



HOUSEKEEPER



A Publication of the METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 2

ISSUE 5

February/March 1977

Dear Community Corrections Co-workers,

A committee from our Association met with Robert Crew, from the Crime Commission and his evaluation unit, December 29, 1976, to dialogue on their unduly negative report on our residential programs. Communication was started to provide more cooperation between the Commission and our Association. The Crime Commission took out a membership and Robert Crew assigned Tom Reid, who also joined, as our liaison.

The Governor's Crime Commission lifted the moratorium on residential programs on January 27, 1977, and did not follow the recommendations of the evaluation report.

Robert Crew resigned his position effective April 1, 1977.

MCCA submitted a position paper on criminal justice to Governor Rudy Perpich prior to his February 15 talk in Rochester. We were encouraged with the Governor's approach to community corrections.

MCCA appeared before the Senate's Committee studying the Determinate Sentencing Bill SF 65, and presented a position paper on this issue. Through our efforts, the conditional release section has been broadened to two years rather than one, and probation time served earns one-for-one day good time.

MCCA is now administering the Minnesota Council on Ex-offender Employment program. We hope our work with this organization will strengthen our bonds with the business community and enhance employment opportunities for ex-offenders. The Peavey Company has a \$3,000 per year grant to aid these efforts. MCCA participated in the February 11 Conference on the Employment of the Ex-offender at the Sheraton Motor Inn.

The 1977 editor for this newsletter is Chris Bray from Women's Newgate. We welcome her and her staff: Juanita Dalton, Bruce Clendenen, Marilyn Krueger, Rick Kaufman, Dave Bealke and Steve Levi.

We would like to thank our 1976 editor, Jacqui Wong, and all those who worked with her during the year.

We look forward to seeing you at our general meeting on evaluation on March 31 here at 2414 Park Avenue, Minneapolis, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Cordially,

Tom Christian

Thomas F. Christian, Director
Metropolitan Community Corrections Association

HAPPENINGS IN COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Senator Hubert Humphrey sent MCCA a letter recently stating that he is negotiating to have LEEP funds include community corrections workers. He will keep us posted as to his progress.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD JUSTICE CENTER in St. Paul is developing a West Side Branch to serve the Spanish speaking community. It will be located at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church.

NEW VOLUNTARY P.O. PROGRAM: Ramsey County Court has added Volunteer Probation Officers. Coordinated by Probation Officer, Scott Metcalf, the V.P.O.s assist Court Services staff with diagnostic screening for learning disabilities, and as remedial tutors. The Minnesota Literacy Council, St. Paul Rehabilitation Center, St. Paul Public Schools, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and the educational staff at Boys Totem Town serve as referral agencies and assist in developing the tutoring process with the V.P.O.s.

The Alcohol and Drug unit is utilizing V.P.O.s who have either had personal experience as a chemical dependent or some counseling expertise.

REENTRY SERVICES, a multi-service agency continues to operate, in spite of funding problems, at the Downtown St. Paul Y.M.C.A. Reentry has now expanded its services to include a 30 to 60 day residential component for male offenders.

T.A.S.C. - Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime, a service of Project Remand, is a federally funded program new to Ramsey County. It is directed by Paul Jakobsen and provides services to the chemically dependent defendant of the Ramsey County courts. Chemical dependency evaluators diagnose the "illness", assess the individual's needs, and provide the Criminal Justice System with the pertinent information. Tracking probation staff continue to monitor and support the client. T.A.S.C. provides services to a defendant in both pre-trial and/or post-sentencing phases.

WOMEN HELPING OFFENDERS, WHO, is holding a benefit Fund Raiser at the Minneapolis Auditorium on June 3, 1977. From 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., the benefit will include a fashion show assisted by inmates of Shakopee and St. Cloud. They need our support.

And--the local offices of WHO, 1415 Franklin, have a new director--Rose Hargest.

Pete Hayden from TURNING POINT proudly announces the first two graduates of their program. Congratulations, Pete and staff, and we look ahead to many more successes.

DENIS DOEGE (pronounced Day) is the new director for Project Reentry/Work Release.

AMICUS will hold its annual meeting on March 30, 1977 at 7:00 p.m. Guest speaker, Attorney General Warren Spannaus, will discuss: "Handgun Control and Other Current Topics" at the Jewish Community Center, 1735 St. Paul Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota.

There is still a RESTITUTION PROGRAM. It is now located at MMTC in Lino Lakes and is developing restitution contracts with select inmates being released from State Institutions as part of the conditions of their paroles. The revised program is being directed by John McLagan and carries four staff. They will be working with local communities on a Statewide program to develop restitution as a sanction in the Criminal Justice System.

PROJECT ELAN! Congratulations on an excellent presentation of your program last month on Channel 2. We need continual education of the public of our Community Corrections alternatives.

Recognition is due EDEN HOUSE for its involvement in the Chemical Dependency Program at Phillips Junior High School, Minneapolis.

NEWGATE has a group home for sale, currently licensed for 10 clients. It's located at 512-514 Marshall, St. Paul. For further information contact John Dando, 870-7377.

A panel of speakers comprised of Senator McCutcheon, Senator Knoll, Les Green of the Minnesota Corrections Board and Dale Parent of the Minnesota Department of Corrections, spoke at the January 26 MCCA general meeting on the topic of Determinate Sentencing, the Matrix System and the Mutual Agreement Program.

Senator McCutcheon stated that Minnesota is headed in the direction of separation of violent offenders from property offenders by placing property offenders in regional restitution centers and toward a fragmented delivery of service. He believes that Determinate Sentencing is in line with this direction.

Determinate Sentencing, according to Senator McCutcheon, addresses unrest in the prison and disparity in sentencing for an institutional population only. The intent of the bill is not to reduce crime. He stated that Community Corrections is a failure because "if programs were working, no one would be going to prison." Senator Knoll disagreed with this remark and stated that certain programs were good and others were failures.

Senator Knoll doesn't believe that Determinate Sentencing is a threat to Community Corrections because the thrust and impact of the bill has an effect only after a person is committed to an institution. He said there is a lot of room for Community Corrections through the conditional release terms of the bill. MCCA members asked the panel how treatment for special populations, i.e., chemically dependent, violent offenders, etc., would be handled now that the therapeutic objective clause was removed from the present draft of the bill. Senator Knoll said he would be willing to sponsor an amendment to reinstate this clause. However, Senator McCutcheon is opposed to the inclusion of "therapeutic objectives" in the bill.

MCCA Board and Legislative Committee members have written a position paper enumerating various concerns with the present draft of the Determinate Sentencing Bill.

Some of these concerns are: 1) Expecting significant numbers of inmates to volunteer for treatment opportunities is unrealistic. Most people have to be coerced in some way to consider significant behavioral change. 2) A definite release date is only one factor which will help inmates know their future, but it will not help them survive the day-to-day environment in a prison system. 3) Does the general public know that the majority of prisoners will be released without any supervision, and is this their choice? 4) If discretion is removed from the sentencing and releasing procedure, it will appear in the plea bargaining and manipulation of the system will continue. 5) The present bill includes therapeutic objectives only as part of post-release programming, while omitting it completely from conditional release. 6) Many persons in prison are chemically dependent. Will they receive realistic opportunities to cope with their dependence? 7) Has the present Matrix and Mutual Agreement program been given enough time to be tested?

MCCA is in favor of equitable, fair, just sentences, and a definite determination of release. Our purpose is to provide services to people. Our major concern is that Determinate Sentencing can effect these services, and consideration should be given in any bill to provide for effective rehabilitation opportunities.

Dale Parent of the Minnesota Corrections Authority remarked that the Parole Board has been in existence since January, 1974, and that the Matrix system has been in effect only since May, 1976. The intent of the guidelines, he stated, is to formalize existing practices of the Parole Board. He doesn't feel that the Matrix system effects Community Corrections except the individual's time of release and type of program which the person enters.

WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS TO
MCCA

Bodo F. Suemig, Court Services, Washington
County
Reed Vinge, Court Services, Hennepin County
Denis Doege, Lee Howard, Richard J. Kaufman
and Louis A. Stender, Project Reentry
Carlus Espejo, Chemical Dependency Division
Blanche Stalvig, Administrative Intern,
State Prison
Tom Foster, Court Services, Anoka County
Russ Cooper, Correctional Services
Terry Maher, Women Helping Offenders,
National Office
Wayne Durband and Bruce Mills, Volunteers
of America
Myron Johnson and Kurt Larson, Department
of Corrections
Information Officer, Department of
Corrections

Bob Hanson,
Ramsey County
Keith Halperin, Nexus
Celeste Picore and Ray Whebbe, Jr., House
of Icarus
Justine Phillips, Court Services, Carver
County
Dick Williams, Jacqueline Muck and
Bruce Clendenen, Reentry Services
Howard Ottenheimer, University of Minne-
sota
David B. Bealke, Charles Repke and
Michael McGrane, Bremer House
Patricia Bush, Bodin Personnel
Juanita Dalton, G. Farrow, Robert Davidson,
Terry Plssel, Gerald Kaplan, Timothy
O'Brien, Steven Rancour and Lisabeth
Tellors, Alpha House
Tom Reid, Governor's Crime Commission
Sue Provo, Project Elan

Our paid membership is now 119.

MCCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The 1977 MCCA Board of Directors was elected at our January 26 general meeting. Four new board members were elected: Gail Johnson - Freedom House, Jim Brown - Bremer House, Kathy Dyhr - Project Elan, and Matt Smrekar - Drug Unit, Department of Corrections. The following board members ran for reelection and won second terms: Gary Meitz - Neighborhood Probation, Jim Martinson - Alpha House, Tom Lawson - Department of Corrections, Sonny Gainey - 180° Degrees, Inc. and Ron Johnson - Restitution Unit.

At the February board meeting Jim Martinson was elected chairperson; Jim Brown, vice chairperson; Kathy Dyhr, secretary and Matt Smrekar, treasurer.

WANTED!!!!!! YOUR MEMBERSHIP

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ASSOCIATION
2414 Park Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404
871-0221 ex. 218
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____ HOME PHONE _____
PROGRAM/AGENCY _____ WORK PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____
WORK ROLE _____

VOTING MEMBER () Working in Community Corrections
ASSOCIATE MEMBER () Interested in Community Corrections

MEMBERSHIP DUES: \$5.00 (Please Enclose Check)

DON'T MISS 'EM - MSSA WORKSHOPS

There are a number of workshops at the Minnesota Social Service Association Annual Conference that you should look into. Four have been developed by the MCCA:

The Police and the Community: What Barriers?

Monday, March 21, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Community Corrections: An Alternative to Incarceration

Monday, March 21, for 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Juvenile Crime: Who Owns the Problem?

Tuesday, March 22, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The Criminal Justice System Relates to Crime Victims

Tuesday, March 22, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

John Poupart from Anishinabe Longhouse is conducting a workshop on "The Native American in Modern Society: Learning from the Client".

Tuesday, March 22, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

John Poupart and Eddie Benton-Benai, Director of the Red School House Survival School are putting on a Native American Festival and Theatre.

Tuesday, March 22, at 7:30 p.m.

Pete Hayden from Turning Point is putting on a series of workshops.

Wednesday morning, March 23

Vernon Jenson, Executive Director, National Urban League will speak at the Wednesday 10:15 a.m. closing session.

There are a number of other workshops relating to criminal justice that are well worth your while. The Conference runs from March 20-23, and is at the Radisson Hotel in downtown Minneapolis. If you need more information, call the MSSA office at 225-7871.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN FORMS IN MINNESOTA

The MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE (MAWCJ) is seeking formal incorporation. The purpose of the MAWCJ is "to support the entry and advancement of women in the criminal justice field, and to educate both membership and the public about specialized problems of female offenders."

Future plans include a seminar on working with female offenders at the University of Minnesota, July 11-15, and involvement in the International Women's Year Conference in St. Cloud.

Task forces meet with the general membership monthly to view issues in the areas of: Career, Employment and Affirmative Action; Current and Needed Options for Women Offenders; Legislative Action; Correctional Institutions and Juvenile Female Offenders. Meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at the Multi Resource Centers, 1900 Chicago Avenue South, Minneapolis. For further information contact Julie Shaw at 871-6103, or write MAWCJ, Box 82, Shakopee, 55379.

The MCCA wishes to encourage all administrators, staff or residents of Community Corrections Programs to submit their relevant essays, articles or other writings for publication in the HOUSEKEEPER. Limit it to 150 - 300 words.

Send to: HOUSEKEEPER - MCCA
c/o Chris Bray
827 Mound Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55106

MCCA

HOUSEKEEPER

The MCCA wishes to encourage all administrators, staff or residents of Community Corrections Programs to submit their relevant essays, articles or other writings for publication in the HOUSEKEEPER. Limit it to 150 - 300 words.

Send to: HOUSEKEEPER - MCCA
c/o Chris Bray
827 Mound Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55106

MCCA
Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
2414 Park Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Mpls., MN.
Permit #2484