

Happenings

Minnesota Community Corrections Association

Reentry Metro Expands Women's Program

by Anne McDiarmid

Reentry Metro is pleased to announce the addition of four more beds to its residence at 444 W. Lynnhurst, St. Paul, MN. The facility's "garden level" was recently remodeled to accommodate the increase in the number of residents. On September 15, 1986, Metro began operating a residential facility in St. Paul for women offenders and their children. Since the program has been operating at capacity for the past few months, Metro requested city Licensing authorities to authorize an increase in the number of beds. Because of this increase, Metro is able to realize one of its most important goals, which is to be able to accept more mothers with their children into the program.

Since September, 1986, Metro has developed its own in-house programming and has established and solidified its connections with other community resources which provide programming for women offenders. Metro offers a regular women's support group, a women's sobriety group, bible study, and a family education group as part of its in-house programming. Special groups for informational or educational purposes are frequently held. Metro has a computer and a large number of educational (ie. GED preparation) and recreational discs for the women's use. A volunteer program was recently initiated which has been quite successful. Activities include bowling, financial management assistance, a cosmology evening and a cook-out.

Metro staff also encourages residents to seek assistance in the community and to become familiar with the community resources which they will be using when they leave the program to establish independent living situations. Metro refers the residents to a vast array of community facilities including Genesis II, Wilder Community



The computer is a popular spot for Reentry Metro residents and their children.

Gun Control: After Feds Give... State Takes

When the federal government relaxed its gun control law last fall ex-felons were promised an early return of their privilege to possess guns. However, the state legislature quickly acted to strengthen its proscription, thus removing the short-lived benefit.

The 1987 Minnesota legislature enacted changes in several state laws which, effective May 29, 1987, prohibit persons who have been convicted of felonies from possessing, using or transporting any firearms until ten years after discharge from probation or parole and restoration of their civil rights. The law applies to persons convicted of "Crimes of Violence," which include not only murder, assault, robbery and sex and weapons crimes, but also burglary and felony theft. The legislature also added felony drug offenses to the list of included crimes.

The changes began last fall when, effective in November 1986, the federal Gun Control Act of 1968 was amended to give states primary control of the firearms issue. The changed law prohibited the possession or use of firearms by convicted felons while the sentence was in effect. The restriction was to be dropped when the state restored the offender's civil rights. Consequently, when a person was discharged he could possess a firearm. This relaxation of the control was, however, limited to rifles and shotguns because the state Handgun Control Act prohibits felons from having pistols until 10 years after discharge.

MCA Conference

MCA Conference Committee Members have been organizing and planning this year's conference since December of last year. We will be finalizing our program in August and other than the move in conference dates, we have made a location change and program changes which we predict will result in an exceptional conference. Here's what we have put together thus far.

Our move to the Radisson Hotel South in Bloomington, MN (Hwy's 494 and 100) was subject to considerable debate back in December. After a number of us visited the Radisson South, we were convinced to give it a try. Comparable prices, exquisite conference space, easy access, area entertainment and at long last, free parking were advantages we simply could not disregard. We will be particularly interested in your opinion of our move after the conference.

This year, as in past years, we are working hard to maximize the training portion of the conference. We will be offering three general sessions, four two and one-half hour seminars on Friday, forty workshops, our usual Wednesday morning institute and an expanded resource fair. Although we will be making a few changes and adding workshops in the coming weeks, here is the conference training agenda as it stands now.

Wednesday, November 4th.

All day resource fair.

8:00 to 11:15 a.m. institute, "Learning to Be a Credible Witness" presented by John Tierney, Hennepin County Attorney's Office.

10:00 to 11:15 a.m. workshops, "Prison Overcrowding", "Financial Planning", "Gangs", "State Plan for Female Offenders", "Victim's Rights", "Newgate", "Intensive Surveillance Unit", "Sexual Abuse of Children" and "Role of Chaplaincy".

12:00 to 1:15 p.m. general session, Dr. Charles Friel, "Justice: Rendering to Each Their Due" sponsored by the National Institute of Corrections.

1:30 to 3:00 p.m. resource fair (no workshops).

3:15 to 4:30 p.m. workshops, "Corrections History", "Juvenile Recodification", "Licensing", "Adolescent/Young Adult Development", "High Tech Health Care", "Anoka DWI Program", "Cocaine", "Certification of Juveniles", "Learning Disabilities".

Thursday, November 5th.

All day resource fair.

9:00 to 10:00 a.m. general session, Carl Eller.

10:30 to 11:30 a.m. general session, TO BE ANNOUNCED.

2:15 to 3:30 p.m. workshops, "Electronic Surveillance", "Professional Boundries", "Dealing With Aging Parents/Older Clients", "Prostitution", "Small Jail/Large Jail Problems", "Victim/Offender Reconciliation", "Film Revue", "New Developments in Restitution", "MACCAC Panel", and "Financial Planning".

3:45 to 5:00 p.m. workshops, "Posse Commetatis", "Aids", "Problems of Out-State Agents", "PMS", "Marketing in Corrections", "Linkages", "Film Revue", "Mediation in Child Custody Disputes", "Private Treatment Foster Homes" and "Recruiting Minorities".

Friday, November 6th.

9:00 to 11:30 a.m. seminars, "Adult Children of Alcoholics", "Individual Assessment of Juveniles", "Gang Activities in Institutions" and "How to Supervise a Sex Offender".

"Bob and the Beachcomber's" will create a beach party atmosphere and play 50's and 60's music at our annual Wednesday night dance. Thursday will feature a late afternoon pool side hospitality hour and prize drawing. In addition, Bloomington and its surrounding area offer numerous restaurants, shopping malls, recreation and entertainment. Specific information about these activities will be available at the conference.

This year's conference will be offered at last year's low cost of \$45 for registration, \$15 for membership, \$4 for entertainment and \$10 for the institute. A special one day registration fee of \$20 is new to this year's conference.

Registration materials and more information will be available during late August and early September. Register early and contact Carol Smith at 779-1851 or Sharen Southard at 348-3974 for your immediate concerns.

MCA Requests Awards Nominations

The Minnesota Corrections Association is soliciting nominations for annual awards to be presented to outstanding correctional programs and worthy individuals at the Association's Fall Conference.

This is an annual event at our conference, and one which everyone looks forward to.

It is an opportunity to recognize correction's best. Your nomination will help ensure that the MCA Awards Committee has a representative field of candidates to choose from. Awards are conferred in four separate categories:

I. **Corrections person of the year.** For outstanding contributions to corrections in Minnesota by an individual.

II. **Professional Achievement Award.** Achievement on the job which exceeds that which is routinely expected as part of the person's employment.

III. **President's Award.** To a program, resource, or facility which has demonstrated creativity, resourcefulness and innovation.

IV. **Correctional Counselor Award.** Recognition of a correctional counselor or officer in a state, county, local, or private facility who has demonstrated outstanding performance in the care, custody, and control facility residents. Nomination forms are available by calling Pat Adair at (612) 348-2762. The deadline for submitting your nomination(s) is August 25, 1987. We hope you will recommend a candidate in at least one of the award categories. And plan to attend our Fall Conference on November 4, 5, and 6, at the Radisson South Hotel in Bloomington for the presentation of awards and all the other enjoyable activities and workshops we have planned for the participants.

Members Invited to Visit Us at MCA Conference

The Minnesota Community Corrections Association will again sponsor a booth at the Resource Fair of the MCA conference. The booth gives us an opportunity to meet conference attendees and discuss our organization. All agencies with program memberships in the MCCA are invited to join us. You may pick up your promotional literature at our booth or join us personally to meet other professionals at the conference.

Any Program Members may contact the MCCA office or Rod Johnson (221-0048) to make arrangements.



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WE WANT YOU TO KNOW



by Rod Johnson

A study was conducted by the Wilder Foundation several years ago that I found very interesting. Those of us in corrections often talk about how many offenders have numerous needs and problems that set them apart from others in their age groups. But, are offenders really "different" as our experience seems to indicate?

During 1982 and 1983, the Wilder Research Center conducted a needs assessment of young adults (19-34 years old) in Ramsey County. The study involved a random sampling of young adults throughout the county to assess employment, housing, physical and mental health, community participation, education, religion, family life, etc. At the same time, a corrections sample of offenders was interviewed so their needs could be contrasted to the young adults in general.

In looking at the results that follow, please note that the corrections sample was taken from offenders assigned to Ramsey County's Community Work Service Program (SAVE). The crimes committed by this group were generally misdemeanors (traffic and theft accounted for 3/4 of the offenses) and most corrections workers would consider them less serious offenders. My guess is that results would have been even more dramatic if the corrections sample had been taken from a group of more serious offenders.

Despite the fact that the corrections samples were less serious offenders, many striking differences emerged when they were compared to the general sample of young adults. The offender was:

- * more likely to be raised in single parent, lower socio-economic and large families.
- * less likely to be married
- * more likely to have a child when they had never married
- * more likely to have difficulties in their English language skills.
- * more likely to be unemployed (49% vs. 17%)
- * more likely to have less desirable jobs and change them more frequently
- * more likely to have less formal education
- * more likely to have low incomes and be on welfare
- * less likely to be able to provide for their basic material needs
- * more likely to use illegal drugs and drink alcohol heavily
- * more likely to report psychological distress, lower self-esteem and a lower sense of "mastery".

Clearly, young adults in the corrections sample are having a much more difficult time making the transition to adulthood than others in their age group. Their lack of success in the employment area can probably be attributed to weak educations, poor job-seeking skills, child care responsibilities in the case of young women, drug or alcohol problems, psychological problems and other difficulties suggested in the results above.

The results indicate what most of you already know, and that is that corrections clients have multiple and interacting problems that in practice are difficult to address. But in stating in scientific terms what may be obvious to us, this study provides a value support to our efforts to develop and market programs and plan for the future.

If you are interested in receiving a copy of the "Young Adult Offenders" (Report #9) or the "Young Adult Study", contact the Wilder Research Center at 647-4600 and they will send a copy to you.

Probationers Prepare Classification System! (The future of Corrections?)

by Jim Peterson

Probation Officers and their Administrators have been talking a lot about Classification Systems for their clients in recent years. At the same time, however, few realize that clients have organized and have been funding research around the creation of evaluative instruments and typologies designed to assess their probation officers!!

Disguising myself as a reporter, an extremely difficult task, I visited a quasi-confidential briefing of the Client Executive Committee (CEC), where these early research results were being discussed. Though it is apparent that the P.O.P.A. (Probation Officer Professional Assessment) is only in its primitive stage, certain initial findings are noteworthy.

Staff researchers from Subcontinental Theorists (ST, Inc.), the primary consulting firm, reported to the CEC that the P.O.P.A. had successfully (with correlation coefficients of significance) classified probation officers into one of two broad, though divergent, categories: "Keepers of the Case" (KCs) and "Keepers of the Keys" (KCs). KCs seem to regard treatment, casework, support, and advocacy as an appropriate model; KCs stress surveillance, social control, threat, and punishment.

The CEC was also informed by ST, Inc. that the P.O.P.A.'s more refined scales will ultimately delineate a goodly number of sub-categorical P.O. types and styles including, but not limited to, approaches of: synthesis, passivity, brokerage, education, reintegration, rehabilitation, moralism, and protectionism.

P.O.P.A. also will eventually identify: internal, external, paternal, time-serving, law-enforcing, reforming, restraining, generalizing, specializing, client-perceiving, crisis-intervening, and neo-classifying P.O.'s.

So don't be surprised then, when confronting a new client in the not too distant future, she/he says, "The CEC White Paper prepared by ST, Inc., based on P.O.P.A., shows you to be a KC, subgroup- synthetic, subtype-external. I'm gonna walk!"

If that happens, don't feel defensive, feel classified.

Finally, near the meeting's end, Subcontinental Theorists, Inc., described their upcoming research into the limnological/ichthyological question: Do large, fresh water, toothed, vertically striped fish, with a fondness for duckling, truly exist?



Clifton Services Revisited

Clifton Services, Inc. was born just in time to catch the "snow" storm of the century" in the late 1985 (see MCCA Happenings, Sept-Oct, 1986). Before the snow started flying, CSI was just another nice idea kicking around 180 Degrees of something that "really ought to be done, sometime" as a way of providing first-time work for new residents trying to break into the job market. The coming together of an actual customer wanting to purchase services from this "idea company" and the arrival of that major snow storm made some quick decisions necessary. So, a new service was born.

What's happened since then? During the past year and one-half, CSI has completed two seasons of snow removal and begun its second season of lawn care. Over \$14,000 has been paid out in part-time wages to residents and graduates of 180 so far. Although it's still too early to tell whether CSI will be a long-term success, it has done reasonably well in meeting its goal of assisting residents who need a first job opportunity. Ironically, the company born in the "snow storm of the century" started looking at non-weather dependent lines of work after the "great snow drought of 1986."

The most promising area being explored has been Desktop Publishing, with special focus on preparing "camera-ready" materials for small non-profits. 180 has been preparing its own annual report over the past several years, using a Macintosh Computer and a Laserwriter printer. Drawing from that experience and taking advantage of some of the excellent software currently available for the Mac, CSI has begun a small, but growing new sideline. So far it has done brochures, MCA registration forms, and the MCCA program Directory. Beginning in July, it hopes to be regularly printing the MCA Forum.



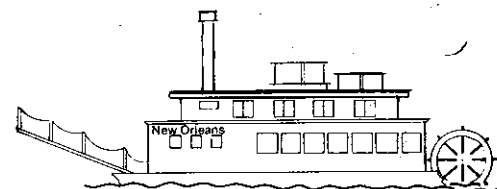
Bruce and Tom go on the Road

Longtime MCCA members Bruce Clendenen, Program Director of Re-Entry West and Tom Zoet, Executive Director of 180 Degrees will be going on the road in August as representatives of the Minnesota corrections community. They'll be co-leading a workshop titled "Marketing Corrections: Using Business Principles to Increase Public Support" at the 1987 American Corrections Association Congress.

What started them on this path to "national" attention? During May, 1986 they attended "Marketing Skills for Corrections Professionals," a workshop developed through an NIC grant sponsored by the Joint Task Force of Correctional Professionals. MCCA is one of the members of this Joint Task Force. The intent of the grant was to provide training in basic marketing concepts in order to develop tools for correctional organizations to positively heighten community awareness of their activities. It was also aimed at assisting organizations in the development of new program resources through better understanding of who their "customers" are and the importance of taking customer needs into consideration.

So far Bruce and Tom have presented parts of the material they learned in three training situations: the MCCA Winter Conference, MSSA, and as a MCCA Wednesday training session. Besides exposing a larger group of Minnesota professionals to a marketing orientation toward human services delivery, these sessions have provided valuable practice in working the "bugs and butterflies" out of presenting the material before bringing it to New Orleans.

So, come early August and our boys will be heading off for New Orleans, flip charts in hand. Good Luck.



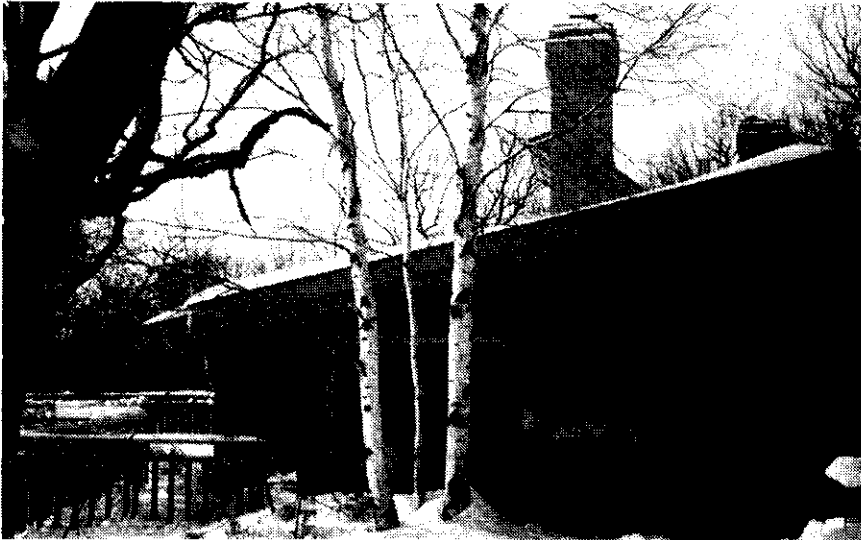
REMEMBER THE COOL? 1988 Conference Plans Near Completion

As we perspire through the hottest, stickiest weather in recent memory, our thoughts reach out to that serene wooded setting in the coolness of mid-February where we will be holding our 1988 MCCA Winter Conference. As we write this in mid-July, plans are already firming up for the conference at Wilder Forest on February 11 and 12 next year.

Remember the fresh, crisp air, the soft crunch of snow under foot, the birch and maple trees quietly inviting us to share their serenity. They will be waiting for us again in February, as will an interesting program of speakers and the sociability that has been a valued part of the MCCA conferences.

We have already confirmed most of the speakers for the conference. The subjects of the workshops will include programming for women-residential and outpatient, treatment of cocaine abuse, day treatment for mental illness, legal liability, the future of non-profit agencies, and juvenile peer chemical dependence prevention.

With these workshops and others, we expect to have another challenging conference that will allow us to learn and gain new insights in a relaxed, sociable environment. Despite the summer heat and humidity, it isn't too early to plan to attend the Winter Conference.



Assistance Program, Women Helping Offenders, Helping Hand Clinic, Minnesota Institute on Black Chemical Abuse, PRIDE, various chemical dependency treatment programs and many other resources. Metro has especially close working relationships with Genesis II, Wilder C.A.P. and the Minnesota Correctional Facility at Shakopee. For example, the Genesis II daycare director has conducted some in-service training on parenting with Metro staff and residents in exchange for some volunteer work at Genesis II day care center. MCF-Shakopee and Metro conjointly utilize a grant from the federal government and the State Department of Corrections to provide education and support groups for battered women. We are, at present, working with Wilder C.A.P. in developing programming for Hennepin County residents as well as specific issue groups for all Metro residents. Metro is very grateful for the strong cooperative network among those who provide services to female offenders.

Another very gratifying development of the Metro program has been the tremendous support it has received from the neighbors and community organizers. Metro has held several open houses and even conducted a door-to-door survey of the neighbors to explore their feelings and attitudes about the program. The response was overwhelmingly positive.

Programming and planning at Metro is not slowing down! Staff are now exploring better ways of meeting the health care needs of residents and to learn more about the treatment and relapse prevention of cocaine addiction. Metro is also in the process of putting together a videotape of the program, perhaps from the perspective of a women entering the program for the first time. Metro wishes to be responsive to the needs of its residents, to the concerns of the community and to the requirements of referring sources. It is a growing and changing program which is fully committed to providing quality programming for women offenders and their children in a residential setting.

Reentry continued from Page One

Gun Control continued from Page One

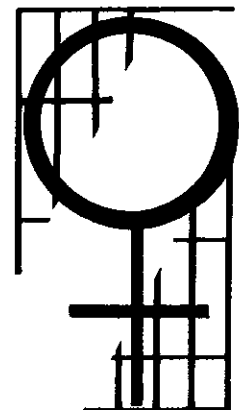
The changes in state law now prohibit ex-felons from using any kind of gun until 10 years after discharge from probation or parole. This applies to all persons discharged on or after May 29, 1987. The changes in the law are not retroactive. According to the Attorney General's office, this apparently means there is a group of recently discharged ex-felons who may possess long guns. That group includes those who were discharged after the federal law was relaxed in November 1986, and May 29, 1987, when the tougher state regulations took effect. (we would urge anyone affected by this to seek legal advice.) If all this seems confusing to you, please don't call the MCCA office or the Happenings.

Midwest Conference on the Female Offender

Arrowhead Regional Corrections, the Minnesota Association of Women Police and the University of Minnesota, Duluth are co-sponsoring a one and half day midwest conference on the female offender.

Ms. Ann Jones, author of "Women Who Kill" has agreed to be the Keynote speaker and to present one major workshop. Many other workshops will be presented such as: Arresting the Family, Paternalism in the System, the Ideology of the Female Crime and the Female Professional in the field. There also will be a nation-wide call for papers for anyone doing research in the field.

The conference will be held in Duluth, Minnesota on November 19th and 20th and further information will be distributed soon.



MCCA Training: MEN WHO BATTER August 26, 1987 Wednesday 9AM to 12 NOON

This workshop will address treatment approaches and techniques in working with men who verbally, emotionally, physically and sexually abuse their partners. Emphasis will be placed on identifying the nature of abuse; defining abuse; development of viable treatment plans; working effectively with the court mandated resident client; and examining the myth's and characteristics of men who batter.

Presenter: Michael McGrane, MSW, is the Counseling Supervisor of the Wilder Community Assistance Domestic Abuse Program in St. Paul. He has facilitated men's therapy groups for the past 13 years and has worked extensively with the resistive client. Since 1981 he has conducted numerous training programs on domestic abuse issues throughout the United States and Canada.

To register call Andrea Lennox at Reentry Services at 292-1466.



Happenings

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The opinions expressed in the Happenings are those of the contributing writers.

Readers are encouraged to respond to the content of this newsletter and to write on topics of interest to its readers. The staff reserves the right to edit submitted articles. Copy deadline is the 25th of odd-numbered months. **Members of the newsletter committee are:**

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