

Happenings*

Minnesota Community Corrections Association

TOP CORRECTIONS AWARD TO GAIL WIK

Gail Wik has been named **Corrections Person of the Year, 1982**, by the Minnesota Corrections Association. The award was announced at the MCA's fall conference on October 29, 1982. Ms. Wik is Administrator of Freedom House and also serves as President of the Minnesota Community Corrections Association.

While she was chosen because of her guidance in the transition of the MCCA from a staffed association to a voluntary one, she also has made significant contributions in other areas. She has participated in numerous cooperative ventures with other agencies such as a consortium fundraising effort for programs contracting with Ramsey County, was involved with a cooperative project sponsored through the Wilder Foundation to bring about more cooperation and stability among community corrections programs, and was instrumental in the development of the Joint Task Force to form a federation of criminal justice associations in the state of Minnesota.



The recommendation to present this award to Gail Wik was made by the Awards Committee of MCA and the final decision was made by a committee consisting of the past five MCA presidents.

Among others recognized by the MCA, **Mary Reedy**, Administrative Assistant for Arrowhead Regional Corrections in Duluth, was given the Professional Achievement Award for her motivation and dedication to enhancing the professional image of corrections.

The President's Award was presented to three correctional programs for demonstrated creativity, resourcefulness and innovation. The recipients were: **Thistledeew Camp**, Togo, Minnesota, recognized as one of the state's most unique correctional programs in a wilderness setting; **Lakewood Community College**, White Bear Lake, Minnesota for its ongoing supportive relationship with corrections; and **The Community Youth Program**, Duluth for its efforts in deterring juvenile offenders from remaining in the correctional system. The association's Board of Directors' Award was presented to **John Broady**, Hennepin County Court Services, honoring his thirty years of service as an association officer and committee member.

For more pictures of awards see page 4

MCCA Benefits

Members

By: Gail Wik, MCCA President

The purpose of MCCA is to promote public safety and the adult offenders' full participation in society through humane, responsible and effective treatment of criminal behavior at the community level. The Association is primarily made up of people involved in programs and services which are alternatives to incarceration for adult offenders. Services and benefits offered by the Association are:

MCCA has several types of insurance packages which are available to program members at group rates. Hospitalization costs are \$58.41 monthly for single

MCCA Benefits Cont. on page 5

MCCA Annual Conference

The MCCA's Second annual winter conference is set for February 8-9, 1983. The format of the conference and annual meeting has been expanded to one-and a-half days as part of the association's educational efforts. The purpose of this conference is to provide the participants with a forum to meet with other professionals to discuss ideas, issues, and areas of common concern in the field of community corrections/criminal justice.

The meeting, which was planned and developed by Robbie Robinson, will again be held at the Earle Brown Continuing Education Center, 1890 Buford, St. Paul campus, University of Minnesota. The lead-off speaker will be Dr. Nelson Otto, the "futurist", who was a highlight of last year's conference.

A notice with the conference schedule and registration form is included in this issue.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS LOSES A LEADER

He could put his arm around an old drunk and you'd know he was sincere; he really cared. In 1973, Robert "Robbie" Robinson achieved his dream of opening a residential treatment center for ex-offenders with chemical problems. He remained the director of the 180 Degrees Program. On November 7, 1982, Robbie died of a heart attack.

In the past dozen years Robbie had become a significant voice for community corrections in Minnesota. Since January 1981 he served on the Board of Directors of the Minnesota Community Corrections Association. With his strong interest in professional development, Robbie was chairman of the MCCA conference and training committee. It was his initiative and leadership that brought about our annual Winter Conference. Before his death, Robbie had already developed the plans for our next conference in February 1983. Gail Wik, President of MCCA, described Robbie as a "loveable curmudgeon". Some thought him abrasive, but always he was concerned and dedicated, the kind of person who would do anything for you.

Barb Emer, who has taken the role of acting Program Director at 180 Degrees, described Robbie's deep care and concern for the "down-and-outer", the ex-cons, and those suffering from chemical dependency, mental or physical handicaps. He was dedicated to the program he founded, working long hours when the program could not afford other staff.

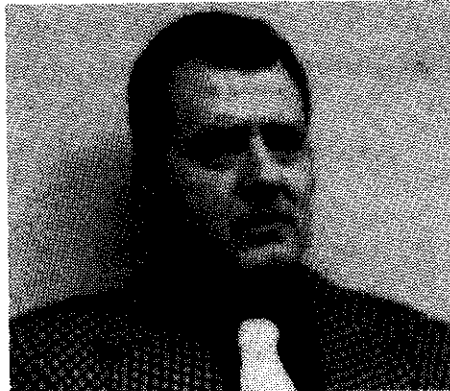
A recovering alcoholic, Robbie was a constant example of the success of Alcoholics Anonymous. He was active in the Minnesota Chemical Dependency Association and served as its treasurer in 1978-79.

Robbie's wife of thirteen years provided further insights into his life. After running away to join the Cole Brothers Circus at the age of fifteen, he was in several prisons across the country until his release from Stillwater in 1968. At that time he realized the connection between his chemical abuse and crime and decided to eliminate both from his life. He returned to the prison as a correctional counselor two years later and began his efforts to develop a treatment center for ex-cons.

Harriett Robinson described her life with Robbie as one of support and caring. Robbie had a variety of interests and "didn't miss smelling any of the roses".

The overwhelming response from those who knew Robbie was that he could care

about people. Upon hearing of Robbie's death, one inmate of the Stillwater Prison wrote to Harriett, "your husband was one who never gave up on me and his kindness will never be forgotten. He was a big man who had a heart that was bigger than he was and through his humanitarian ways he has helped many. And though he may not be with us he will never be forgotten in the minds and hearts of many who were lucky enough to get the chance to know him".



HARRIETT SAY THANKS

When we contacted Mrs. Robinson for information about Robbie she was pleased because she wanted some way to reach the many people who knew her husband and had sent notes to her. We are pleased to print this note from her:

For all your love and many kindnesses during our loss, thank you and God Bless. Harriett Robinson and Family.

Mrs. Harriett Robinson shared with us the poem that Robbie kept posted near him and exemplifies his approach to his life and his work.

TODAY

Let me today do something that will take

*A little sadness from the world's vast store;
And may I be so favored as to make*

Of joy's too scanty sum a little more.

*Let me not hurt by any selfish deed
Or thoughtless word the heart of foe or friend,
Nor would I pass, unseeing, Worthy need,
Or sin by silence when I should defend.*

*However meager be my worldly wealth,
Let me give something that shall aid my kind,
A word of courage, or a thought of health,
Dropped as I pass for troubled hearts to find.*

*Let me tonight look back across the span
Twixt dawn and dark, and to my conscience say,
Because of some good act to beast or man,
"The world is better that I lived today."*

MCCA Screens For Jail

The MCCA has renewed its agreement with Hennepin County Court Services to aid in the screening of programs that want to interview people in the Hennepin County Jail. Programs will be reviewed on the basis of the nature of service provided and the purpose for requesting entry to the jail. Applicants will be asked to designate two counselors and one alternate to conduct interviews.

Programs which do not now have permission to interview in the jail and desire to receive it should contact Bill Calder, Court Services, 348-8112, or Tom Zoet, MCCA, 439-3220, extension 141.

Reduced Rates For Students

The MCCA Board of Directors has approved a reduced membership rate for fulltime students and community corrections volunteers. Persons in these categories may obtain MCCA membership for five dollars by submitting a regular application form.

Board Of Directors

Gail (Johnson) Wik, President

FREEDOM HOUSE
3020 Lyndale Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Willie Bridges

BREMER HOUSE
855 - West 7th Street
St. Paul, MN 55102

Bob Elkins

HENNEPIN CTY. COMM. CORRECTIONS
1800 Chicago Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55404

Rod Johnson

WILDER CAP
666 Marshall
St. Paul, MN 55104

Steve Johnson

SCOTT COUNTY COURTHOUSE
428 South Holmes Street
Shakopee, MN 55379

Jeff Martin

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
430 Metro Square
St. Paul, MN 55101

John Mitchell

KATAHDIN, INC.
419 Oak Grove
Minneapolis, MN 55403

Robbie Robinson

180 DEGREES, INC.
236 Clifton Ave
Minneapolis, MN 55403

Alyce Rodda

GENESIS II FOR WOMEN
310 - E. 38th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55409

Karole Williams

OPERATION DENOVO
321 South Third Street
Minneapolis, MN 55415

Richard Williams

REENTRY SERVICES
532 Ashland
St. Paul, MN 55102

Tom Zoet

Washington County Court Services
Vash. Cty. Courthouse
Jillwater, MN 55082
439-3220 Ext. 141

We Want You To Know



Gail Wik

DEAR FELLOW MEMBER:

I wish to extend my special thanks to MCA for honoring me as "Corrections Person of the Year" at their recent conference. The award was totally unanticipated and I am very pleased to be the recipient.

I have been privileged to be associated with many fine professionals in the field of

corrections and I feel a deep sense of gratitude to them.

In particular, I wish to express my appreciation to past and present MCCA Board members for their help and to Freedom House for giving me the opportunity to grow.

Best Wishes,
Gail Wik

MINNESOTA COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ASSOCIATION

666 Marshall Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55104

NAME: _____

PROGRAM/AGENCY: _____

WORK ROLE: _____

WORK PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____, ZIP: _____

ADDRESS SHOWN IS: HOME WORK

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP: _____ \$15 INDIVIDUAL SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP: _____ \$25

INDIVIDUAL PATRON MEMBERSHIP: _____ \$50 PROGRAM MEMBERSHIP: _____ \$100

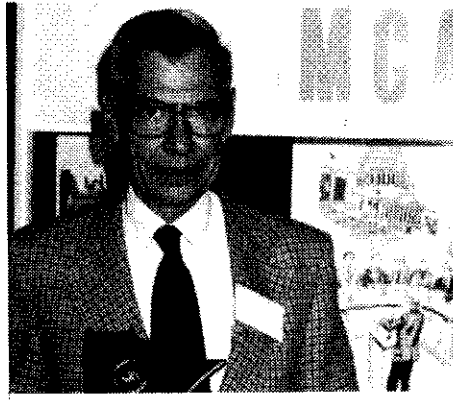
PROGRAM SPONSORING MEMBERSHIP: _____ \$300

Make checks payable to MCCA

MCA Award Winners



Mary Reedy "Professional Achievement Award"



John Broady "Board of Directors"



Swede Lund - for Thistledew Camp



Jack Pierce, Fuchi Newland for Community Youth Involvement



Dr. Harris Miller & Dr. Patrick Roche for Lakewood Community College

Women Of Color Support Group

By: Nancy Halloren

Chrysalis, A center for Women, has been providing support groups for women for over six years. We have recently started a group specifically for women of color which meets at the Sabathani Community Center (310 E. 38th St. in south Minneapolis) in the Genesis II classroom on Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

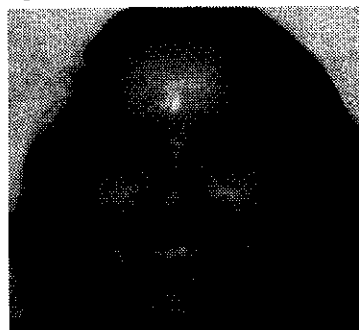
The group is a support group--not a therapy group--through which women come together for an open discussion of their feelings regarding the stresses of everyday life. The women support each other in their efforts to cope with these stresses. It is led by two trained co-facilitators and a peer leader.

The group is currently open for new members but will be closed as soon as there are ten women committed to attending every week for a minimum of eight weeks. The fee is \$3.00 per week but no women are turned away due to an inability to pay. Free child care is provided by Genesis II.

If interested please call 871-2603 to register.

New Counselor at Project Remand, Inc.

Diane Kadinger joined Project Remand as a diversion counselor in September. Diane came to St. Paul from Madison, Wisconsin, where she counseled Hispanic clients at Dane County Mental Health Center. She also served as Educational Coordinator at a Cuban Group Home in Madison. Diane holds a Masters Degree in Social Work from the University of Wisconsin. Her husband is attending Hamline Law School.



Diane Kadinger

Position Vacancy

180° a community corrections halfway house in Minneapolis has announced an opening for Executive Director. A minimum of 5 years experience in corrections and a degree in a related area is desired. Interested applicants should submit a resume by December 31, 1982 to Lyle Pitheon, 180° Inc., 236 Clifton Ave, Mpls. 55403



MCCA Benefits cont. from page 1

employee coverage and \$94.07 per month for dependents. Dental coverage, life and disability insurance are also offered as part of this package through Travelers Insurance Company. Low cost Directors and Officers Liability Insurance is also available at a group rate through MGIC Indemnity Corporation of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Employee Assistance Program Insurance is being explored also. Programs would contract for a set fee per employee through an insurance plan. Employees then could receive counseling for emotional and personal problems exhibited in the work place (i.e., tardiness, absenteeism, drug problems, use of sick leave, friction at work, etc.). More information will be available about this offering in future "Happenings" issues. Please contact Tom Rider of Stillwater Agency (439-2930) for additional information regarding either health or Directors and Officers coverage.

Our newsletter, **Happenings**, is published bi-monthly and contains many articles about community corrections programs, individuals and current issues of interest to persons working in the field. It's an excellent publication and we receive many compliments on its content. A Directory of all corrections programs in Minnesota is available at a cost of \$3.00 (including postage), and a directory of all current program members is included in this **Happenings** issue.

The Association is actively involved in lobbying for community corrections and has particularly monitored the development and implementation of Sentencing Guidelines, probation guidelines and appointments to the Guidelines Commission. We also offer mediation for programs and government offices when conflicts develop.

MCCA is actively promoting a federation of all corrections associations in Minnesota for the purpose of jointly working together on common issues and concerns.

The second annual Mid-Winter Conference will again be held at the Earle Brown Center on February 8-9, 1983. The Conference will present Nelson Otto, Richard Mulcrone and Leonard Wilkening as featured speakers, and promises to be as stimulating and informative as last year's conference.

Starting in January, 1983, low-cost training sessions will be offered on the second Wednesday of every month at 666 Marshall. Please see the article by Becki Bosek in this **Happenings** for further information.

We also staff a booth at the MCA Resource Fair every year. This year we invited a member of computer hardware and software companies to give "hands-on" demonstrations of their products and its application to corrections.

MCCA and Hennepin County Court Ser-

vices have developed procedures for programs to obtain clearance to interview clients in the Hennepin County Adult Detention Center. Please write our office at 666 Marshall Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55104, if your program needs assistance with jail clearance.

An MCCA Program Membership is available at \$100 yearly. Program memberships are available to human service organizations whose application is accepted by the Board of Directors. The voting individual membership fee is \$15 annually and is available to anyone interested in community corrections. A non-voting student/volunteer membership is also now available at only \$5 a year.

Board meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at our Marshall Avenue office and we cordially invite all interested persons to attend. Committees are:

- Membership & Nominating
- Services & Benefits, includes the newsletter, insurances and directory
- Special concerns, includes lobbying, sentencing guidelines and networking.
- Conference & Training
- Juvenile Task Force

We always need help with committee work and invite your participation. It's an excellent way to get to know other professionals in corrections and expand your knowledge.

Monthly Training Scheduled

Beginning in January MCCA will be sponsoring monthly training sessions. They will be held on the second Wednesday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to noon. The location will be the Wilder Facility which is located at 666 Marshall Avenue in St. Paul, Mn. The cost of these will be \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members. Active MCCA members are entitled to four free training sessions each calendar year.

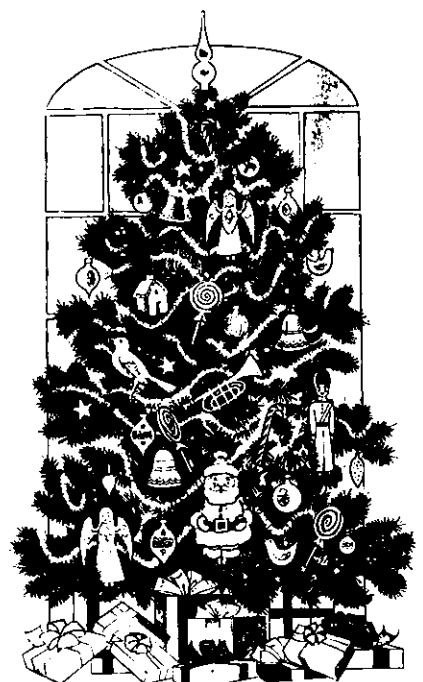
The first training session will be held on January 12th. Tom Zoet, ACSW, who is currently the Supervisor of the Juvenile Division for Washington County Court Services, will be speaking about "The Effective Use of Power and Authority". The following topics will be addressed:

- 1) Identification of Agency Mission and Staff Roles within that Mission.

- 2) Defining Authority: What it is and How we can use it to get things done.
- 3) Attitudes toward authority, areas of conflict related to its use.
- 4) Use of authority in preventing assaultive behavior.
- 5) Identification of personal power bases.

Coffee and donuts will be provided at 9:30 a.m. A training session will not be held in February due to the fact that "The Conference" will be held on the 8th and 9th. A list containing the next six months of training sessions will be handed out on this date.

Registration for all training sessions must be received one week before the session. For further information please contact Becki Bosek or Dick Williams at 292-1466. Also, if you have any ideas or topics for future training sessions let us know.



New Director at Rape Center

Barbara Chester has recently been named Director of the Rape & Sexual Assault Center located at 1222 West 31st Street in Minneapolis.

Ms. Chester graduated Suma Cum Laude from the State University of New York with a B.A. in psychology and received a Ph.D. in psychology with a minor in genetics and cell biology from the University of Minnesota. Chester has written many papers on women and various aspects of their involvement in the criminal justice system. She served as Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice at St. Cloud University and was Visiting Assistant Professor and Adjunct Professor of Criminal Justice at the University of Minnesota. She was appointed to the Governor's Task Force on Victim's of Sexual Assault as well as a number of other task forces. Chester was elected to the Board of Directors and/or Advisory Panels at such agencies as Alpha House, Port Alpha, Elan, Genesis II, Minnesota Association of Women in Criminal Justice, Minnesota Community Correctional Services of Minnesota. She was appointed by the Minneapolis City Council to the Hennepin County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, served as a consultant for the National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice and testified before the Minnesota State Legislature on women in corrections.

Earlier this year, Ms. Chester conducted a week-long series of interviews with Armed Forces Network News to be broadcast in Europe concerning issues such as the psychology of women, parenting, family violence, and women in the military.

Most recently, Ms. Chester lived overseas in Germany and Spain where she worked at U.S. Military Bases providing training, counseling, teaching and lecturing to military personnel.

In addition to her professional accomplishments, Ms. Chester is especially proud of her expertise at scuba diving, as evidenced by her certification as an official "International Open Water Diver", received while she was in the Azores.

The MCCA extends greetings and congratulations to Barbara.

Female Offenders: A New Approach

By: Mia Olsen

(This is the first in a two-part series.)

Only within the last ten years has the treatment of the woman offender emerged as requiring significantly different methods than that of the male offender.

GENESIS II, which is a Minneapolis-based day treatment program for women offenders, has programming blending education and therapy. Components of the program include independent living skills classes, adult basic education, GED preparation, parenting and individual and group therapy.

GENESIS II, in reviewing its history of working with women offenders, found that significant client needs were not being addressed by its programming. A large percentage of women within the program had histories of victimization which, if not addressed, significantly impeded their progress.

The women were victims of physical and sexual abuse both as children and adults. There seems to be a direct link between this abuse and their dysfunctional, illegal lifestyle (particularly in the area of prostitution). This also directly contributed to their failure to provide care and protection to their own children.

The numbers were not small. In 1981, the Community Corrections Research project compiled data on the women in the **GENESIS II PROGRAM**. The findings substantiated the previously documented abuse cycle, whereby a woman vacillates between the role of victim and abuser:

- 53% victims of physical abuse as children
- 35% victims of child sexual abuse
- 66% victims of physical abuse as adults
- 45% victims of rape
- 62% involved in prostitution
- 52% abused or neglected their own children
- 28% had children removed by the courts for failure to protect

Women who were physically or sexually abused as children may become involved in abusive relations and in turn fail to provide care and protection for their children.

For a significant percentage of women at **GENESIS II**, the abusive relationship a woman was involved in was a "pimp" relationship and prostitution had become her way of life (though that may not be the crime she had been convicted of).

A 1977 study of juvenile prostitution in Minnesota, conducted by Enablers Inc., further supported **GENESIS'** experience by

reporting that two-thirds of women interviewed had been physically abused as children and one-third had been sexually abused.

Clearly, the pattern that emerged linked abuse and crime.

A special grant awarded by the Rippley Foundation and Honeywell to **GENESIS II** made it possible for a consultant to be hired to develop special programming around these two interrelated issues, prostitution and child physical/sexual abuse.

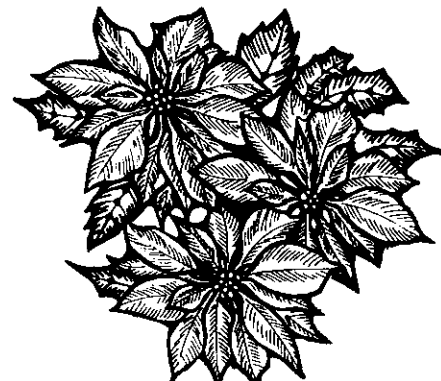
Cordelia Kent, the Director of the Illusion Theatre in conjunction with Helen Stryker a counselor at **GENESIS II**, developed the format for the 8-part therapy group on prostitution.

The therapy groups explored several issues:

- Men; their attitudes toward men, both "tricks" and "pimps" and their negative male dependencies
- Intimacy; their lack of understanding of the intimacy of friendship with other women rather than regarding intimacy as only sexual in nature
- Sexuality; their lack of information and understanding of their own sexual identity.
- Prostitution as an addiction
- Self-Esteem; the need to develop this in order to break away from prostitution
- Feelings; their disconnected feelings as prostitutes and their need for a separate identity.
- Fears; their fear of leaving "the life" and adapting to the "straight world".

GENESIS II acknowledges that this is a first effort to provide special treatment services to women with a history of prostitution and secondarily, child sexual abuse.

(Part two will describe special treatment services for victims of child sexual abuse)

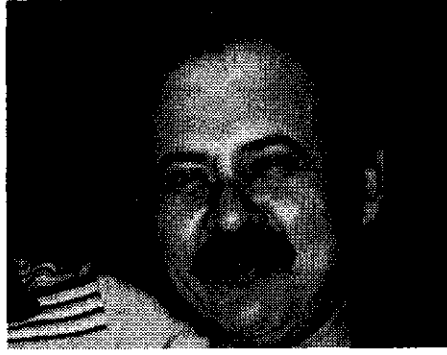


Holiday Greetings

Personal Spotlight



Frank Cison



and **Neil Pepin**

In March, 1973, a trio of men purchased a house on Harriet Avenue for the purpose of trying to stay straight. They opened their doors to others who had the same desire, that of "kicking the habit". One of the three was Neil Pepin, present day Program Director for Freedom House - and that was the unlikely beginning of a program. In August of 1973, Frank Cison joined Neil and together they worked at no pay to obtain the financial commitments needed to establish the therapeutic community. Since Mr. Pepin's expertise lay in the delivery of therapy, he invited Frank Cison to be Executive Director of Freedom House as Frank had the knowledge and understanding of the financial requirements.

Nine years later, Frank Cison is still Executive Director of Freedom House, and Neil Pepin is still Program Director. The program however, is now located at 3020 Lyndale Avenue South. One of the major accomplishments in recent years has been the

establishment of Latham's Table Restaurant. This business coordinates with the individual therapy of clients, and has become an integral part of Freedom House. For two weeks in 1979, Neil and residents camped out in a Hutchinson, Minnesota farmyard while dismantling a two-story, 60' x 40' barn that now decorates the interior of Latham's Table. When Frank and Neil set out to do something - they really get involved.

The dedication, faith, and hard work these men have invested in the program has paid off. The program has grown to include three service locations to accommodate client needs and is now a multi-corporation business with multiple contracts for the delivery of treatment services. Under the watchful eyes of Frank Cison and Neil Pepin, Freedom House has become firmly established within the community.

Needless to say, Mr. Pepin not only succeeded in his endeavor; but far exceeded his dream.

Shoplifting - A Cry For Help!

Since January 30, 1982, the Wilder Community Assistance Program has been conducting a short-term counseling group for adult women who shoplift in Ramsey County. A forerunner of this group had been organized and conducted for the past several years by a Ramsey county probation officer and a diversion counselor from Project Remand. Late in 1981, when the project was in danger of being dropped because of personnel changes and time constraints, the Community Corrections Department asked the Community Assistance Program to integrate this program with other services being offered to misdemeanor offenders.

Claudia Wasserman, a CAP counselor, and Diane Kadinger, a counselor from Project Remand, are the facilitators of the group.

Women are referred to the group by judges, probation officers and diversion counselors. The criteria for the group include that the participants are nonpsychotic, are first or second-time offenders, that participants make a commitment to attend all seven sessions, and that they have a desire to make some improvement in their lives.

The women in the group have ranged in age from 18 to 75 years old. The following is a composite profile for most group members.

- They know that they will be caught shoplifting.
- They want to be caught.
- They are very relieved and remorseful when caught.

Shoplifting cont. on page 8

M.I.B.C.A.'s Social Policy Prevention Project

In October, 1980, the Minnesota Institute on Black Chemical Abuse began formulating a strategy to reduce the negative effects of chemical abuse in the Black community. Thus, the Social Policy Prevention (SPP) project was launched. Community service providers and social organizations-impactors-were identified and recruited from target areas in St. Paul and Minneapolis. These impactors were asked to help impact drug and alcohol abuse problems in a positive way by: (1) establishing healthy norms and standards for chemical use, (2) adopting a formal chemical use policy and consistently applying it; and (3) communicating the policy in a uniform fashion. Project Coordinator, Ethylon Butler, says, "SPP assumes that cultural norms and standards can be used to restrict the environment of the abuser. When project impactors were surveyed, they agreed that public intoxication was inappropriate and hindered service delivery. Therefore, some impactors were eager to embrace a policy that refused service to intoxicated individuals."

Project Implementation

The message about intoxicated behavior and the consequence--individual denied service and asked to leave--appears on the "NO DRUGS ALLOWED" posters. These signs are displayed at impactor organization sites through North and South Minneapolis, and in St. Paul. "We know that there are no cut and dried answers to the question of how to handle intoxicated incidents," stated Mary Casey, Prevention Specialist with the project. Project implementation can be difficult for a variety of reasons. The project team provides impactors with inservice training in order to facilitate a feeling of competency as well as to allow the necessary dialogue between impactor staff and administration.

During the inservice training, recommended procedures and role play activities are offered as basic ingredients to successful handling of intoxicated individuals. For social clubs, a slightly different approach is taken. "When we contact social organizations (fraternities, sororities, etc.), we ask them to adopt SPP Guidelines for alcohol and drug use at social events sponsored by their group." Inservice training is available. "If

M.I.B.C.A.'s cont. on page 8

Shoplifting cont. from page 7

- They set themselves up to be humiliated.
- They shoplift out of anger, self pity, frustration, stress or revenge.
- They are very lonely.
- They do not understand why they shoplift.
- They do not steal because of necessity.
- Alcohol and drug use do not play a significant role in shoplifting.

The Petit Theft Group meets weekly for seven consecutive sessions. Through the group counseling format, clients learn to identify how their feelings and needs affect their behavior. In later meetings group members must describe their shoplifting episodes in detail and identify how the shoplifting relates to other problems in their lives. The process of working toward solutions to problems and taking responsibility for change, with other women who are experiencing similar difficulties, has the rapid and powerful effect of promoting positive change in most participants.

The following is an excerpt from a letter received from a former group member. She was able to summarize very well the intent of the group process. "Now that I look back on my shoplifting experience, getting caught - the whole thing - I know that I as a person have grown a lot since that happened and I have learned quite a bit about myself - so I can't see myself ever being in that situation again. Oh, I've been tempted, but haven't succumbed to the temptation and don't think I ever will - not because of fear of getting caught (yes, that's part of it too, but...) more

so, I feel I don't need to do that - I'm stronger - I think more of myself now - I guess I respect myself more."

M.I.B.C.A.'s cont. from page 7

there is a headquarters site, we ask that they post the "NO DRUGS ALLOWED" signs." Butler added.

The past two years of the SPP project at MIBCA has had far-reaching effects not only within the Black community, but in other communities as well. MIBCA Executive Director, Peter Bell, pointed out that social sanctions can be enforced from a community-based model rather than legislative change. "Clear standards of what is appropriate and what is not appropriate chemical use behavior is an issue to be addressed in some manner by every cultural group," Bell stated. The project has been funded through 1983 with plans to continue present project activities and expand other services.

Impactor Recognition

More than 100 impactors (businesses, churches, schools, social clubs and social service agencies) throughout St. Paul and Minneapolis are involved in some phase of SPP. Late in October, these impactors were invited to a special reception where their efforts were commended by Governor Al Quie. Each impactor group received certificates of commendation at a short ceremony.

Happenings

A publication of the Minnesota Community Corrections Association. 666 Marshall Ave. St. Paul, MN 55104 - 292-1131

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:**

Dale Fisher
Hennepin County Court Services
Editor

Mia Olsen
Genesis II for Women

Liz Tellers
Freedom House

Karole Williams
Operation DeNovo

Jan George
U of M School of Social Work

We would also like to thank the men in the print shop at MCF-STW for their help and assistance in putting out this newsletter.

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St. Paul, MN 55104

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