sanford Bates House

New Brunswick, NJ

56 New Admissions

21 Successful Completions

17 Clients Placed in Employment

Middlesex County Resource Center

351 Clients Served

178 Clients Obtained Employment

244 Clients Obtained Identification

98 Clients Received Assistance with Housing

57 Clients Referred to Entitlements Programs

Millicent Fenwick House

Paterson, NJ

92 New Admissions

58 Successful Completions

25 Clients Placed in Employment

1 Client Achieved her GED

\$145,457.80 in Gross Wages

\$10,821.77 in Federal Taxes Paid

\$2,326.40 in State Taxes Paid

\$14,465.48 in Fines, Fees & Restitution Paid

\$34,339.85 in Maintenance Fees Paid



Clinton House

Clinton House

Trenton, NJ

73 New Admissions

32 Successful Completions

32 Clients Placed in Employment

2 Clients Achieved their GED

\$208,362.90 in Gross Wages

\$12,273.69 in Federal Taxes Paid

\$2,977.20 in State Taxes Paid

\$19,213.07 in Fines, Fees & Restitution Paid

\$47,551.52 in Maintenance Fees Paid

**What's
new!**



Jennie's Place in Newark, NJ provides permanent housing and case management services. Recipients are women with a disability, and those who have exited the criminal justice system and would otherwise be homeless.

NJAC began providing residential services for male parolees in Newark, NJ. This building, located next to the SRPW building, has a capacity to house up to 18 men for up to 6 months.



NJAC was awarded a Landlord Incentive Grant from the Department of Community Affairs to provide subsidized housing (6 apartment units) to low-income individuals in Trenton, NJ.

NJAC recently embarked on a complete overhaul of the agency's computer and information technology systems. All programs are receiving updated equipment that will allow staff to provide and document services to clients more efficiently.



NJAC Programs and Services

2013-2014 Review

Winifred Canright House

Asbury Park, NJ

40 Clients Provided with Housing

33 Clients Received Treatment Adherence Counseling

36 Clients Received Group Support Counseling

C.A.P.

45 Clients Received Outreach Services

65 Clients Received Case Management Services



Winifred Canright House



Camden County Womens Center, Shelter

148 Residents; 67 Women, 81 Children

Camden County Womens Center, Outreach

948 Clients Served

CCWC PALS

Intakes: 43 Parents, 69 Children

Program Participants: 26 Parents, 58 Children

Program Graduates: 9 Parents, 21 Children

Transportation provided for 25 Parents and 58 Children

Passaic County Womens Center, Safe House

185 Residents; 82 Women, 103 Children

PCWC Outreach

1,386 Clients Served; 1,206 Women, 173 Men, 7 Children

PCWC PALS

80 Clients Served; 31 Caregivers, 49 Children



Pictured above is a project completed by PCWC PALS clients. A group of 6-7 year old boys and girls developed an ocean scene that involved multi-layered problem solving. The children tagged the underside of the fish with a feeling. When each child went "fishing", they told of a time they experienced that feeling.



Several NJAC employees attended the Middle Atlantic States Correctional Association's (MASCA) 76th annual conference, June 11-14, in Washington DC.

On Wednesday, April 23rd, Passaic County Women's Center recognized Denim Day to promote discussions of the misconceptions that surround sexual violence. Pictured below are CCWC and PCWC staff participating in Denim Day.



On September 26th and 27th, PCWC and CCWC each hosted a conference that featured Lundy Bancroft. He spoke about the link between domestic violence and child abuse and neglect, and also discussed victim blaming. Mr. Bancroft also spoke about the resiliency of children to recover from traumatic events. A panel was held after his presentation in which each individual spoke about what their agency does for children in Passaic and Camden Counties. The discussion included the similarity of issues surrounding their daily work.



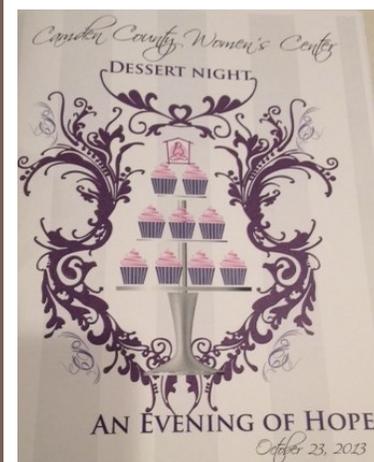
2013-2014 Highlights & Events

CCWC Dessert Night

The Camden County Women's Center hosted its annual Dessert Night Fundraiser on Wednesday, October 23, 2013 at the Tavistock Country Club. The event featured a dessert buffet and a tricky tray with many baskets donated by CCWC's community partners and friends. NJAC thanks the CCWC staff and everyone involved in making this year's Dessert Night another success.



Pictured above is LaRay Tisdale, SRPW Facility Monitor, facilitating a public speaking group with clients.



NJAC hosted an employee picnic at the Somerset Patriots stadium on July 23rd, 2013



NJAC is proud to announce that Eric Jackson, Treasurer of the Board of Trustees, was recently elected Mayor of the City of Trenton. Mr. Jackson has served on the NJAC Board of Trustees since 1996. He was inaugurated on Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

New Jersey Association on Correction

Helping People with a Past Build a Future

Thanks to the support of our funding partners, we are able to continue to provide quality services throughout the state of New Jersey.

- Administrative Office of the Courts-ISP
 - Advocacy Fund
- Camden County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- Camden County Department of Health and Human Services
 - Camden County Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
 - Camden County Welfare
 - Passaic County Welfare
- Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders Support Grant
 - The IOLTA Fund of the Bar of NJ
- NJ Department of Corrections
 - NJ State Parole Board
 - NJ Department of Health
- NJ Department of Community Affairs (DCA)
 - Community Service Block Grant (CSBG)
 - Landlord Incentive Program
 - Shelter Support Grant
- NJ Department of Law and Public Safety
 - VAWA/VOCA/VAG
- NJ Department of Children and Families (DCF)
 - Division of Children Protection & Permanency (DCP&P)
 - Division on Women (DOW)
 - Facilities Improvement Grant
- Passaic County Department of Human Services
- US Department of Housing and Urban Development
 - Women's Shelter Grant



NJAC Philosophy Statement

NJAC believes that although individuals are sometimes caught in circumstances beyond their control, they are capable of making changes in their lives and being redirected 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.

NJAC Administrative Office

986 South Broad Street

Trenton, NJ 08611

P: 609-396-8900 | F: 609-396-8999